

THE Japan Weekly Mail,

A WEEKLY REVIEW OF
JAPANESE COMMERCE, POLITICS, LITERATURE, AND ART.

Vol. V. No. 1.]

Yokohama, January, 8 1881.

[\$24 PER ANNUM.]

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NOTES.

It would appear that the negotiations between China and Japan with regard to Rikin (Loochoo) have suddenly miscarried at the very moment when their successful termination was confidently anticipated and had indeed been officially announced from Peking.

This is exceedingly deplorable, since, pending the adjustment of the Kuldja difficulty, any real or supposed grievance may be converted, by a little crafty management on the part of the Tsungli Yamen, into a factor of very pernicious effect upon the attitude of Japan towards Russia. Possibly some such consideration may have influenced the action of the Chinese Government in the matter, but for our own part we doubt the existence of any very subtle motive, and are rather inclined to believe that the miscarriage is simply attributable to the shock China's temporizing proclivities have experienced at the too proximate aspect of a settlement. Japan, at any rate, has spared no pains to achieve an amicable understanding, and for the rest we cannot see that she has much reason to be disturbed by the contemplation of any possible contingency.

Reports from Joshiu describe a state of unusual activity among persons interested in the progress of the silk manufacture. Experts are said to be travelling from place to place for the purpose of giving suggestions and instruction in the reeling processes, so that a marked improvement in next season's supply is confidently predicted.

Strange to say the universal rise of prices which has taken place of late, is said to be most noticeable in the case of lacquer. Such at least is the verdict of the Osaka merchants, who declare that of all materials, those required in the lacquer manufacture have attained the highest comparative value, and as a result the sale has been considerably impaired. On

the other hand it is a curious fact that while the value of all old objects of virtu—porcelains, bronzes, ivories, and so forth—have increased almost in a geometrical ratio of which the decades of their age are the number of terms, pieces of first rate lacquer have not yet attained a price equivalent to their cost of production. Choice specimens are certainly very rare and a scarcity value has in consequence resulted, but it is still possible to buy pieces of the seventeenth and eighteenth centuries for considerably less money than their manufacture would cost to-day; if indeed they could be manufactured at all, for though the art has not by any means been lost, to prevent warping with any certainty does seem a feat beyond the capabilities of modern workmen, and one is very apt to find the surface of a costly box or cabinet disfigured by a number of lines and ridges within a few months after acquisition.

H. B. M. Charge d'Affaires and Mrs. Kennedy entertained the British Consuls of Tokyo at an evening party on Monday last. Sir Samuel and Lady Baker, who are now on a visit to the Legation, were present, and it was remarked by not a few that, for all his brief acquaintance with Japan Sir Samuel's knowledge of the country and its arts was more minute than that of many an old resident. Much amusement was afforded by a native necromancer, who performed some marvellous tricks with great dexterity and all that graceful *bonhomie* that seems to be the heritage of every Japanese.

His Majesty the Emperor paid a visit to his Royal Highness the Duke of Genoa, on board the Italian man-of-war *Vettor Pisani*, yesterday. His Majesty left Shinbashi station, Tokio, by the 10.30 a.m. train, the engine of which was gaily decorated with evergreens and flags.

The train arrived punctually at the Yokohama Station, where a very small gathering of perhaps three or four hundred natives and under a score of Europeans had assembled. The ceremonial was not imposing; in fact, quite the reverse. On his arrival at the station His Majesty at once entered the Imperial carriage, drawn by a particularly fine pair of horses; those, we believe, sent to him as a present by General Grant. Other carriages were ready for the suite, which was composed of the following dignitaries and officials:—Their Imperial Highnesses Prince Higashi-Fushimi, and Kita-Shirakawa: Their Excellencies Iwakura, Junior Prime Minister, Admiral Kawamura, General Saigo, and General Yamagata, Mr. Iwano, Minister for Foreign Affairs, Admiral Yenomoto, Minister of the Navy, Mr. Tokudaiji Minister for the Imperial Household, Port Admiral Nakamura, who was in attendance at the station, accompanied His Majesty to the Admiralty office where a guard of honour composed of Blue Jackets, and the Naval Band was in attendance. On the arrival of the procession the Imperial standard was hoisted at the flag-staff, and on the embarkation it was replaced by the national ensign, as a signal to those afloat. Having rested for nearly an hour His Majesty embarked on board a

steam-launch for the *Vettor Pisani*, attended by the Ministers for Foreign Affairs, the Navy, and Household Departments, the Port Admiral, the Chief Chamberlain, and Mr. Shiota of the Foreign Department, who acted in the capacity of interpreter. The men-of-war in harbour, which were all in gala rig, fired the customary salutes; His Majesty was received on board by His Royal Highness the Duke of Genoa and proceeded to rifle. At 3.10 p.m. he left to return to Tokio, when all the men-of-war manned yards and the salutes were repeated.

Change has succeeded change with such rapidity, and at the same time so quietly and unostentatiously, in the social and political condition of Japan during the last decade, that many things not unworthy of note now escape observation altogether, or at most furnish short-lived topics of trivial comment.

It is now nearly twelve years since the little port of Sakai near Osaka was the scene of the most fatally successful assault by Japanese upon Foreigners that has ever occurred, or, we might almost say, will ever again occur. The victims were the crew of the *Dupleix's* steam launch, and it will not be easily forgotten how eleven of their number were ruthlessly shot down by a band of Tosa men-at-arms, nor by what a terrible penalty the crime was afterwards expiated. Not so well remembered, however, is the motive that dictated the murder, and if we allude to it now, it is not with any desire to extenuate, but simply because such contrasts between past and present phases of popular feeling best enable us to appreciate the things going on around us.

Since the Gods assumed mortal shape and descended from Heaven to govern the Land of the Rising Sun, it has always been an inviolable principle that the Emperor's person was sacred, and that none but aristocrats of the highest rank should from time to time be permitted to 'worship the Dragon's countenance.' After the War of the Restoration, however, it became necessary for the Foreign Representatives to present their credentials to the Mikado in person, and with no little difficulty they obtained permission to do so. Such a concession was utterly unintelligible to the nation at large. It seemed to them that, relying on superior force and taking advantage of the momentary embarrassment consequent upon a civil feud, the Barbarians were seeking to annihilate the most cherished traditions of Japan and to subject the Emperor himself to the grossest possible insult. It was when the feelings of rage and grief engendered by such fancies were at their highest state of tension that the Tosa men-at-arms came in contact with a portion of the very force assembled at Kobe for the purpose of carrying out this seemingly nefarious programme. The Japanese Samurai has never been wont to balance contingencies very carefully when loyalty or patriotism is at stake, and the Tosa soldiers, believing as they afterwards declared, that their own lives would be assuredly forfeited by their action, but believing also that they were doing real service for their sovereign and their country, did not hesitate for a moment to attack the French marines.

Even the greatest malefactors do not lack sympathy when the fate they have merited it about to overtake them. It is easy to conceive what exaggerated pretexts for pity the circumstances of this assassination may have suggested, but here is a plain fact, not to be magnified nor misunderstood. When it was explained to the Tosa Samurai that twenty of their number were doomed to death, the whole band of eighty men immediately offered themselves, and the selection of the fortunate twenty was not a little impeded by their comrades' unwillingness to survive them.

The fashion of the execution was 'seppuku' or 'harakiri'. Commencing with the officers, the men were led in singly and seated upon a mat which was afterwards employed as a bier for removing their corpses. Eleven disembowelled themselves without a symptom of pain or penitence, but when the twelfth had taken his place, the French Commander stepped forward and said that, as justice could not demand more than life for life, he thought the remainder of the condemned men might be spared. Mr. Uyeno, who represented the Japanese Government on the occasion, refused at first to entertain any proposition couched in such dubious terms, and pointing out how immensely the men's punishment would be augmented if they were spared for a moment only to be afterwards brought up again for execution, asked the French officer whether he spoke with due authority or whether his suggestion emanated from himself alone. To this the other replied that he would be responsible for his Minister's assent, and the execution was accordingly stayed. Meanwhile, however, as we have said, the twelfth man had already taken his place and made himself ready to die. It mattered little to him whether justice had been satisfied or dissatisfied. He only knew that he had been promised the privilege of dying, and that as his comrades passed out before him, he had bid them farewell one by one and asked them to tarry for him on their journey to the shades. Now too he sat in the very place where they had died and in the presence of their waiting spirits. To return to life would be to perjure himself in their eyes, as well as to forfeit the opportunity of crowning a deed fealty had dictated. A European's love of life would not perhaps have been much chilled by such considerations, but this man's mind was cast in a different mould, and though the officers who superintended the execution—disregarding all of our senseless scruples—anticipating his action, were careful to leave no weapon within reach, his purpose was not to be balked. That night he bit out his tongue, and so dying, fulfilled his promise to the men that had gone before him.

Such deeds may be intolerable under certain aspects, but even the hard materialism of modern progress can scarcely forbid sympathy with the spirit that prompts them. And does any one suppose that this Tosa man was singular in his generation, or that others would have hesitated to follow his example had the occasion presented itself? No, truly! Twelve years ago the heart of every Samurai in Japan was one with his, and the more we learn of this people's history the less do we marvel that it was so.

Our readers will pardon us if we have reminded them of events unknown to many, forgotten perhaps by others and never again to be repeated in Japan. We do not speak to those who happily know these things only as a page of past history, but to the older residents of Yokohama, who will understand the reflections that mingle with such memories as we write, listening to the sound of the salute that greets the Emperor's visit to the *Vettor Pisani*, and reading in a native newspaper that the usual Imperial Levée at the New Year was supplemented by a Drawing-room at which many Japanese and several European ladies were presented. Could one possibly conceive a more thorough contrast?

An official notification has reached the various Legations, stating that the annual Exhibition at Kiyoto will be opened on the first of March, and inviting foreigners to contribute. The Exhibition buildings at Uyeno are also in rapid process of construction, and it is anticipated that they will be sufficiently advanced to receive specimens before the end of February. If this be so the opening will take place just as the splendid old cherry-trees of the Park are in full bloom, a prospect which is probably inducing the present alacrity.

This Exhibition promises to surpass anything that has previously been held in Japan. Six classes of medals or certificates will be awarded, and the principal judges in the various departments have already been nominated. They are as follows:—Agriculture and Horticulture, Mr. Tanaka (Home Office); Manufactures, Mr. Machida (Home Office); Machinery, Mr. Otori (Public Works) and Minerals, Mr. Sato (Public Works). No antiquities will be exhibited, but the permanent building at the back of the grounds will subsequently be converted into a National Museum, and the specimens now at the Hakubutsukan will be moved there, as well as the various government collections at Kyoto, Nara &c. We look forward to the consummation of this undertaking with great interest, and we particularly hope not only that some scientific and intelligible method of arrangement will be adopted, but also that an accurately compiled catalogue will be published. These are vital points, and their neglect renders the present Hakubutsukan comparatively useless.

LAST Monday evening an entertainment was given at the Shiba Rikyu to commemorate the approaching departure of H. I. H. Prince Arisugawa Takehito. The members of the Cabinet, as well as the Foreign Representatives, were all present and considerable interest attached to the affair when it was remembered that there are many more improbable contingencies than the Prince's ultimate accession to the throne of Japan. The dinner, however, passed off very quietly. No speeches were made, and an event which ten or twelve years ago would have been deemed utterly impossible by every patriotic Japanese, seemed now to be regarded with the utmost composure, if not indifference. Many of our readers have no doubt had the honor of an introduction to His Imperial Highness, who was for some time a cadet at the Naval College in Tokyo, and since then has been present on all public occasions, races, flower-shows, balls and so forth, reminding one by his demeanour of a genial unassuming lad rather than of an Emperor's nephew. How different is all this from the conduct of the late Shogun's brother Mibu Taiyu who, when passing through Hongkong on his way to France in 1867, refused to call on the Governor, and showed otherwise such a thorough contempt for the usages of European etiquette that a very sharp remonstrance was subsequently addressed by the English Government to the Cabinet at Yedo.

Prince Takehito's immediate purpose in visiting England is to acquire a knowledge of Naval matters. He has already had some experience of sea life on board the Iron Duke, and we understand that Her Majesty's Government suggested the Mediterranean as a suitable station for the Imperial Cadet, but it has been judged better to send him at first to the Naval College at Greenwich, where under the improved regime of late years he will no doubt receive a thoroughly sound training.

We notice that a General Meeting of the Asiatic Society of Japan, will be held at the Shōheikuwan, Seidō, Tokyo, on Tuesday, January 11th, at 4 p.m. The following papers are to be read:

"Analysis of the Japanese Mineral Spring Waters," by Dr. Geerts.

"Historical Notes on Naga-aki," by W. A. Woolley, Esq.

"Hideyoshi's Invasion of Korea: Chapter II. The Retreat," by W. G. Aston, Esq.

RUSSIA AND CHINA.

THE value of a concession varies inversely as the reluctance with which it is granted. When a point is carried after swords have been half unsheathed, reason gets no credit, and force quite as much as though it had been actually exercised.

Now the Chinese Government understands all these things quite as well as anybody else, but seems none the less to ignore them in practice. For many years and with unvarying regularity it has pursued the policy—more wilful than wise—of resisting so long as no sharper weapons than words are employed, and yielding at the last with a bad grace. Thus it happens that *vis-à-vis* with the Tungli Yamen, European diplomatists are now in a position to forecast the issue of any particular negotiation with tolerable certainty.

It is a pity, and in many respects a misfortune that such should be the case, but the causes are palpable, and merit sympathy rather than derision. For all their individual weakness the Chinese as a people are eminently proud; proud of their traditions, proud of their antiquity, proud of their prestige and proud of their magnitude. They are moreover sensitive, and sensitive minds are easily stirred and in some respects easily stilled. It would be intolerable to them to think that their rulers had yielded tamely at the enemy's first menace. What they consider is not so much the fact as the form, of submission, and if they see the yellow dragon really rampant for a moment, they forget ultimately to ask whether he has bitten or only posed. This foibles their rulers are not unnaturally willing to humour, sharing it themselves, as they do, and taught also by sad experience, that in the presence of a foreign creditor some brief respite is the only solace they dare offer their country's honour. There is always a hope too—a hope peculiarly dominant in the mind of the placid time-despising Oriental—that something favorable may crop up amid the contingencies of procrastination, or at any rate that men's scrutiny may become less keen in proportion as its object grows more familiar. Thus it is that time after time, when the latent antagonism always existing, between the energy of progress and the inertia of conservatism, ripens into reality, we witness the same unvarying routine of remonstrance, delay, menace and tardy submission, till at last we have learned to anticipate one solution for all political problems in which China is concerned, and to fancy that no influence from without can or will ever move the heart of that mighty nation to pulsate perceptibly.

This theory may one day perhaps be rudely upset, and indeed the world has apparently begun of late to contemplate some such possibility. Meanwhile, however, there is no gainsaying the fact that, though much marred by a semblance of reluctance, China's ultimate action towards foreign nations has of late years invariably indicated a conciliatory spirit. In 1874, for example, the Formosa question was settled amicably with Japan, though had China then elected to fight, men would assuredly have admitted the fullness of her provocation. Two years afterwards England's demands in the Margary affair were satisfied without much difficulty, while in 1877 full compensation was obtained by Germany for injury to the cargo of a vessel wrecked off Santung. Spain subsequently put forward a similar claim on behalf of a ship plundered by the savages of Formosa many years before, and in this case too the indemnity required was obtained. Moreover the emigration concessions desired by the United States, Peru, Brazil and Spain were granted with unusual promptitude, so that in

a word, the history of China's foreign relations since the war with England and France in 1860 have been one of perpetual compliance.

Nor has her attitude towards Russia in the Kuldja question indicated any desire to deviate from this conciliatory policy. On the contrary, whether persuaded by Colonel Gordon's friendly advice, or made wise by a more accurate estimate of her own military resources, she has evinced an unmistakable disposition not only to cede the disputed territory but even to pay a reasonable indemnity.

If then it be true that the Kuldja negotiations have miscarried, the verdict of the world must assuredly condemn Russia and hold her impositions responsible for whatever suffering and sorrow the sequel may entail.

Nothing is further from our desire than to exaggerate or misrepresent. Apart from the delirious policy of territorial aggrandizement which, whether rightly or wrongly, has always been laid to Russia's charge, there are, it must be confessed, not a few deplorable phases in her national character and administration, but neither are we blameless judges, nor can any criticism be so prejudiced as to deny her title to respect, nay even to admiration, when China is the standard of comparison. Justice, however, is founded upon facts not sentiments, and it so easy for a conqueror to obscure or even vindicate his original motives by a display of the magnanimity success makes easy, that we shall do well to balance this question before the scale is warped by applause or pity.

There is no need to recapitulate the circumstances that induced Russia's occupation of Kuldja. They are already matters of history. What concerns us is the fact that the occupation never claimed any right of permanency, but was destined by solemn compact to terminate under certain conditions. It was nevertheless right and fair that before evacuation Russia should be compensated for the expenses occupation had entailed, and so far as this principle was concerned China never showed any disposition to demur. She was ready to pay enough—perhaps more than enough—but she was not ready to accept in return the reddition of only such portions of the territory as it suited Russia's convenience to restore. Yet this was what was asked of her, and this was what her representative promised on behalf of his Government, thereby plainly exceeding his powers, since his instructions never contemplated any such contingency as Russia's duplicate demand.

Regard for the interests of humanity compels us to regret that the Tungli Yamen could not be persuaded to ratify Chung How's treaty. Of European powers Russia alone has access to Northern Asia, and whatever blunders or imperfections her rule may exhibit, it must certainly be counted capable of better things than the Chinese fashion of administration, which commences by extermination and then proceeds to reform. But this is a point of sentiment. Eliminate it and we cannot choose but confess that while China's concessions were ample, Russia's requirements were excessive and her actions arbitrary. From the moment of Chung How's disgrace, however, a new case was made out for the Northern Autocrat. It was said that having once submitted the matter to arbitration, Russia was no longer liable to a charge of unfairness, while on the other hand, in rejecting a treaty signed by her own plenipotentiary, China had placed herself, technically at least, in the wrong. With regard to the first of these arguments we need only remark, that whatever plea it constitutes for one party must be equally potent for the other. China did not less submit to arbitration than Russia, and if she refused to abide by

the results of that arbitration, her previous history warrants us in believing that she was influenced, not by a desire for war, but by the impossibility of obtaining an honorable peace.

The rejection of the treaty, however, involves a different class of considerations. In principle it cannot be defended for a moment. Were such a practice permitted to obtain, the whole fabric of international intercourse would have to be remodelled, and inconveniences of limitless magnitude might be expected to result. Thus much we admit without reservation; but we nevertheless emphatically declare that the popular verdict in this matter is only another instance of that intolerant spirit by which almost all Western Powers seem to be possessed in their dealings with the east. If our own political escutcheon were free from like blemishes; if it could be shown that we ourselves had never deviated from this principle we now so rigidly uphold, then indeed justice might warrant us in exacting from China the full penalty of her improbity. But has history nothing to tell of treaties which, proposed, discussed and completed even to the reception of the vermilion signature, did nevertheless fail to obtain ratification at the hands of European governments whose accredited representatives had neither less authority nor fewer qualifications than Chung How? In what category shall we place Sir Thomas Wade's Chefoo convention, as well as three other similar compacts of recent date,—two with England and one with France—all of which were ultimately treated as so much waste paper, despite the Emperor of China's sign manual which they bore? Precedent is often more powerful than precept, and the Chinese Government can truly say that in this case, whether rightly or wrongly, they have only followed the example of two countries certainly not the least civilized in the world.

Governments, however, seldom find it convenient to be perfectly equitable. China having placed herself technically in the wrong, Russia made haste to despatch eastward a large fleet of war vessels, destined to serve not only as a demonstration to intimidate her adversary, but also as a countermove to Lord Beaconsfield's action in bringing the Indian troops to Malta. Something was needed to restore the prestige Russia's conduct of the Turkish campaign had so seriously impaired, and nothing seemed better calculated to serve this purpose with the fickle, impressionable oriental, than a sudden display of overwhelming power at places far distant from its source and unpleasantly close to its point of application. Moreover the vitality of the Chinese Empire is most assailable through her ports, on which she depends for surplus revenue and from which alone Peking is practically accessible, whilst an attack on her sea-board would make the war and its progress matters of very intimate importance to the Western world. Good and evil often seem to work together, and there can be no doubt that the European combination, instigated by Gladstone's cabinet, has proved peculiarly opportune to Russia, by enabling her to detach her fleet at this exact juncture, and so carry out a programme designed at once to overawe China and to menace British interests in a very grave fashion.

Now too we are told that a sum of twenty million taels is demanded by way of compensation for the conception and execution of this political flourish! Truly as a piece of pleasantry this is not easily appreciated, while as a serious claim it is both preposterous and unprecedented. On what conceivable data can the calculation be based? Nobody supposes, we presume, that the vessels now comprising the Russian Pacific fleet were built and equipped for this

special service. Had not Mr. Gladstone released them from their European duties, they would necessarily have been employed either in the Baltic or the Black Sea, so that nothing need be taken into account beyond a change of station and the increased expense of victualling troops in the East. But the British Government maintains a very considerable fleet in these waters—a fleet quite as effective in our opinion as that under Admiral Lessoffsky's command—and the total annual expenditure in connection with that fleet—including Dockyard establishments &c., does not exceed two hundred and fifty thousand pounds, while England's combined naval and military establishments in China only cost her some three hundred and fifty thousands each year; figures which differ perceptibly from six millions. No wonder that China hesitates to swallow a bolus of such excessive magnitude and having so few adjuncts to disguise its unpalatable flavour.

For our own part, however, we have not yet abandoned all hope of a peaceful solution. We dare not contemplate the consequences of war. Russia's defeat, by expelling her from Northern Asia, would annihilate a work already carried far and which she only can complete, while her victory could scarcely fail to induce anarchy throughout the vast Chinese Empire; anarchy attended by scenes of bloodshed and extermination at which the whole civilized world must shudder. If the Czar determines to hazard either of these alternatives, history will not hold him absolved on such grounds as are now apparent.

ARCHITECTURE IN JAPAN.

WISE critics, appraising human achievements, have said that the credit belongs in most cases rather to occasion than to genius. If this verdict be just—and there is certainly a considerable smack of truth in its unsavouriness—how exceptionally favorable to the genesis of some noteworthy accomplishments was the condition of Japan when she first came into contact with the Western world. An illimitable field for exploit; resources not absolutely exhaustless but at any rate adequate, and a people rendered diffident at first by cycles of reclusal existence, but in their reactionary phase, credulous almost to fatuity: here surely were all the elements of rare opportunity.

Perhaps it were wisest, as unquestionably it were least painful, to close the retrospect here. Whether the fault lay in the means employed or in the method of their application, is a problem that concerns us still too closely for dispassionate scrutiny, and we gladly abandon its solution to others farther removed by time or indifference from this weary sequence of abortive effort and alienated confidence. In cases, however, where opportunity has not yet been utterly forfeited, nor failure sufficiently complete to forbid all hope of repair, we may not elect to keep silence, and certainly such a case is that of architecture in Japan.

We can most thoroughly appreciate the difficulties that beset a European architect when required to design buildings for an Eastern people. He has two powerful foes to wrestle with: the traditions of his own profession and the prejudices of his public. If he be an artist of long and varied experience, who has been taught by miscarriage no less than by success, that all work to be permanently approved must appeal first to the hearts and afterwards to the intellects of its judges, he will easily no doubt abandon inflexible systems and adapt his designs, not to the canons of any particular school, but to the tastes of those whose property they are intended to become. But in the majority of cases he is a young man on the threshold of practice and at the limit of theory. There

exists for him but one creed synonymous with excellence, and that creed is inevitably classical. He will not perhaps put Etruscan pilasters to a convict establishment, or Doric entablatures to an iron foundry—practices which Ruskin aptly likens to threshing with sculptured flails and tilling with golden ploughshares—but he will deem nothing perfect that has not some affinity with the grand old orders tradition and association have so inviolably hallowed in the eyes of the Western world.

Let it not be fancied for a moment that we venture to cavil at systems handed down to us from the age of perfect aesthetics. We have indeed fancied now and then that for all our converseance with the forms of those systems, but little true perception of their spirit has descended to us; else had we been spared the spectacle of signboards decorated with Greek mouldings and barber's windows surmounted by Roman cornices. It was meet that Corinthian finials should support the monument of Lysicrates and Doric columns flank the Propylæa, for under the one reposed the ashes of a man his country delighted to honour, and behind the other stood the Parthenon. But we cannot believe that such fashions of construction had much in common with bazaars and workshops, or that Vitruvius would have admitted them into the plan of a paper-money manufactory. In Europe, however, men can afford to grant their architects large license. There no abuse or misapplication can ever obscure the origin of the Classical Orders or rob them of reverence that dates from the days when we glowed at the eloquence of Demosthenes and held our sides over the drolleries of Aristophanes. They combine the two characteristics of artistic architecture, the gentle and the sublime, for while they are indelibly associated with all the memories of our youth; with the happy triumphs of school, and sterner efforts of college life; with the times when every meadow was green, every flower sweet, and an illimitable vista of aspiration and possibility still lay before us unchequered by failure or regret; they have also a living authority and power, partly derived from their own æsthetic nobility, and partly borrowed from the traditions of their period; a period whose achievements all men have since striven to emulate and none dreamed of excelling.

No, in truth! Against the Classical orders themselves we have nothing to say, but against their employment in this country, much. To the Japanese the language they speak is unintelligible. For him the myths of Grecian poetry and the marvels of Roman might are a sealed book, or at best one that he can never peruse with sympathy. His is not a virgin mind capable of receiving and retaining any impression we may choose to plant there, but a mind that for cycle upon cycle has been wont to draw its inspirations from a mythology and a history, overflowing indeed with ideality, but having no sort of accord with the traditions of western antiquity. He can never see with our eyes, and if at any time he could be taught to tolerate what we love, it must necessarily be by an appeal to his judgment and at the sacrifice of his sympathies. But how immensely were the difficulties of the architect's task thus augmented! Before he could hope to win any measure of approval, he would be obliged to re-educate a nation, and that too a nation from which the most æsthetic countries of Europe have been content to take lessons in art. It is conceivable that a Buonarrotti or a Palladio might succeed under such conditions, but if so, the verdict of future generations would be his vindication. From the present he could expect nothing better than apathy. Here, however, is neither a Buonarrotti nor a Palladio, unless indeed the buildings that are gradually springing up in Tokiyo greatly belie their designers' genius. Everywhere western fashions are essayed, with, for the most

part, Roman or Grecian proclivities, and the result is essentially a sham style, evidently aping something but attaining nothing: a style that is at once incongruous and unfortunate, for while it satisfies no standard, it takes the place of a mode lacking neither refinement nor dignity, and possessing above all others that we have ever seen, an air of comfortable, contented repose.

Granted then that the impossibility of enlisting the nation's sympathies in their favour disqualifies the pure classic orders for employment in Japan, what are we to substitute in their stead? Not a new style certainly. The greatest of art critics, speaking of that perpetual demand for originality which ignorance and conceit have made fashionable, says that it is "about as sensible and necessary as to ask a man who has never had rage enough to cover his back, to invent a new mode of cutting a coat." There is no need of invention but only of adaptation. The idea of the Corinthian capital was suggested to Callimachus by an acanthus climbing up a basket of offerings placed beside a child's grave; the principle of the arch was applied in the construction of the Crinoids thousand of years before man conceived it, and the Gothic roofs' grooved ribs were exemplified in the shell of the Ammonite ages before mediæval artists reproduced them in massive masonry. Nature has prepared for us types of everything we need, and since we are here dealing with a people that has always gone to nature for inspiration and instruction, it will be well to banish once and for all the phantasy of straining after novelty or diversity merely for the sake of seeming unconventional and independent. What we want is an adaption of the forms suggested by the best old buildings of the country, or by those of other oriental nations having similar art instincts and traditions, while for decoration we shall certainly find ample and irreproachable material in that wealth of graceful fancy and ingenious device from which the western world is still deriving so much that is admirable. Here also if there be any danger of monotony—we may safely introduce such additions from the Classic or even the Gothic styles as will appeal to men's sense of the beautiful, nor yet violate any of the instincts they have acquired from experience or tradition. That type of infinity, the Grecian fret, already exists in Japan, as well as many a Persian arabesque and Chinese diaper that will suffice to establish affinities with all the inexhaustible treasures of Asiatic art. Neither is sculptured frieze wanting nor Gothic gable, nor forest of stately shaft, nor mountain of majestic roof, on whose huge expanse of curve and slope the shadow falls at sunset and the glow at sunrise, till it becomes—as all perfect architectural achievements should—not a mere triumph of human mechanism, but a type of this 'wild world' in which we live, and of the sorrows and joys, the radiance and the mystery that make up the sum of man's existence. Acting upon these principles we might obtain for Japan, not a new style, but an adaptation and amelioration of the old, which would be at once not only distinctly national in character, but also perfectly suited to the tastes and teachings of an eminently æsthetic people.

This idea is not novel. It already obtains practically in India, where the beautiful domes and minarets of the Saracenic order have been introduced, and are still in process of introduction, into buildings designed by European artists and destined for English occupation. Yet India, be it observed, is a country whose administrator's vital interest is to alienate the people's sympathies from ancient creeds and traditions, and link them by every possible artifice to those of their foreign rulers. How much more manifestly then is it the duty of the architect in Japan to preserve for an independent nation all that is graceful and majestic in fashions handed down from ages of refined excellence.

We cannot doubt that much of what we have said has already been appreciated by some at least of the European architects employed by the Japanese Government, and we can only therefore suppose—nor is the supposition a purely baseless hypothesis—that they have been prevented from obeying their convictions by the prejudices of those for whom they work. It is not easy to write dispassionately on such a subject, for the radicalism that teaches the Japanese to despise the heirlooms of their own genius and indiscriminately ape Western methods, is to our minds not much more defensible than the spirit that dictated the iconoclastic edicts of Isauricus, and inspired the Ming victors to cast all the art treasures of the conquered Mongols into the pit or the melting pot. We might discuss this question on specific grounds: we might point out that to restrain and abridge an architect's fancy, is to benumb his faculties—to place him in the position of a painter who is required to limn a brilliant picture with only a moiety of the colours he needs—and to deprive him of all interest in a work which has ceased to bear the cachet of his inspiration. A great and essential distinction exists between building and architecture, between the mere purpose of an edifice and its æsthetic character, and when those who are only competent to determine the former set themselves also to interfere with the latter, the economy they may desire to practice is more than annulled by the sacrifice their indiscretion entails.

But there is another and a broader basis of argument. It is that all this servile imitation of foreign things and alien fashions, is tending slowly but surely to deprive the Japanese nation of its individuality, and to rob it of that self-respect which is the mainspring of moral as well as political independence. It is infinitely easier to develop an evil custom than to abolish it, and the tares that are suffered to spring up now in the virgin soil of Japan's renovation will strangle many a sound plant hereafter before they are overgrown. Let the Japanese therefore decide now once and for all whether they will preserve the style their forefathers loved in all its grace and grandeur, importing from abroad only such modifications and additions as the altered conditions of their life may require, or whether they will elect to forget the art inspirations of twenty centuries, and borrow their future system of architecture from a source to which their own æsthetics are daily lending fresh vigor and purity.

SAPPORO.

Two events of considerable importance have occurred in Sapporo recently; the opening of the first section of the Poronai and Temaye Railway, and the opening of the new Hotel. The Railway, which runs from Temaye (Otarunai) on the coast to Sapporo, has by the great efforts of Colonel Crawford the Engineer, and his staff, seconded by the co-operation of the Chief of the Mining Department, Mr. Yamanouchi and his subordinates, been successfully completed within the stipulated time and under the estimated cost. This road was surveyed and laid out last year, and some advance made, but it was not until this last summer that vigorous measures were taken, when Col. Crawford and his party went to Otaru, and commenced building a pier and erecting workshops. About the end of September the railway plant reached Otaru, and the vessel which conveyed it was able to unship her cargo alongside the new pier. Laying the line commenced at once, and by the end of November the whole of the first section up to Sapporo was completed. In the meantime two locomotives and a number of carriages were set up, so that a train each way became at once practicable. By the last account a hundred yen a day was being taken for passengers and freights. The construction of the

line has been a work of some difficulty owing to the rocky coast near Otaru and the swampy nature of the ground further on. A small amount of tunnelling was necessary, but no extensive engineering work was involved.

The line is a single one of 3 feet gauge, laid on sleepers or ties some 18 inches apart. The metals are light, but sufficient for the traffic that is likely to pass over them during the first few years. The whole distance between the termini is some twenty-two miles, but about twenty-four miles of line are laid, as it has been extended to the Government saw mills. It is eventually to be carried to the Poronai coal mines about twenty miles further. The cost of construction is stated to be about 15,000 silver yen per mile, and a great deal is said of the vast difference between this and the cost of the Tokio-Yokohama line. But there are railways and railways. This is a cheap line no doubt and will serve the purpose for which it was intended—moderate traffic, a low rate of speed—and careful treatment will render it serviceable enough, but if heavy trains and a high speed are attempted, the road will need frequent inspection and the rails too. It is proposed to ballast it further to the extent of 50,000 dollars, which will of course improve the permanent way, but the metals should be heavier to give solidity to the track and make it more lasting.

A farewell dinner was given to Colonel Crawford on the 30th ultimo, and on his departure for Tokio, en route for America on the 5th ultimo, all the attention and consideration possible was shown towards him. A valuable and ancient gold medal was presented to him by the Colonization Department, and other tokens of appreciation were bestowed. He certainly deserves the gratitude of the whole nation in carrying out in so efficient a manner the work committed to him and thus introducing American cheap railways into Japan. Railway communication is a matter of so great importance to Japan, that we cannot but rejoice that such a propitious opening has been made.

On the 2nd instant the new Hotel, designated the *Ho-kei-kan*, was inaugurated by a *soirée* at which Mr. Yasuda, one of the chief secretaries of the Colonization Department, (who was there as representative of General Kuroda,) the Governor of Sapporo and a crowd of officials with the foreigners in the employ of the Kaitakushi were present. The building is one of the most substantial in Japan, and with perhaps one or two points open to criticism, is altogether an admirable structure—the work entirely of a native architect. The great saloon on the first floor is a magnificent room with a solid floor of polished wood, and the dining and reception rooms are in good proportion and in keeping with the whole: suites of rooms are also arranged for visitors' comfort and convenience. At present, however, nothing is said as to its being opened for the use of the public. The *soirée* went off in a happy way. The guests were unusually hilarious, every one seemed pleased with the bountiful supply of provisions: fruits &c., &c., the large saloon being well heated—and the tables being well supplied.

REUTER'S TELEGRAMS.

LONDON, January 6th, 1881.

The semi-official "Agence Russe" announces that negotiations have been concluded between Russia and China. The Boers have entered Natal.

LONDON, 2nd January, 1881.

The *Golos* announces that the Chinese Government has consented to open the Empire to Russian commerce.

[SUPPLIED TO THE "HONGKONG DAILY PRESS."]

LONDON, December 23rd.

The Greek Government has declined to submit to arbitration.

The *Times*, in a leading article, announces that Lord Ripon has resigned.

LONDON, December 26th.

The seizure of a cargo of arms in the river Shannon has caused excitement in the district.

The Viceroy of India has not resigned.

The Headquarters of the 94th Regiment have been overwhelmed by Boers, 120 killed and wounded, the rest taken prisoners. The Regimental Colours were saved.

The Japan Weekly Mail.

'FAIR CE QUE DOIN; ADVIENNE QUE POURRA.'

NOTICE TO CORRESPONDENTS.

No notice will be taken of anonymous correspondence. Whatever is intended for insertion in the JAPAN WEEKLY MAIL must be authenticated by the name and address of the writer, not for publication but as a guarantee of good faith.

It is particularly requested that all letters on business, relating to advertisements, job-printing, or accounts, be addressed to the MANAGER.

And that literary contributions of every description be addressed to the EDITOR.

YOKOHAMA: SATURDAY, JANUARY 8th 1881.

JAPANESE ERA 2540, MEIJI 14TH YEAR, 1ST MONTH, 8TH DAY, DO-YO-NI.

DIED.

BATTELLE.—At Hoboken, New Jersey, U.S.A., on Friday evening, November 12th, 1880, after a painful illness, "FLORENCE RENNELL," youngest daughter of CHARLES R. and ROSA R. BATTELLE,—in the 20th year of her age. Interment at "Trinity Church Cemetery," New York City.

MISCELLANEOUS NEWS.

The Messageries steamer *Menzaleh* brought the French mails from Hongkong on the 2nd instant, and the O. & O. steamer *Oceanic*, left at 10 a.m. to-day, for San Francisco. The P. M. steamer *City of Tokio* left for Hongkong on the 1st instant, and the usual Hongkong and Shanghai mails have arrived and departed.

The O. & O. steamer *Oceanic* left for San Francisco this morning at ten o'clock.

The P. & O. Company's steamer *Malacca*, from Hongkong, arrived at Nagasaki at 5 p.m. on Tuesday, and left for Yokohama, via Hiogo, at daylight yesterday.

We learn that the lot No. 86A, Main Street, was sold at public auction last Thursday morning, by Mr. F. A. Cope, to Mr. E. C. Kirby for the sum of \$3,900.

As advertised, the adjourned meeting of the Nippon Race Club was held at the Yokohama United Club at 3 p.m. last Wednesday. There was a fair attendance of members and others, amongst whom we noticed Messrs. J. Walter (Hon. Sec.) Kingdon, Kirkwood, Siebel, F. A. Cope, Geoghegan, Wauchope, Reynaud, Watson, Reed, G. M. Dare, Pereira, Hazelwood, Fischer, Jenkins, Durant, St. John, Pinn, Brookes, Jayes, MacDonald, Schone, Hodges, Irwin, &c., &c.

The Hon. Sec. explained the cause of the meeting being convened, which he said, was to ballot for the members for the Working Committee, and requested the members to record their votes. The ballot remained open until 3.30 p.m. when the following were elected.

Dr. Wheeler	22 votes.
M. de Roquette	17 "
Middleton	17 "

Mr. Fischer objected most strenuously to the election of Mr. Middleton, as he was leaving Yokohama next Saturday, and could therefore not give any of his time or experience to the programme, &c.

Mr. Walter said that he could assure Mr. Fischer that Mr. Middleton would be able to give his ideas as to the programme for the ensuing meeting prior to his departure. Moreover, he would be back in time for the races.

Mr. Brooke asked what the meeting proposed to do in the event of any of the gentlemen elected refusing to serve.

The chairman replied that the gentlemen elected had already signified their assent to serve.

Mr. F. A. Cope said that while admitting that Mr. Middleton was an excellent man for the position, he considered it would be quite impossible for him to give any opinion as to the points that would be entered later on; he might be all very well for the programme, but he was to leave so soon, that he could do nothing in other matters.

Mr. Walter said that as Mr. Middleton had been elected, he thought nothing further could be done.

Mr. Siebel then asked if any member, outside the committee, would have the right to make suggestions for the forthcoming programme.

Mr. Walter replied that the committee would be only too happy to receive any: it had always been the desire of the old Committee that members should hand in proposals and suggestions, but as a rule they were rather backward in doing so.

Mr. Durant said that it seemed to him a good idea to hold a general meeting of the Club, to receive any suggestions.

Mr. Walter considered that this had better be left to the Committee, who would, as he had before stated, be glad to receive them.

Mr. Durant said that his own experience impressed him with the idea that the Committee invariably rejected any propositions made by the ordinary members.

Mr. Kingdom suggested that the ordinary members could hold a meeting to consider suggestions and send in the result of their deliberations to the Committee.

Mr. Durant said he felt sure that they would fully appreciate Mr. Kingdom's kindness.

The meeting then terminated.

The following is the finding of the Court Martial, held at Hongkong, on the stranding of H. M. S. *Iron Duke*:—"The court is of opinion that the charge is proved against Captain Cleveland, Staff-Commander James, and Lieutenant Clarke, inasmuch as the course steered is not a safe one, considering the uncertainty of the tides and the known dangers south of Okinaw; that the instructions concerning the obtaining of soundings by deep-sea lead had not been sufficiently attended to, as well as the non-attendance on deck at an earlier period of the captain and staff-commander; that on the discovery having been made by the officer of the watch that the ship was out of position, he did not at once call the captain; and that the speed was not reduced and more decided efforts made to get soundings. And the court doth therefore adjudge the said Captain Cleveland to be reprimanded and admonished to be more careful in future, the said Staff-Commander James to be severely reprimanded, and the said Lieutenant Clarke to be reprimanded and admonished to be more careful in future."

The *Singapore Times* says:—"A telegram received on the 6th inst. by Major Studer, U.S. Consul, from the Penang Consular Agent, announces the arrival there of the chief mate of the American barque *Coringa*, who reports the loss of that vessel near Patani, and that Captain Jocelyn, with his wife and daughter, and the crew, were at Patani, whence the mate had proceeded overland to Quedah and thence to Penang for assistance. Immediately on receipt of the telegram, Major Studer set about obtaining assistance for the shipwrecked crew and, fortunately, was able to communicate with the steamship *Kongsee*, then about to leave the harbour for Bangkok. Captain Uldall readily promised to endeavour to communicate with Patani on his upward voyage, and, if successful, to take them on board. The *Coringa* is a barque of nearly 800 tons, and left this port on the 6th October for Bangkok under a charter to convey rice from that port to Samarang or Sourabaya.

Mr. P. W. Weeks, chief mate of the American barque *Coringa*, who arrived in Singapore from Penang on the 7th inst. in the steamer *Lorne*, gives the following particulars of the loss of that vessel:—

The *Coringa* left Bangkok on the 11th November, with strong N. E. wind; all went well until the 13th, when it blew a strong gale all day from N. E. In the second dog-watch we found that she was making more water than usual, and immediately set all hands on the two pumps, but could not get them to "suck." At midnight commenced throwing cargo

overboard to lighten her, still keeping the pumps going, and at 4 a.m. hove-to on the starboard tack. We had then lost all our starboard bulwarks, and a boat out of the davits. At daylight found three feet of water in the hold, the pump still at work. At noon on the 14th, the gale was terrible, the vessel labouring heavily and shipping great quantities of water. We then cut away the fore-topmast and let go the port anchor to try and ease her. At two p.m., we decided to get over the boats to leave the ship, there being then about four feet of water in the pump well, with a strong list to port; got one boat over, but stove the other, and as all hands could not leave in one boat we hauled up the one that was sound, to take the two men out who were keeping her clear of the ship's side, and in doing this stove her also. We again started the pumps to try and keep her up till the following morning. At daylight on the 15th, sighted land on the port quarter, and about an hour later saw land all along under our lee. At one p.m. we decided to run her ashore, there being over six feet of water in the pumps' well. Put her before the wind, which was about E. N. E., and stood for the shore, and struck at about 4 p.m., the sea making clean breaches over her. As no assistance came from the shore, the second-mate and cabin boy then attempted to land on a raft; the second-mate arrived safe on shore, but the cabin-boy, a German lad named H. Ellerman, was washed off the raft and drowned. Next morning (16th) at day-light we got over the only remaining boat, in which Captain Jocelyn, his wife and daughter, with four men, landed, taking a line with them. I then constructed a small raft, made it fast to the line from the shore, took the rest of the crew, and we were pulled ashore through the surf by the natives. Made several attempts afterwards to save provisions from the ship, in one of which one of the seamen, a Swede called George, was drowned; all attempts were ineffectual. Four men then started up the coast to try and obtain assistance, but the next day only two returned, reporting that the other two had started to cross a river, in doing which one, A. W. Courtney, a native of Dublin, was drowned; the other, Victor Wisell, succeeded in getting across, but could not get back again; he has not been seen since. I then decided to start for Penang overland. Having obtained a guide and two soldiers from the Rajah, I started on the 25th November, and reached Singorah on the 30th, whence I proceeded to Penang, arriving there on Sunday, the 5th December, and at Singapore on the 8th.

We see by the home papers it is stated that the total expenses of the Nordenskjöld expedition with the *Vega* amount, in round sum, to 400,000 crowns, or about £25,000, of which the King of Sweden, the Russian banker M. Sitnikoff, and Mr. Dickson, have each paid about £7,000, the balance having been paid by the Swedish Exchequer. M. Nordenskjöld is engaged in writing the history of his discovery, which will be published simultaneously in England, France, Russia, Italy, and Germany.

The *Shanghai Courier* says:—"In reference to a subject of considerable interest to all who attempt to understand and follow Chinese politics, we may mention that the following observations have been furnished to us from a thoroughly trustworthy and well-informed source. In the selection of the present Emperor the Chinese seem generally to think that undue influence was employed. They consider that the Empress Dowager, in order that they might enjoy another term of supreme power, chose for a successor to the throne a cousin to Tung Chi. In making Kwang Su the adopted son of Hien Fung the only course possible under the circumstances was pursued; being cousin to Tung Chi, and consequently one of the same generation, he could not, according to Chinese law, have been made his adopted son. Had there been chosen for Emperor one of a later generation, the case would have been different, and it would not have been possible to make him the adopted son to Tung Chi; but then he would have also become son to the young Empress, wife to Tung Chi, who would then, according to Chinese usage, have stepped into the position of Empress Regent, putting an end, of course, to the power of the two wives of Hien Fung. The suicide of the young Empress, shortly after

her husband's death, is attributed by many to chagrin at being relegated to obscurity. It is doubtful whether the present Emperor can modify the succession documents so far as to change his own adopted parentage; what he might do would be to give one of his own sons as a child of adoption to his predecessor. Considering, therefore, that in China descendants may be had at will, and, even long after death, in accordance with the system of adoption, it is very improbable that the remains of the late Emperor will be allowed to remain in permanent neglect for want of some one to offer filial sacrifices to them."

In a lately published book, says the *St. James's Gazette* written by Rear-Admiral Werner, of the German Navy, a strange story is told of the way in which many years ago, in 1836, a French man-of-war went down with all hands on board in West Indian waters. The ship had been in commission for two years on the Antilles station, and during the whole of the time her captain, who is described as an incarnation of cruelty, had exercised his ingenuity in tormenting in every possible way both the officers and men of his crew. So well had he succeeded that the lives of all on board had been rendered a burden to them, while the captain himself was hated with an intensity of which proof was soon to be given. Orders at length came for the ship to return home. Not long after the anchor had been weighed it became evident that a heavy squall was coming down on the ship, and the captain directed the officer of the watch to shorten sail. The orders were given, but not a man moved. Again the orders were repeated, this time by the captain himself; but still not a man moved. "That is mutiny," cried the captain, and then a hundred voices answered, "We will not shorten sail." In vain the terrified captain appealed to the officers to support him. They stood silent, and neither threats nor promises availed to make man or officer move, save only a few who were noted as spies and favourites of the captain. A few minutes more and the squall struck the ship. In a moment the vessel was thrown upon her beam-ends. "Cut away the masts!" shouted the captain; but still not a man moved. In another minute, however, the rigging carried away, the masts went by the board, and, thus relieved, the ship righted herself. Then the long-suppressed rage of the crew broke forth, and rushing aft, they seized the captain. A few minutes more and he would have followed the rigging, but the first lieutenant going below, opened the door of the magazine and fired his pistol into it. There was a loud report, and the ship was no more. An hour afterwards an American vessel passing over the spot picked up one of the crew, who told the story of what had happened, and died shortly afterwards.

From the *Pall Mall Budget* of November 12th last, we take the following details respecting the late earthquake in Southern Austria.—The centre of the earthquake was in Agram, where 500 houses were partially destroyed. The cathedral and two churches, it is stated, will have to be pulled down. The tower of the Convent church has moved three inches from its place. The university, the military commander's palace, the new Savings Bank, the synagogue, where six minutes later a marriage would have been celebrated, the tobacco manufactory, and the prison were all damaged. Scarcely a house in the city is said to have escaped damage, and the losses are estimated at 3,000,000 florins. The casualties hitherto officially ascertained are three dead, five severely and eighteen more slightly wounded: but it is not yet possible to say whether more may not be buried under the ruins. A general panic seized the population, and each successive shock, though weaker than the last, gave fresh impulse to it. The shock extended over a large area. From Laibach, Marburg, Klagenfurt, Kanizza, Serajevo, Derwent, Brod, Pola, Trieste, Cilli, and the region of the River Drave news has been received of more or less severe shocks about the time of the first great shock in Agram. The earthquake was also felt in both Vienna and Pesth, but very slightly. The direction of the motion was everywhere the same, from north-east to south-south-west. The Danube appears to have been its northern and eastern limit in Hungary. From almost every district on the right bank of the Danube there is news of a greater or less disturbance, with more or less damage done; while from the other side there is no such intelligence

from a single place. The *Daily News* correspondent at Vienna says:—"A later telegram announces that five fresh shocks were experienced last (Tuesday) night. A church dome fell, and the archbishop's palace is in such a state that it cannot be occupied without danger. Yesterday there was a gas explosion in one of the houses, and six persons were injured, one, a child, severely. The Emperor has sent 10,000 gulden to Agram from his privy purse in his own and the Empress' name."

Professor Piazza Smith (says the *Albany Law Journal*) the celebrated astronomer and discoverer of the true inwardness of the Great Pyramid, has invented a method of criminal punishment, combining efficiency with economy, which will commend itself to statesmen. He says:—"Dr. Tanner's mode of fasting furnishes us with the identical arm which the law has so long been in want of, prompt, salubrious, and mentally improving—viz., starvation from everything but cold water for a period of one, two, or any number of days under forty. The thing can be put in force instantly and everywhere, and then behold the result! The present continually increasing expense of prisons to the community would be cut down to generally three days, in place of three years; while the hitherto too well-fed vagabonds would be returned to society in a purer state of physical constitution, with a lively presentiment, enforced by Nature herself, that they must work honestly in future if they would eat." On this the *London Law Times* remarks:—"The only weak point in the system appears to be the absence of anything corresponding to hard labour in aggravated crimes, and this might be supplied by a judicial direction to the gaoler to hold at the key-hole of the cell-door, during certain specified hours, a savory dish, the odour of which will pervade the cell. The nature of the dish should be varied in proportion to the seriousness of the crime and the tastes of the criminal. Offenders of the deepest dye should starve amid the occasional fumes of roast goose, and Scottish criminals should suffer in the midst of an atmosphere of haggis." Carrying out this idea, an odour of apple pie should tantalize the Yankee, the Southerner should be made to smell of hog and hominy, while the native of the Western plains should sniff the scent of buffalo or grizzly steak. Would not this be an effective treatment for tramps? We should not like to live in a country controlled by Carlyle, Ruskin, and Professor Piazza Pyramid Smith.

Why (writes a correspondent to *St. James's Budget*) do we still press our finger on a little seal of red wax or sometimes a wafer when we deliver any document as our act and deed? This is a question to which there may be some obvious legal answer not understood of laymen. But two replies suggest themselves quite plausibly, in the absence of knowledge, to the student of anthropology. The touch may have been magical in origin, like the touching of a live bear's head when an Ostiak takes an oath; the touching of relics when a mediæval person swore; the touching of cold iron by which Scotch children ratify bargains. Or there may be another explanation. Was the wax once touched when hot, and did it carry the impression of the marks in the skin of the finger-tips? No two people have these exactly alike. Mr. Faulds, in a paper published by *Nature*, gives the result of scientific studies of finger-tips. He has found them give the most irrefutable evidence of the guilt of a thief who had left greasy impressions on a bottle of spirits. In another case the marks of the finger-tips gave negative evidence, and proved that a certain suspected person was not the one who had climbed a white wall and left sooty impressions on the top. The Chinese take the impressions of the finger-tips of criminals as we take photographs of prisoners. Thus it seems possible enough, *a priori*, that the touching of the warm wax once left the most inimitable sort of seal. In any case, the use of finger-tip marks in criminal investigations must be most useful to novelists who have exhausted the ordinary methods of investigations.

While in England we are content to utilize an old sailing line-of-battle ship as the chief gunnery ship of our navy, the Germans, recognizing the supreme importance of rendering the sailor as expert and proficient a gunner as possible, have lately built an iron ship for the special purpose of service as an

artillery training-vessel. The new ship, the *Mars*, is now completed. She is a vessel of 3,333 tons displacement, 260 ft. long and 49 ft. wide; having, besides the upper deck, a battery and a middle deck. In the battery are placed a long 21-centimetre gun, two short 24-centimetre, two long and two short 15-centimetre, and two short 17-centimetre guns, besides two short 15-centimetre ring guns; while seven guns, among which are two 15-centimetre mantlet pieces, are mounted on the upper deck. Two revolving turrets, in each of which two 15-centimetre ring guns are placed, have also been fitted on board the *Mars*, while four 8-centimetre steel guns, a 4-centimetre balloon gun, and a number of other small pieces are provided for boat practice, and so forth. Two torpedo guns and two of the "revolver-cannon" lately adopted in the German service are also to be added to the armament of the ship, which will thus be admirable equipped for the purpose for which she has been designed and built. Her standing complement will comprise 216 officers and men; but, in addition to these, 350 men will be taken on board during the exercising season. The engines of the *Renown*, the wooden vessel which up to the present has served as the artillery ship of the German navy, have been placed in the *Mars*, some slight alterations having been made in them which will render them capable of developing 2,400 indicated horse-power.—*St. James's Budget*.

A late number of the *Pall Mall Budget* is responsible for the following:—"A new order has been issued by the Commissioner of Police, to the effect that all persons found "drunk and incapable" in a public thoroughfare are to be locked up and released when sober, their own recognizances being taken for their appearance before a magistrate. In cases where the persons charged fail to appear before the magistrate the matter is to be reported to the Commissioner, who will then decide what course is to be adopted."

A most extraordinary accident has happened at a dynamite factory in Uri, Switzerland. Two workmen were breaking some frozen fragments of dynamite from the sides of a vessel when the substance exploded, blowing one man into the lake, where he was drowned, and throwing the shattered body of the other so far that no part of it can be found.

YOKOHAMA GENERAL HOSPITAL.

PATIENTS DURING THE MONTH OF DECEMBER, 1880.

Class of Patients.	Remained.	Admitted.	Discharged.	Died.	Remained Jan. 1st.	Total Treated.
1st	—	—	—	—	—	—
2nd	1	2	1	1	2	3
3rd	6	8	5	—	9	14
4th	—	—	—	—	—	—
Clarity	2	4	3	1	3	6
Total	9	14	9	2	14	23

EDWIN WHEELER, M.D.,
Surgeon-in-Charge.

LONDON LETTER.

Public affairs both in this country and Europe are, I am sorry to say still in the state of chaos which has become their normal condition. There is no doubt a clue to it somewhere, probably locked up in the breast of one or two of those "Sovereigns and Statesmen" by whom Lord Beaconsfield said the world at large was ruled, but the world is conscious only of more or less coherent passion and ferment, tending one knows not whither.

The force of United Europe has been for months applied to one rotten old state to compel the cession of one miserable town inhabited by semi-barbarians under Turkish rule, to another set of semi-barbarians who are under Russian vassalage, and though the credit of the Great Powers, more especially England is pledged to the accomplishment of this object, its achievement seems no nearer than when the ultimatum was sent to the Porte some months ago. And the reason is plain. The Turk has been too astute for United Europe. He perceived that United Europe would bark, but not bite, and United Europe

has begun to reflect that it would have better preserved its dignity and its influence for good in the future had it abstained from this parade which is full of sound and fury, signifying nothing. The "Concert of Europe," so long as it remained one of those empty phrases out of which shallow-brained politicians create idols for their worship, or principles for their guidance, was as useful as any of the sham wooden guns which the Chinese used to mount on their forts to strike terror into their assailants. But the attempt to give bodily shape and concrete physical attributes to an airy figment of the brain is appropriate only to allegorical poetry or histrionic display of an antique type. The Concert of Europe does not bear the light of common day, and its strongest advocates seem now content with the negative result, that if the Concert—with a big O always—does not act, at least it prevents individual powers from acting independently. This is Mr. Morley's last deliverance on the subject in the November *Fortnightly Review*. So far, he says, from Ministers claiming Omnipotence for the European Concert all they did was to "pledge themselves to take no action at all unless it was taken in common with the other Powers." Clearly if that is all the hubbub comes to the Tories might as well have been left to drift down the stream of events, for even Mr. Morley, ardent theoretical Radical as he is, betrays some alarm that the stirring up to passion that has taken place may lead to disastrous consequences. "The dangers," he says, "which lie in the path of the peace of Europe are many and great." This is a grave admission from our who has so closely identified himself with the policy of the present English Government, and it recalls ominously the mysterious allusions in the Manifesto with which Lord Beaconsfield broke up his last parliament. Two questions he intimated would have to be decided by the votes of the constituencies; one was whether those influences would be allowed free scope which would bring the Peace of Europe into jeopardy. The country laughed this warning to scorn, treating it as it if were blast of fireworks or a bogey to frighten little children into good behaviour. Is it possible that in so short a time Lord Beaconsfield's political opponents are chronicling passing events in the very words of his prediction?

And the second point in Lord Beaconsfield's Manifesto was Ireland. There were forces at work he said leading to anarchy and the dismemberment of the Empire, and he challenged the electors to declare by their votes whether they would have these forces encouraged or repressed. The constituencies recked nothing of this. It was even more of a rhetorical flourish than the other. I confess I was of this opinion myself. But the occurrences since in Ireland cast a different light on the prognostication. Mr. Morley's November article, like Lord Beaconsfield's March letter, consists of two parts only, foreign affairs and Ireland. He is unable to ignore the gravity of the situation in either case; but with regard to Ireland he holds decided and very extreme views, which it is interesting to see dressed in the polished and reserved language of a man of letters. Whether Mr. Morley approves or disapproves of the murder of land-agents and the maiming of cattle cannot be gathered from any expression in his article. He has not a word of blame for the assassins, the severest thing he has to say of them being this "It might indeed be questioned whether the acts of violence—assassination included—provoked by the land laws [not committed by the people, but observed] have been more numerous this year in Ireland than similar outrages provoked by the game laws have often before now been in England." Mr. Morley here gives an interesting psychological exhibition of himself. He is more candid than most men and sincerely desirous of being just, but by a long course of looking at certain questions through the same medium, he comes at last to have certain fixed views on the subject which are purely subjective, but which usurp in his mind the place of objective truths. Many years ago no doubt Mr. Morley, like Mr. Bright and Mr. Gladstone, came to the conclusion that the Land laws in Ireland were bad. That discovery, made in their own libraries, becomes thenceforth the master key to all Irish questions, so that at last when the most shameful and cowardly crimes are committed in that country, it is necessarily the Land laws and not the criminals who are to blame. This way of dealing with abstract ideas and not with actual facts, though so common now-a-days among English statesmen, is not usually admitted by them. They guide themselves by the abstractions but cook the facts into correspondence therewith. But Mr. Morley's essential honesty lets this cat out of the bag also. He does not at all urge on the government that they should study the actual state of affairs in Ireland and adapt this policy thereto. His strongest appeals are to their own consistency. Not because this or that state of things exists in Ireland is this or that measure to be resorted to, but because ministers have formerly, even while they were yet ignorant, and confessedly so, of Irish affairs, said such and such things, they must now do them. The physician is not to be allowed to correct his foregone conclusions even by his own diagnosis, but if before seeing the patient he has given a rash opinion that it is a case of hysteria, hysteria it must remain, if the patient should die for the mistake.

"Ministers" says Mr. Morley "had undertaken to govern Ireland by the agency of constitutional law, [whatever that may be it is one of our cant phrases]. They had done what in them lay to abolish the last remnants of a state of seige in Ireland. Not before the law was manifestly paralysed and impotent could they have dared to confess that their forecasts were falsified." Hence murder and terrorism are allowed to go on practically unchecked, while the government, pledged, as Mr. Morley says, to govern Ireland by constitutional law, leisurely prosecutes Mr. Parnell and the Irish orators. And Mr. Morley himself has no very high opinion of the practical issue of these prosecutions. "The effect," he says "will be not to terminate or even to check the utterances condemned as dangerous, subversive, and revolutionary, but to teach those who frame those utterances new dexterity and caution."

The only remedy held out by Mr. Morley for agrarian crime in Ireland is a Land bill, which will give to Irishmen all they want. But what they want is distinctly the property of their neighbours, with which desire Mr. Morley plainly sympathizes. This is socialism in high places.

The long looked for 9th of November has come and gone and Her Majesty's Ministers have delivered their great inter-sessional speeches, at the Lord Mayor's feast. As November comes mid way between the prorogation and the re-assembling of parliament, and it is part of the unwritten law of the land that the new Lord Mayor of London shall inaugurate his reign by inviting the Ministers to dine with him and that they shall accept the invitation, the occasion has for many years past been availed of by the Ministers of the day to make un-official communications to the public, and the public have got into the habit of expecting to be told something. Lord Beaconsfield conferred immortality on the custom by the oracular deliverances he gave out on these occasions before, during and after the Russo-Turkish campaign and since the Berlin Treaty was signed. Mr. Gladstone has followed this lead and has spoken out with a clearness that leaves nothing to be desired regarding the position of affairs at home and abroad. His speech has given very great satisfaction to all classes and will add vastly to the Premier's reputation for statesmanship. As regards Ireland he announced, in apparent contradiction to the utterances of the less responsible members of the Cabinet, that apart from all questions of Land Reform, the existing law would be vindicated, and life and property, whether of Peer or Peasant, would be protected in Ireland. This means that if physical force is required to maintain order physical force will be called in; and if the Government find their ordinary powers insufficient to keep the peace in Ireland they will call parliament together and ask for extraordinary powers. This announcement was received with loud applause at the banquet, and has been hailed with rapture by the industrious and peaceable portion of the Irish people.

Of the Concert of Europe, Mr. Gladstone has an equally reassuring statement to make. His ardent champions in the press have been urging week after week and day after day that Mr. Gladstone was "pledged to the lips" to give to Greece by means peaceable or otherwise, a certain portion of Turkish territory, and the public mind of the whole of Europe has been troubled for weeks past with an indefinite apprehension that Mr. Gladstone would urge the Greeks to hostilities against Turkey and then back them up with English ironclads. This dark cloud has been dispelled by Mr. Gladstone's opportune announcement that the Concert of Europe had a purely negative significance, and that it was not the business of England to take on herself to rectify the Greek frontier. Mr. Gladstone went out of his way to explain that his Eastern policy was now following the lines laid down by Lord Beaconsfield two years ago. Indeed Mr. Gladstone may almost boast, with his distinguished predecessor, that he has given the country Peace with Honour. At all events he has spared us a religious-sentimental war in the East of Europe, and if the Irish anarchists have contributed in any degree to enforce abstention from foreign quarrels, one must admit that in their case much good has come out of their evil doings.

Mr. Gladstone caused great amusement to the Lord Mayor's guests by reading a telegram he had received from the Sultan, making a present of Dulcigno to the Lord Mayor, so to speak. Who originated the joke I cannot say, indeed I am not quite certain whether Mr. Gladstone intended it as a joke or not, but there was no mistake about the spirit in which the company received the communication, for they were convulsed with laughter over it. Mr. Gladstone's humour is of a different kind from Lord Beaconsfield's. The latter statesman manages his wit as one of his disciplined forces, sending it on skirmishing and outpost duty, but never beyond the reach of his bugle call. He is not only conscious of the humour whose spirit he invokes, but makes a study of it. Mr. Gladstone's humour flashes out by sudden inspiration, and often appears to be without a purpose. The expression of it takes the form of an acted charade or a plain, bald statement of some fact which is comical by its strangeness but plays no immediate part in the argument. In the former class may be ranked the dramatic arrangement of the Sultan's telegram, accurately timed

to reach the Lord Mayor's dinner table. To the latter class belong the last previous joke Mr. Gladstone uttered in public when he told the House of Commons, that he had read of a Montenegrin Commander, who offered to exchange 147 Turkish prisoners for 147 pigs. There is no doubt about the Montenegrin being a man of real humour; the incongruity consisted in this incident being adduced to illustrate the heroism and the humanity of the men of the Black Mountains. But humour is a subtle essence, and Mr. Gladstone's jokes are the least subtle of any part of his speeches or writings.

PARIS LETTER.

PARIS, November 20th, 1880.

A leading monarchical journal bitterly complains that its party merits to disappear, because it lacks energy, and declines to come to the front to combat the republicans: it laments also, that the royalists love their ease at their inn too much, prefer leaving the active portion of hostilities to Swiss Guards, and show themselves only brave in the sense of carpet knights. That journal had organised a petition movement against the violation (alleged) of religious liberty in the case of dispersed monks, and opened a register, where functionaries could find employment (superior) as a compensation for throwing up their office under the Republic, rather than continue to serve a government which would not allow monks the exceptional favour of disobeying the laws. The persons who came to sign the petition resembled angel's visits; the number of little officials who resigned state employment for conscience sake, was relatively greater, but when they demanded the recompense for their sacrifice, they were told, calculations had not been realised, and they must look forward to the brighter world for the martyr's reward. All this is humorous, save for many civil servants who have families to support and find no corn in Egypt.

The confession is true and important: the so-called governing classes are rapidly disappearing: their Waterloo was fought with the retreat of MacMahon. The new strata of Society, of men who work, learn, and save, are swamping what remains of the old guard in all the departments of the State. Parents no longer look to employment under government as their Land of Goshen, nor does any lad with average intelligence and pluck, dream of going down to his grave on an office stool.

The home situation is easier, because the Government has at last comprehended the necessity of conducting business not with rigor, but vigor. Besides, they were till now in dread, that the clerico-monarchical party was a force to be coaxed, rather than combated, but which the absence of national sympathy with the coalition to resist the execution of the decrees proved to be illusory. And further, the Senate has given a small approving majority to the ministry, which is an important fact, as enabling the hope to be entertained that that body will not prove itself systematically hostile to the reforms voted by the Chamber. The majority is still more important, as it was won in the teeth of Senators who have deserted the republican flag, after being elected for life, by their wrapping themselves in its folds.

The bill for the reform of the Judicial Bench is being well discussed; it is not what might be anticipated a "whole hog or none" measure; it is merely a side transaction to enable the government to pension off a certain number of Mamelukes sworn to die in the odor of royalty or imperialism, and who measure out justice, following the political leanings of the pleaders. That bill made law, the Republic will nearly be o'er a' the ill o' life victorious, like Tam O'Shanter.

Within the last few days a number of journals have adopted the programme of writing up M. de Freycinet as a coming man. It is only in the interests of impartial history to observe, that the ink can be hardly dried in the same pens which wrote him down for his utter want of statesmanship in conniving with the unauthorised Monks to evade the Decrees. He has performed no remarkable feat since. As a minister of public works, M. de Freycinet had no equal, but it remains to be practically demonstrated, if his scheme for opening up the internal communications of the country, and above all, enlarging and improving many harbors not remarkable for trading centres, will pay. One part of his vast plan has turned out a failure—that of the States buying up and working all the railways. Enough of glory not the less remains to his credit. As a politician, he is a failure; he will never be capable of drawing to him or directing public opinion, so that it is useless pitting him against Gambetta—the latter is by profession a politician, as de Freycinet is an engineer.

Further, they are the house questions that absorb the attention of the nation, and no one can approach Gambetta in gauging the requirements of his countrymen. France apparently desires to approach the ideal of living like the mouse in a Dutch cheese; hence why she will neither bark for Dulcigno, nor bite for Greco. Indeed she is not unlike the world of observers in general, who laugh at the first business and pronounce the Sultan to be an incomparable wag. She refers the Greeks to Byron's poetry, not to trust for freedom to the Franks, while suggesting native swords and native ranks. France is wonder-

fully strong now; her wealth is nearly unbounded, but she has received such a scare in 1870-71, that her shattered nerves are not yet fully restored, for the shadow of Germany still falls across her chamber door.

The working men of France are holding opposition Congresses at Havre, where the rule of "no connection with the house over the way," is faithfully observed. The workmen of this country have been farmed by foreign emissaries and home representatives of exploded political creeds, whose aim is simply to draw attention by the eccentric character of their wind-bagism; they commit the great error of believing the world has stood still in France since 1871; on the contrary the Gauls are passing, silently it is true, but not the less effectually, through an important social revolution, where the uses of adversity are even acknowledged to be sweet. In 1848, the workman could be caught with eloquent nothings, or dazzled with abstract ameliorations; but since, all tendency to political poetry has been knocked out of him: he has become a concrete kind of mind. And since the collapse of the Empire, he has in principle the form of Government which divides his class less, he has a free vote, and free speech. He only demands from the state the right to be as free as employers in organizing associations for work and bettering the condition of his guild. There are minor questions to be settled, but these are peculiarly shop points. So much for the Gaul Congress. The other is simply an assembly of individuals that charity compels not to view as responsible for their wild talk. Their perfect cure for the complicated ills of society is, to abolish the owners of property, since such decline to see the beauty of voluntarily giving it up; when there would be no landlords, there would be no rents to pay, and the absence of all constituted government, would not entail taxes nor the supporting of policemen. The proceeds of property reduced to chaos would be placed to a common account, and the *olla podrida* served out to the good, bad, and indifferent, with a Procrustean equality. The proceedings are as amusing—or painful, according as the antics of insane people generally are viewed.

The age of chivalry is certainly past: Ex-War Minister de Cissey, to rebut the charges made against him, has sued five of the leading radical journals: instead of remaining silent, till Greek met Greek in open court, the journals only attack the general the more violently, indeed so much so, that a reaction is setting in, and many do not believe the general to be so bad as he has been painted. He appears to be somewhat in the position of the accused, who the more he adduced proofs of his innocence, the more the judge brow-beated him, till he exclaimed: "*Monsieur Juge*, you refuse me then the right to be innocent." The "*Baroness*" de Kaulla, the light woman who has drawn her paramour, the ex-minister, down with her into the mud, will not keep quiet; the consequence is, she is being positively daily subjected to vivisection by Rochefort, whom she has indicted for slander. Her son surpasses Rochefort, as he—a student half-way in his teens, warns correct people to avoid that notorious demi-mondian his mamma; he groans in spirit, that he is not of legal age to chastise those who reflect on his papa—Col. Jung, and a man the most to be pitied.

Beneath all this hurly-burly there lies the besetting sin of Frenchmen—intolerance towards opponents. Indeed the age of calumny is flourishing just now; antagonists make the most reckless statements, and the strangest of counsels. The courts commence to deal with the nuisance as summarily as they have towards the libidinous periodicals; a slanderer of the Home Minister (Constans) has been mulcted 10,000 fr. damages and costs; another editor who reminded 36 millions of Frenchmen that President Grévy was an excommunicated, and so ought to be voided, has been fined 2,000 fr. and sent to prison for three months.

A pleasing law case is that of the costermonger, arrested for bringing the tricolor into disrespect; he hung the flag out of his garret window, surrounding it with bunches of red carrots, as favors; he declined to retire the *drapeau* when invited to do so by the police. His defence was, that his wife had eloped, and he took that method to inform his neighbors of his joy: the carrots were merely an allusion to her awfully fiery-furnace hair.

Prince Roland Napoleon's marriage with Mlle. Blanc, the second daughter of Monaco Blanc of gambling farming notoriety, is an event. He was the "male" Cinderella of the Bonapartist happy family, penniless and disowned; his father, Prince Pierie, married a milliner, and showed in so doing his sense and foresight, as when the dynasty bubble burst, she was able to support him by her needle and scissors. The young Prince has now an income of two millions frs. a year: hitherto he had not two francs net, after paying his way as a poor infantry sub-lieutenant. It is but just to say, that the big guns of Bonapartism mustered at his wedding, to heighten his good luck. Why does not Paul de Cassagnac, the Warwick of Imperialism, run Roland I. for that abstract or unknown quantity, the crown of France? Mme. Blanc has now two princes for sons-in-law, and both declared to be love matches—where the girls sighed for princes for husbands, and the princes, dreamed of heiresses for wives. In honor of the event also, Mme.

Blanc sent 50,000 fr. to the poor of the city. One present not generally known, that she it may be said puts into the wedding trousseau, is the engagement to construct a mausoleum for the young couple. At the religious part of the ceremony Faure sang, receiving an "honorary" fee of fr. 2,500: this has caused a row with the Municipal Council, as they had to postpone the execution of a prize symphony, selected annually by public competition, on account of his being laid up with a cold. The Council intend to make him smart in the way of damages.

Few people who read French works, but have an idea of *Michel Strogoff*, by Jules Verne: well the attractive story has been dramatized in 5 acts and 10 tableaux, by the aid of that prince of dramatists, M. D'Ennery: it is a spectacular piece: the scenery is very splendid, and will draw all young France during the holidays, and grown up people for certainly twelve months. There is a good deal of music in the drama. In the third act, not less than 500 people figure on the stage.

An omnibus has upset in Paris, going down a steep street: the peculiarity of the accident is this, the voyagers on the roof, escaped unhurt, those inside were dreadfully injured.

JAPANESE ITEMS.

[The following Notes on various Japanese matters are chiefly derived from the native papers, occasionally supplemented from original sources of information, and are carefully collated and edited, so as make them readable and intelligible.]

COURT, POLITICAL AND OFFICIAL.

The *Choya Shinbun* states that on the 3rd instant His Majesty the Emperor performed the official ceremonies connected with re-opening the political administration, in the Imperial Palace. On the conclusion of this he visited the Council of State, where the Prime Minister, Privy Councillors and Ministers of the various Departments were presented in audience. After this His Majesty returned to the Imperial Palace, whence, accompanied by Her Majesty the Empress, He proceeded to the Aoyama Palace.

On New Year's Day, all the officials of the first three grades, with their wives, were presented in audience to Their Majesties the Emperor and Empress. After this, a presentation of the Foreign Representatives, with their wives, followed.

A local native journal informs its readers that great changes are contemplated among the present local Governors. Mr. Makimura, Governor of Kioto, has been summoned to Tokio, and the Governors of Sakai, Shizuoka and Oita are all to be transferred to other prefectures.

The *Mainichi Shinbun* says there is a report that the Japanese Government have received information that Sir Harry Parkes, the British Minister to Japan, will leave England for his post at the end of this month.

The same paper informs us that in consequence of the approaching departure of H. I. H. Prince Arisugawa Takehito the younger for England, to complete his education, he is to be presented to Their Majesties the Emperor and Empress in a few days, at a farewell interview. He will then receive a court dress and sword, as is customary whenever a Prince of the Blood goes abroad.

A vernacular Journal states that His Excellency Ho Ju Chang, the Chinese Minister, is shortly to return to China, in compliance with instructions received from his own government. The journal we quote adds, with the usual reserve, that some say this is simply because his term of office has expired, while others assert that it is in consequence of the two Empresses not having approved of the document forwarded by the fully authorized committee of Japan and China, on the amicable conclusion of the Loochow question.

The *Nichi Nichi Shinbun* says that His Imperial Highness the young Prince Haru-no-Miya will be presented to His Majesty about the 13th instant for the New Year's congratulations.

The Woods and Forests Bureau of the Home Department is, we read in a vernacular paper, about to examine all the woods and forests in Government possession throughout the whole country, and officials are to be despatched for this purpose to the prefectures of Miyagi, Awomori, Akita, Kagoshima, and Fukuoka.

The *Hochi Shinbun* says that on his departure for Corea, Minister Hanabusa took with him several stand of rifles, as a present from the Japanese Government to that of Corea.

We read in the *Hochi Shinbun* that the new penal code is to come into force in the month of April next. The introduction of the new code for the administration of justice is, however, postponed for the present.

NAVAL AND MILITARY.

We notice a native same paper that the formal re-opening of the Naval Department will take place on the 10th instant. Cannon practice is to be commenced along the Eastern Coast from that date.

We learn that the War Department was formally re-opened on the 8th instant, and that all the Military officers and cadets at present in Tokio have assembled on the Hibiya parade ground on that day, to be reviewed. Similar inspections were held at all the garrisons stationed in various parts of the Empire.

We learn from a vernacular paper, that on the 5th instant a banquet was given at the office of the Eastern Admiralty, at six o'clock in the evening, in honour of the New Year. His Excellency Admiral Enomoto, Minister of the Navy, presided, attended by Rear Admirals Maki and Akamatsu. All the Foreign Consuls, and the Commanders of the various Japanese men-of-war in harbour were invited, and the naval band played a selection of music during the evening.

The *Mainichi Shinbun* states that the War Department is going to compile a new map of Japan, for which purpose a number of officers and non-commissioned officers from the Staff Office have already been despatched to the prefecture of Ohiwa, for the purpose of taking surveys.

INDUSTRIES, TRADE AND FINANCE.

A native paper from which we take the above states that the revenue of the Yokohama Custom House for the year 1880 amounted to 1,895,587.78 yen.

We gather from native sources that in Yokohama the present price of silk is the same as it was last year, but that since the beginning of this month the market has been very active. On the 3rd and 4th instant, no less than 1,013 bales changed hands.

That Yesso is gradually advancing is proved by the following extract which we take from a native contemporary:—"Mr. Niki Hidekichi, a *Shisoku* of the Tokushima prefecture, has in company with several others of his own class, been engaged successfully in indigo planting and recently about forty families of these *Shisoku* emigrated from Tokushima to Sapporo, Yesso where they turned their experience to the industry they had been practising in their own prefecture. The soil proved particularly adapted to their requirements and the enterprise was a great success. On receipt of news to this effect, Mr. Niki Hidekichi went at once to Sapporo to see for himself, and was so satisfied that on his return he held an interview with his ex-lord Hachisuka, at Tokio, who was much pleased at the good tidings, and advanced a sum of money towards the necessary capital. About two hundred families intend leaving for Sapporo, to start indigo plantations, in the middle of the present month."

One of the native journals states that about twenty of the wealthier merchants of Kobe have established a company under the name of the "Kobe Tea Company." Their object is to export tea direct to New York, and then to sell it extensively throughout the whole of the United States.

We read in the same paper that as there are only a few horses, and those of inferior quality, in the Loochoo Islands, the Board of Agriculture has sent a number of good horses there for breeding purposes.

The same journal says that the Militia of Yesso are to be instructed in breeding silk-worms: instructors will be sent there from the Yamagata prefecture for that purpose.

The *Hochi Shinbun* says that the printing of the new one yen paper money, to replace those that are now in circulation, is almost completed. New five yen will shortly be commenced, while the printing of paper ten yen is now under consideration.

The *Sumida Maru* brought the sum of 5,800 yen in gold and 1,250 yen in silver, for the Finance Department, from Kobe on the 4th instant.

The capital of the Tokio Tramway Company is to be 400,000 yen. A native contemporary says that this amount is nearly all subscribed.

MISCELLANEOUS.

The 5th instant being the native festival known as the Shinnen-yenkai, all the Government offices were closed and none of the native papers appeared.

The *Hochi Shinbun* says that in the terrible fire at Tokio, on the 30th ultimo twenty one streets, containing no less than 2,329 houses, were destroyed.

According to a native contemporary the number of ships which arrived in Yokohama during the past year is as follows:—

Foreign mails	91
" steamers	60
" sailing ships	146
Japanese vessels (including mails, steamers, and sailing ships	1,225
Total	1,522

We notice in a vernacular paper that about half-a-dozen seamen, belonging to one of the men-of-war now lying in the Yokosuka harbour, having raised a great disturbance while in a house of illfame on Sunday last, some police were sent to arrest them. A number of their comrades thereupon came to their assistance and attacked the police: several on both sides were wounded, and as it seemed impossible to bring the riot to a termination, a telegram was sent to Yokohama, in accordance with the demands of which Police Sergeant Sano left for Yokosuka in a special steamer, with seventy men, and the disturbance was quickly quelled as the rioters offered the police no resistance.

A native paper says that the wheels of the railway trains now running between Shiobashi and Yokohama are to be enlarged by eight inches, in order to enable them to run between the respective places in fifty minutes.

H. R. H. THE DUKE OF GENOA.

The *Mainichi Shinbun* says that His Royal Highness the Duke of Genoa will return home about the beginning of next month.

According to the *Choya Shinbun* the late Mr. Sameshima, during his residence in Paris as Minister to France, won the admiration of many of his French friends, and that of the public in general also by his work the "Diplomatist's Guide." In 1873, when there was a social science congress in Paris, Mr. Sameshima gave a lecture on the general condition of Asia, which lasted fifteen days (?) and which gained him great kudos, and popularity. The lecture consisted of between two or three hundred very closely written pages, and had never been seen before except by a very few of his most intimate friends.

IMPERIAL GOVERNMENT RAILWAYS.

TOKEI AND YOKOHAMA SECTION.

Statement of traffic receipts for the week ending Sunday, 2nd January, 1881.

Passengers, parcels, &c.	Yen 8,806.76
Merchandise, &c.	" 1,185.39
Total.....	Yen 9,992.15
Miles open 18.	
Corresponding week last year.	
Passengers, parcels, &c.....	Yen 7,691.71
Merchandise, &c.....	" 1,034.86
Total.....	Yen 8,726.57
Miles open 18.	

TELEGRAMS.

London, 2nd December.—The British Government has proposed to the Powers whose ships formed part of the naval demonstration before Duligno that the fleet should not yet be dispersed, and that the European concert should be maintained in order that the remaining stipulations of the treaty of Berlin should be carried out.

London, 2nd December.—A further reinforcement of 500 marines has been ordered to Ireland.

The City of London Corporation has resolved to present General Roberts with the Freedom of the City and a sword of honour.

Teheran, 1st December.—In consequence of the Persian Government having demanded that the Porte should punish Sheik Abdullah, a force of Turkish troops has been despatched to the Persian frontier.

St. Petersburg, 1st December.—The Russian Government has under consideration the conversion of Batoum into a free port.

St. Petersburg, 2nd December.—Negotiations which have been ordered on (?) respecting Kuldja have failed to remove the difficulty in connection therewith, and further concessions will be necessary either on the part of Russia or China in order to ensure a peaceful settlement of the question at issue.

London, 3rd December.—Owing to the early meeting of Parliament Mr. Parnell has made application to Government to postpone the trial of himself and colleagues. It is proposed by Irish sympathisers in America to send American lawyers across to Dublin to defend the leaguers. Latest accounts from the west of Ireland state that outrages are daily increasing. Russia has accepted the proposal made by the British Government respecting the international fleet, but Austria has rejected it.

Constantinople, 3rd December.—The Albanian league has been dissolved.

A special commission has been appointed by the Turkish Government, composed of the Grand Vizier, the Minister of the Interior, the Minister of Foreign Affairs, and the Minister of War, to devise rigorous measures against the Kurdish insurrectionists.

London, 4th December.—Mr. Parnell's application to the Government to postpone the trial of the Land Leaguers has been refused.

The combined fleet lately assembled in the Adriatic, will disperse to-day: the British portion proceeds to Malta.

The *Daily News* publishes a telegram from its special correspondent, stating that six thousand Russian troops have arrived at Nakh-chivan, on the Persian frontier.

Teheran, 4th December.—News has been received here that the Kurdish Chief Obeidullah has defeated the Persian troops, inflicting heavy loss and capturing several guns, and that he is now threatening Urmiah.

Washington, 5th December.—President Hayes, in a message to Congress, recommends the conversion of five and six per cent bonds into three and three and half per cent bonds.

Owing to the extreme severity of the weather, ships containing five million bushels of grain are ice-bound in Lake Erie.

London, 6th December.—An enormous and enthusiastic meeting of Land Leaguers was held at Waterford yesterday. Mr. Parnell made a long address to the meeting, in which he accused the Government of conspiracy against the rights of Ireland.

Berlin, 6th December.—An order for a formidable iron-clad has been received by a shipbuilding firm at Stettin from the Chinese Government.

St. Petersburg, 6th December.—News has reached here that Northern Afghanistan is in an unsettled condition, in consequence of the depredations of Merv Turkomans, who are plundering villages and caravans.

Washington, 6th December.—The Secretary of the United States treasury recommends either the suspension of coinage of silver dollars, or that the silver dollars should be made equivalent in value to the gold dollar.

President Hayes has suggested that General Grant should be appointed to the chief command of the American Army.

Teheran, 6th December.—The Kurds have attacked a party of Persian pilgrims returning from Mecca, killing and wounding 500.

London, 7th December.—Mr. Parnell has been presented with the freedom of the city of Waterford.

Obituary.—Sir James W. Colville.

Allahabad, 7th December.—The Viceroy was attacked with fever at Bombay, but, recovering, started for Calcutta on the 5th. He had a relapse yesterday and halted here unexpectedly this afternoon. There was no demonstration, at his special request. Earl de Grey, who left Allahabad this morning for Dehra, has been recalled to Calcutta, and the reception programme is postponed indefinitely.

London, 8th December.—A serious riot has occurred at Brookborough, County Fermanagh, owing to the authorities having prohibited an intended meeting of the Land Leaguers.

The Riot Act was read and eventually the rioters were dispersed by the Dragoons and the Police who were called out.

INDIAN NEWS.

Kandahar, 26th November.—General Phayre, in taking leave of the Second Division, tendered his acknowledgements to all ranks for the prompt and efficient support which he has invariably received from them since the organization of the division in August last. It has afforded him sincere pleasure to bring specially to the notice of His Excellency the Commander-in-Chief the admirable energy and zeal which actuated all during the trying and memorable march from Sibi to Kandahar for the relief of the garrison in direct cooperation with the Kabul-Kandahar column under Sir F. Roberts. Although the division was not fortunate enough to arrive at Kandahar in time to participate in the glorious victory of the 1st September, yet the General believes he may quote from the Viceroy's speech on parade at Lahore on the 13th instant the following passage, as applicable to the Sibi-Kandahar line of communication equally with others:—"But, sir, if we recall with pride these gallant and stirring deeds of war and victory, there have been other incidents in these operations which we cannot in justice overlook. We cannot forget the services which have been rendered by those officers and regiments who were set to guard the lines of communications, and I hold, as I have already had occasion in this country to state, that our gratitude is equally due to those who performed that duty with such unvarying patience and such firmness in difficulties and trials quite as great as those which were undergone by their comrades who had the better fortune to be engaged in the front." Let these words, remarks General Phayre, from the highest authority in India, convey to all ranks the assurance that their distinguished services on the occasion under reference are recognized and appreciated. There is no news of importance. Ayoub's troubles at Herat are increasing. Here the people are settling down to the belief that the British are in treaty with him, and the fact that more land is being brought under cultivation shows that hostilities are not anticipated, during the winter months at least. The cold weather has now thoroughly set in.

Rawal Pindi, 30th November.—The recently-opened railway line to Rawal Pindi has been the scene of three accidents within the last two days. The goods train leaving Pindi on Sunday morning de-railed one mile out of the station. The engine and several waggons rolled down the embankment, and the guard was severely injured, the engine, tender and waggons being greatly damaged. This morning, Tuesday, the goods train to Pindi came to grief. The engine got safely across the Pindi ice-pits; but the waggons went off the rails and fell over the bridge. This bridge is one of three spans and of great height. The girders are torn off and the piers damaged. The waggons and goods are smashed to pieces, but no lives are lost. To-day in the Bakrula cutting, near Ratial, the passenger train had a narrow escape. A great portion of the embankment fell in, blocking the line. The mixed train due at Pindi at 4 p.m. is still retained on the spot. No down mails left Pindi to-day. Colonel Medley has gone to Hajesha and Attock to-day inspecting that line preparatory to the opening for public traffic, about 10th December.

Kandahar, 1st December.—General Hume took command on the 29th November. General Phayre, accompanied by his A.D.C., Captain Phayre, and Colonel Smith, R.A., left for Quetta yesterday.

Mr. Werner, of Chiarini's Circus, nearly lost an eye on Thursday night by a tiger getting excited and mauling him.

BURNING OF THE STEAMER BOMBAY.

The Christmas of 1880 has been saddened by the destruction by fire of the steamer *Bombay*, which occurred on Christmas Eve. This vessel formerly belonged to the P. and O. Co., but was afterwards purchased by Kwok Acheong, who was compradore to the P. and O. Co. for many years. Now that he is dead, his sons carry on his business, and the *Bombay* was one of the steamers owned by the firm. We give the following details of the fire.

At half-past two o'clock on Thursday, the 23rd instant, the steamer *Bombay*, of 742 tons register, Captain Guggin,

loft Heard's Wharf for Woosung, for the purpose of getting over the Bar, prior to filling up with rice for Swatow, as her draught of water when deeply laden was 19 feet, and the water on the bar only registered 16 feet 8 inches, so that she had to get over as light as possible. After getting over, she was moored with both anchors some distance ahead of the *Mirzapore*, nearly abreast of the Harbour Master's office at Woosung, and commenced taking in 4,360 bags of rice next morning. The work was completed on Christmas Eve, and some of the cargo was re-stowed below. It was then too late to proceed to sea on that night, so everything was made secure, and the watchman appointed and all requisite precautions taken to prevent fire, steam being kept up in the donkey engine for the purpose of working the fire pumps. Captain Goggin and most of the officers retired to rest, and all was quiet till five minutes to eleven o'clock. Part of the *Bombay's* cargo was cotton, about 1,200 bales of which were stowed in the 'tween decks, but the greater portion of it was stowed on the upper deck, piled up five tiers high in some places. Looking aft, the watchman discovered smoke rising from the cotton near the stern, and a nearer inspection, to his great alarm, showed that the cotton was on fire. He immediately called the third engineer and some other persons, and they all ran aft to put the fire out. When they got to the fire, they discovered that two bales were burning, though there was not much flame. They then endeavoured to throw the burning bales overboard, but in breaking them out, they burst. A light breeze scattered the fleecy particles about over the other bales which instantly took fire. In the meantime the alarm became general, and everybody hastened to do what they could to extinguish the flames. The fire hose was laid on in less than five minutes and water buckets were brought into requisition, but the efforts of all were unavailing. A light N.W. wind was blowing at the time, and it shifted more towards the North, the ship's head was up the river so that the wind blew right along her deck from aft forward, towards the cargo amidships, which consisted of cotton and tallow. A lot of cotton was thrown overboard, but without any check to the fire, which spread faster and faster. It got down into the cabin—which was also filled with cotton—and then drove along the 'tween decks. The heat became intense, and the crew were driven forward. Inch by inch they fought the flames; manfully they strove to beat the fiery element back, but their efforts were unavailing, the flames flew higher and higher, till people on our Bund returning home on Christmas morning from St. Joseph's Church saw the blaze in the firmament and wondered where the fire was. In the meantime some fifty people were being burnt out, and deprived of all they had, on a bitterly cold night with the thermometer down to twenty-two degrees, a fine steamer being destroyed, and a valuable cargo reduced to ashes without the possibility of their being saved. It was a grand but gloomy sight to see the fine old ship succumb. The flames kept gathering headway till the whole vessel from stern to stem was enveloped in the all-devouring element, which mounted higher and higher with each breath of wind. The steamer carried six boats; four of them hanging from davits aft were capable of carrying 40 persons each, and the remaining two—smaller ones—hung in the waist. Owing to the rapidity with which the fire spread, it was impossible to get at the after boats, and as the flames reached the galleys, they burnt through them, and the boats, one by one, fell into the water and were smashed or burnt. The crew were able to lower the small boats and the second officer took charge of one of them and landed a number of Chinese passengers. Outside aid arrived first from the Great Northern Telegraph Co.'s steamer *H. C. Ersted* and next from the P. and O. Co.'s steamer *Mirzapore*. In about three-quarters of an hour from the discovery of the fire, the ship was all in flames, and everybody had to leave, the passengers and crew being taken out of the burning wreck by the boats of the above-mentioned steamers. The lower masts of the *Bombay* were of iron but such was the intensity of the heat that in about half an hour the mainmast fell overboard to port, while the foremast toppled over the starboard cathead, breaking in three pieces in its fall, about an hour afterwards. After everybody had been driven out of the ship, it was considered dangerous to let her remain, burning as she was, in such close proximity to the *Mirzapore*, *H. C. Ersted*, *Pautah*,

and the Alphabetical and other gunboats belonging to the Chinese fleet extending from abreast of the Telegraph station for about half a mile up river. It was thought probable that her chains might be eaten through, and then she would drift on top of the other vessels. The *Mirzapore* could not help herself, as some portion of her machinery was under repair, and there were no tugboats about, and no possibility of immediate communication with Shanghai owing to the Telegraph Office being closed. It was suggested that the *Bombay* should be scuttled, and at about two o'clock on Christmas morning the services of a steam launch were obtained from one of the Chinese war vessels at Woosung for the purpose. The crew of the launch tried their best, but they only fired three shots, one of which went over the *Bombay* while only one ball lodged in her hull, and that was in the wooden upperworks forward, and consequently useless. It was as well that they did not succeed, for had the wreck been sunk, the river would have been blocked and navigation impeded, as any obstruction always causes the mud to rapidly silt up around it. Captain Parish, of the *Mirzapore*, telegraphed to the P. and O. agent as early as possible, when he found that the *Bombay* could not be sunk, asking for a couple of tugs and a pilot to remove his vessel to a place of safety. Between 8 and 9 o'clock the *Fokelin* and *Samson* from Shanghai appeared on the scene, with Mr. Joseph of the P. and O. Co., Mr. Knott, pilot, Mr. Meade Acting Harbour Master, and a number of other gentlemen. It was found unnecessary to unmoor the *Mirzapore*, it being thought more advisable to remove the burning ship, but there was great difficulty in doing this. Her wood work was still burning fiercely, the heat was unbearable, and no one could stay on board any length of time with safety. To get her adrift, her cables had either to be unshackled, slipped or cut. Any of these modes of getting her free would be attended with considerable risk to any one attempting it. The work had to be done and done it was. Captain Roberts volunteered his services. He succeeded in unshackling the starboard cable, but the heat was so intense that he could not get the port one loose. As it was, his whiskers were singed, his clothes and his boots burnt. The port cable got jammed in the chain locker, and although he made a rope fast to it as near the locker as possible and conveyed it to one of the tugs, before the tug could do anything, the rope was burnt through. A consultation was then held as to the best mode of getting this cable free, and it was finally decided to cut the chain from the outside. This was done by the carpenter of the *Fokelin* with a chisel and hammer. Capt. Roberts fixed the hawser round the *Bombay's* stem and the *Fokelin* and *Samson* took her in two and hauled her further up the river, near the entrance to the Junk Channel and dragging her past the ships, till she touched ground on the Shanghai side, nearly a mile from the spot where she took fire. There was then no further danger of her injuring any vessel by drifting on them, and she was moored to one anchor about two o'clock in the afternoon. The *Fuklee* and *Titan* were in attendance at the time the *Bombay* was being towed to a place of safety, but otherwise their services were not required. These operations were carried on under the supervision of Mr. Chief Tide Surveyer Meade, Acting Harbour Master, whose duty it was to see that the fairway of the river was kept clear, and the vessel taken out of the way of passing ships.

Several casualties are recorded. The Master received a cut across his forehead and nose by running against a stay, and one of the crew—a fireman—is reported missing. One native fell overboard, but he was picked up by one of the boats. The three engineers and the second officer are staying at the Temperance Hall. They and all the others arrived in Shanghai with nothing more than they stood upright in. The crew consisted of Captain Goggin, two officers and three engineers, and about forty-five firemen, servants and sailors.

Our reporter visited the wreck twice, the last time, yesterday afternoon. Captain Barton, Government Surveyor, and Mr. Meade also visited the wreck yesterday. The *Titan* and the *Fokelin* were alongside pumping on the smouldering ashes. Our reporter found the *Bombay* still burning. He went on board and saw the fire blazing brightly all over the lower hold of the vessel, it had com-

municated to the boards, and the bowsprit—the heel of which having been burnt—had fallen overboard. The top of the wooden foretopmast was sticking up out of the water. The vessel presented the appearance of a mere shell from the outside while inside the iron work was all twisted and bent from the great heat. The engine room partitions were bent, and the steam winches and capstan had fallen to the bottom of the ship, the beams which had supported them having given way. The boats davits were lying inboard in various directions while the iron stanchions were twisted altogether out of shape. The smokestack was scorched, though to all appearances otherwise uninjured. The boilers did not seem to have suffered much, though it is thought they are burnt underneath. The upper works of the after part of the ship were all bent inwards, and the iron deck beams were twisted into all kinds of shapes, while every particle of wood work within the shell had been calcined. Outside the iron hull, above the water line, the paint had been burnt off, showing how the plates had been warped by the intense heat. In some places, the plates had shrunk at least a quarter of an inch where they were joined together. It is thought that the vessel will never be fit to go to sea again, but that the only use she can be put to, will be to act as a hulk or an iron poutoon.

The Shanghai Tugboat Association has accepted a contract to bring the *Bombay* up to Shanghai, and expect to succeed to-morrow. She will then be beached near Mr. Blethen's house in Hongkew. Before this can be done, the fire must be put out and then the water that has been pumped into her, has to be pumped out again. Yesterday there were about 18 inches in her, as not only did the tugs try to put the fire out, but the Chinese gunboats also used their fire engines. The chief engineer went down to the wreck to-day to point out any cocks or pipes leading to the water.

H. M. S. *Mosquito* had orders during the time that Divine Service was being conducted on board on Christmas morning to proceed to the *Bombay*, but this order was countermanded after the gunboat had got steam up, as it was found her assistance was not required.

Mr. F. Kofud was engaged to pilot the *Bombay* to sea. He had his clothes on board the steamer, but he was himself on board the *H. C. Ersted* at the time the fire broke out. He hastened back, and was among the first to get alongside the burning ship. He worked with the others. He too lost his clothes. This is the third time within the last ten years that he has lost his things on board ship.—*Shanghai Courier*.

ANOTHER MASSACRE IN THE SOUTH SEA ISLANDS.

The *Sydney Morning Herald* gives the following account of the massacre of the Commander and five of the crew of H.M.S. *Sandfly* :—

Intense excitement was felt in mercantile and shipping circles on the 29th November when it became known that H.M.S. *Sandfly* had arrived from the Solomon Islands, that the commander and five of her crew had been killed by the natives at a small island of the Solomo Group, and that one man had been wounded. From Mr. Bradford, acting-sub-lieutenant, Mr. Coughlan, the boatswain, and Savage, a seaman, the latter being the sole survivor of the massacre, we have been enabled to glean full details of a foul outrage, the latest of hundreds which have made British seamen and traders abhor the Solomon Group :—

On Wednesday, October 13th, the *Sandfly* being anchored at Tosemboko, Lieutenant-Commander Bower left in the whaleboat to survey the east coast of Florida Island from Barruanga, intending to be back on the 16th. With him he took a crew of five men :—Francis Savage, A.B.; Benjamin Venton, of Bet-nal Green, London, A.B.; Alfred Carne, Southwark, London, A.B.; William Paterson, Belfast, Ireland, A.B.; and John O'Neil, Southwark, London, A.B.

The 17th, 18th, and 19th passed without their returning, and on the 20th the schooner weighed anchor, and made for the east coast, Mr. Bradford sending the gig round one side, and going himself round the other, so that a thorough search might be made. The gig was commanded by Mr. Coughlan and manned by four seamen, all being well armed, and the start was made from East Point. When near the

south-east coast of Florida Island, a canoe was noticed coming off from the coast, but as the gig neared it, the four men in the island craft rowed for the shore, closely pursued by the gig. The canoe was beached, and Coughlan seeing a number of natives on the beach—he estimates their number at 150—halted the gig without beaching her, and opened parley with the islanders. One of the occupants of the canoe—a chief, whose name was afterwards found to be Billy—spoke a few words in the native tongue, and immediately the peaceful-looking people on the beach appeared armed with spears, and bows and arrows, and English tomahawks. It afterwards transpired that round a little promontory lurked two well-manned war canoes, and that had the gig been beached her crew would have been riddled from front and rear with a shower of spears. Coughlan, however, was too cautious not to turn his gig's bow seaward, and to have his men ready for a skirmish, and so open hostilities were waived in favour of an attempt to decoy the Englishmen to their death. "Come in! Come in! Canoe come in, and you come in," shouted Billy; and then added "I speak." Some native words brought out one Jack, an islander, who could speak pidgin English. "I Jack, I savee Louis (Mr. Nixon, Master of the schooner *Pacific*), you savee Louis?" said this worthy. "Yes," answered Coughlan. "Boat gone to island, all same Savee," rejoined Jack, "five fellow ear, six fellow men"—alluding to the commander and his crew. Coughlan knew that this was the *Sandfly's* boat, and so pulled back to the ship with the news. They then went to East Island, then along the coast, where in the evening they saw many fires burning and where they flashed lights and did everything that might possibly attract the wanderers; and they noticed that the beach was literally alive with natives, dancing and yelling like fiends. They reached Mboli Harbour at 1.30 p.m. on Thursday, and about eight o'clock Coughlan, with two men—all well armed, and on their guard—went on shore and made coffee, but none of the natives would own that they knew a word of English. The gig then went right round the island, and though *Sandfly* Passage—traced and named by Lieut. Bower—and so returned to the vessel, to find Savage on board, with the melancholy news of the massacre of which he was sole survivor. It may be stated that Mr. Coughlan touched at Nogu Island, and searched it thoroughly. He saw the naked headless bodies of the missing crew, but they were baked black by the sun until they looked like natives, and it was only when Savage told his story that the men could manage to examine and identify them.

When the whaleboat left the ship on October 13th, her crew rowed to Saserge, where the captain took a sight; and there they stayed that night. Next morning they rowed to East Island, and camped there on Thursday night. On Friday they pulled over to Lavinia Bay on the mainland, the spot where the terrible *Lavinia* massacre took place, and the men, answering the cunning questions of the natives, told them where they had slept the night before, thus letting them see that they were away from the ship. From this moment their lives were in their hands, and all that savage cunning could devise—in an island group where a man's importance is reckoned by the number of murdered enemies he can show, and where the head of every well-known trader has a price fixed upon it by the chiefs—was set in motion to cut off that boat's crew. The captain was on shore, but his men kept their fire-arms ready, and he got safely on board; and kept along the coast, surveying, until he got to Nogu Island, on Friday evening. Here they hauled the boat up and made tea, preparing to camp for the night, in utter ignorance of the fact that even then dark forms were fitting through the dense bush; and that opal eyeballs were flashing at the thought of getting the white men's heads as the camp was silenced in sleep. Canoes had followed the boat, and when it landed the trackers stole round to the other side of the island, and crept through the thickets to an ambush where they could be ready for a surprise. The moment came soon enough. Carne and O'Neil got leave to bathe, and splashed into the water. Venton was told off to look after the boat, to spread out the gear, and to dry it and heat; and Lieutenant Bower, with Savage and Paterson, went along the beach to do a little more surveying. They went a short distance, and then

Paterson returned for something. Soon after, Savage heard yells, and, running back, he saw a crowd of about fifty natives whirling round the boat, and more hurrying through the bush. Returning to the captain, he shouted, "The boat's attacked;" and the captain, also returning to see the truth, was espied by the natives, six of whom broke off and ran for him. He cried, "My God, Savage, it is a case!" and darted into the bush. Savage saw no more of him, but subsequently learned that he had eluded pursuit by climbing a tree. It was now between five and six o'clock, just growing dusk, and the sky cloudy; and Savage, as he doubled and zig-zag-ged through the thickets, which reach to the water's edge, knew that his only chance of life was to get away from Nogu; so, after a brief rest, he plunged into the sea and struck out for a little island near the mainland. The tide was strong, and as he got out he was swept back little until he was opposite the scene of the massacre. The savages had piled up the fire lit to make tea, and were dancing and shouting round it when the clouds broke, and a burst of moonlight showed Savage. With a yell, his foes manned two or three canoes and pursued him. Savage swam for his life, but his pursuers drew up until they were only some fifty yards away, when the moon was once more overcast. When next a gleam of moonlight came the fugitive saw his pursuers far off, making back to their companions. They evidently thought he had gone down. His next danger was from the sharks, which literally swarm round these reefs. At one time no less than three backfins were sweeping round him in in that ominous curve, ever growing closer, which precedes a rush; but he splashed faintly, and so kept them off until, after an eight-hours' swim he landed on a small uninhabited island. This was tabooed to the king of the tribe adjoining the murderers', and Savage rested there in safety during a heavy storm which came on. Next day, on Saturday afternoon, he determined to go over to the mainland, and so made a rough-and-ready raft and paddled across. When he was about 500 yards from the shore two or three canoes put off, and the swimmer was taken on board and conveyed to land. The chief was away, but one of his captors who could speak English said it was "all right," and Savage, to his surprise, was taken to a fresh-water spring and bathed. Then he was robbed of his flannel shirt, his sole remaining garment; but in exchange the English-speaking native gave him a pair of trousers, a jacket, and a hat—ordinary trade goods—and taking him to a hut gave him fish and some kind of bread. On Sunday night the chief returned and tabooed him, and—next best thing—gave him a pipe, tobacco, and matches. But on Monday Savage's life was once more in danger, for he was taken round to Barranago Bay, and all the males in the tribe, about 500 men and boys, assembled for a grand council. Savage was in the centre, and from looks and gestures, he could see that he was being spoken off; but definite information he could not obtain, since to every question the English-speaking native returned only a grunt. Afterwards this man became more communicative, and confided to him that he was quite safe now, and would be kept until Louis (Captain Nixon, of the *Pacific*) came along. The party then took to fishing with no less civilized an agent than dynamite which they know perfectly how to use. The captive saw in their possession Snider rifles and plenty of ammunition. The chief was one Timlacora. The interpreter, who was Captain Nixon's trading agent, gradually told Savage of the fate of his companions.

The tree into which Bower climbed was a very conspicuous one, situate near the shore, but the captain expected to escape observation there. The murderers sought him in vain that night, but next morning they paddled all round the island, and seeing him in the tree, landed and shot him twice through the body with the rifles they had taken from the boat. He dropped to the earth, and then a series of nameless horrors ensued. When found his body was uncoloured, headless, and divested of the right arm, and great pieces of flesh were stripped from the back. The men who were bathing had been clubbed at once; Paterson, taken from behind, had shared the same fate; but Venton, who had time to seize a boat-stretcher, fought hard for his life, as a native afterwards admitted. "One man very strong," said the interpreter to Savage "plenty fight." The attacking party thought Savage drowned; and as O'Neil's body was not discovered by the *Sandfly*, though the interpreter said five men were killed, it is likely that it was left in the water

where the poor wretch was struck down. Savage was told that the arms got in the boat were "five rifles, one small fellow-rifle" (a revolver). Savage remained near Barranago Bay until Thursday afternoon, when his signals were perceived by the *Sandfly*. Mr. Bradford sent the skiff for him.

On Friday morning the *Sandfly* went to Nogu Island, which is shaped like a pear, the thick portion wooded, and the stalk a bare sandspit. On this sandspit, visible a mile away, were two stakes bearing a crossbar, to which the headless body of Venton was bound. The biceps muscle was cut through to the bone, and the wrists were slashed across; he was covered with tomahawk cuts, and the contraction of the fingers told what his death-agony had been. It may have been that he was tortured before he died; he was the only one who was able to strike a blow, and the only one whose body was so treated. Further on, lay the headless bodies of Carue and Paterson; and a little way in the bush Mr. Coughlan discovered the captain's body, under the tree where he was shot. They buried the remains, read the service over them, and then returned to Barranago, the only safe anchorage near. On Saturday, Coughlan returned to Nogu for a rifle, left behind on the preceding day; and on Sunday Mr. Bradford and eight men, well armed, went into Rita Bay, to see if there were any signs of the whaleboat. All that they saw was a jumper lying on the beach, and one of the men went for it. It proved to belong to Savage. They could not get the vessel into Rita Bay; and on Sunday, October 31st, Mr. Bradford and his crew again pulled in, in the teeth of a heavy fire from concealed natives. They returned the fire, landed, discovered two water-casks and a tarpaulin belonging to the whaleboat, burned the village; and were just embarking when fire was opened upon them again. Robert Buckle, A. B., was shot through the heart, and a seaman named Whitlock was wounded in the left fore-arm. On Monday, November 1st, the *Sandfly* weighed anchor for Sydney.

The *Sandfly* is a sailing schooner of 120 tons, and was paid off and recommissioned on the 1st of July of the present year at Sydney.

THE JAPANESE PRESS.

THE SHIMONOSEKI INDEMNITY.

(Translated from the *Kinji Hiron*).

In the earlier history of our country's dealings with foreigners, our rulers exhibited a considerable amount of obstinacy, and the former consequently, under the pretext of having been treated with rudeness and abruptness, threatened us with their superior force, and exacted what is known as the Shimonoseki indemnity. With regard to the division of the spoil, you, oh citizens of America! are welcome to your share, for you have now repented of your action in the matter.

America simply participated in order to awake Japan from her obstinate dream, but looking back now on the question, she considers that the indemnity exacted was outrageous. From this it may be inferred that, at the time, she was actuated by greed to share in the plunder, but that she now fears lest such a course should tarnish her fair fame in the future. Some American statesmen now assert that as a compensation for their past ill-doings, they had better return their share of the indemnity to the Japanese Government at once, as an earnest of friendship. Others, however, urge that such a course would be unreasonable, unless some very special grounds could be urged, and that it would be better to employ the amount towards endowing a school for the education of young Japanese, thus materially, although indirectly, benefiting Japan. Those two propositions have been discussed in Congress for some years. The *Nichi Nichi Shinbun*, however, now publishes a report that the United States Government has definitely resolved upon returning the Shimonoseki indemnity to Japan, and says that in the present critical state of the finances, this would indeed be joyful news, if true.

Should the above report prove correct, would our Government approve the action of America and accept what is offered? As far as regards the United States Government, it would naturally be their policy to dispel our ill-will and

gain our friendship, rather than to have Japan always complaining of the unkindness of the treaty powers over a trifling matter of money. For our part, however, we ought not to entertain any idea of accepting such a proposition for a single moment, but ought unhesitatingly to reject it. It is not from force of arms, but from the fact that we now associate with the strong powers of the world that we maintain our Sovereign rights and are enabled to keep other countries from employing arbitrary measures: so long as we walk in a righteous path, and conduct ourselves in a just and proper manner, we are safe from the unjust attacks of any other nation. We thus find that though the foreign powers previously exacted a far too excessive indemnity from us, they have now become ashamed of themselves. We have thus a good opportunity of controlling the foreign powers when they feel inclined to attempt to threaten us with their influence; they will feel the more ashamed of such acts as our country advances in civilization more and more, from the mere animal stage in which might is right, to the higher world of public morality where justice, not might, prevails. Happiness may thus spring from evil, and we should on no consideration let the opportunity escape. Should we accept what is now offered, we lose this golden opportunity, and having received a favour from the foreign powers would have to make further concessions. If the report on which we have made these comments turn out to be correct, we trust that our Government will reply as follows:—"We sincerely thank you for the kind proposal you have made respecting the indemnity, but, originally, our Government paid it and your Government received it, as being justly due, so that we cannot take it back again without some very particular reasons: therefore we are compelled to reject the offer."

FATHER GAUCHER'S ELIXIR.

"Drink a draught of this, my friend, and tell me what you think of it."

The Curé of Graveson began carefully, as a lapidary counts his pearls, to pour out, drop by drop, thimbleful of a "liqueur" of golden green color, sparkling and most delicious. My blood was all aglow after this delicious draught.

"This drink was Father Gaucher's elixir; it is the joy and the health of the whole country of Provence," continued the honest fellow triumphantly. "It is made in the monastery of the Premontres; it is worth all the Chartreuses in the world. And if you only knew how entertaining the story of this elixir is! Listen, I will tell it to you."

Accordingly he began in the most simple manner—in the dining-room of the rectory, which was so modest and calm, and adorned with the whole history of the Cross and with curtains stretched out like surplices—to tell me the story, which was somewhat irreverent and sceptical, and rather in the Erasmus or d'Alembert's style.

Twenty years ago the Order of the Premontres, or I should perhaps call them the White Fathers, for they were always termed so amongst the Provençaux, were in great poverty and misery. If you had seen a monastery at that time you would have been quite sorry for them. The high wall and the Paoome tower were falling to pieces; grass growing all around the monastery; the pillars splitting; the stone saints were topey-turvy in their nooks, there was not a window or a door in decent order. The breezes from the Rhone blew as bleakly as in the Camargue, blowing out the tapers and breaking the leads round the windows, and emptying the shells of the holy water. But what was the saddest sight of all, was to see the spire of the monastery as silent as an abandoned pigeon house, and the fathers, having no means of buying a bell, were reduced to ring their matins by clanging pieces of wood gathered from the almond tree.

Poor White Fathers! I can still see them, as they appear at the procession for the Fête-Dieu, as they passed along so sadly with their hoods all patched, all so pale and thin (for their only food was pumpkins and watermelons.) Bringing up the rear was the Prior, all abashed, with his head down, and appearing quite ashamed to show his ungilded crozier and moth-eaten mitre in white wool to the sun. The ladies who belonged to the association were actually crying for pity's sake, and the fat banner-bearers were joking among themselves and pointing at the poor monks. "Starlings are always thin when they go about in bands."

The fact is, the unfortunate White Monks had more than once discussed among themselves whether it would not be better to separate and each start in a different direction in search of gain. One day, as this subject was being discussed in the chapter-house, a message was brought to the Prior to ask him to speak to Brother Gaucher, who was anxious to be admitted to the council.

You must know that this same Brother Gaucher was the cowherd of the monastery; that is to say, that he spent his days in driving before him, through the arches of the monastery, two thin cows, who sought their food in the cracks of the pavement. He himself had been brought up by an old woman who was quite mad, in the country of Baux, and she was known by the name of Aunt Begon; afterwards he had been picked up by the White Fathers. The unfortunate cowherd had never been able to learn anything

more than to recite his Pater Noster (and that he could only recite in the Provençal tongue) and look after the cows, for he was unusually thick-headed and "as sharp as a wooden beetle." It is a true saying that "empty casks have the best sound."

He was a fervent Christian, although somewhat dreamy; he wore a sackcloth cheerfully and gave himself the discipline with a full assurance of its efficacy, and with considerable severity. When he made his appearance in the chapter-room, in a simple awkward manner, bowing to the assembly with one leg behind, the Prior, the canons, the treasurer, all burst out laughing. This always happened when he appeared with his good old face, and with his goat-like beard and his foolish eyes; and, being accustomed to this hilarity, Brother Gaucher was not troubled. "Reverend fathers," he began, while he was twisting in his fingers a rosary made of olive stones, "would you believe that by dint of racking my poor brain, which is usually very empty, I think I have discovered a way out of the difficulties? You all know my Aunt Begon—that honest woman who cared for me when I was a child (God preserve her soul; the old sinner, she used to sing shocking songs when she was drunk.) I must tell you, reverend fathers, that Aunt Begon was very learned in mountain herbs, as much so as any cunning fellow in Corsica. In order to prove it she concocted, when she was dying, an admirable elixir composed of five or six kinds of herbs, which we used to go and pick up together on the Alpilles. It is a very long time ago, and I believe with the help of St. Augustine and with the help of the Prior, I could, after a diligent search, find this elixir. We could then bottle it, and by selling it at a good price our monastery would become rich by degrees, like our brethren of the Trappe and of the Grande."

He could not finish his sentence, for the Prior had got up and had thrown himself on his neck. The monks seized him by the hands; the treasurer, more enthusiastic even than the others, kissed with reverence the tattered border of his robe; then each one returned to his seat to discuss the matter, and the chapter decided that Brother Thrasylus was in the future to look after the cows, in order that Brother Gaucher might give up all his time to the concoction of his famous elixir.

How our good brother succeeded in finding the recipe belonging to his Aunt Begon, at what expense of time and trouble, history does not tell us; only one thing was quite certain, and that was that the White Fathers in a few months were quite popular again. In all the country of the Comtat and also about Arles, there was not a granary or wine vault which did not include among their bottles of olives a *la pincholine*, a small brown bottle, sealed with the arms of Provence, and with the picture of a monk in ecstasies on the silver ticket. Thanks to the sale of the elixir, the monastery of the Premontres became rapidly very rich, the monks were able to have the Paoome tower raised; the Prior bought a new mitre; the church was ornamented with pretty carved windows; and in the finely laced-sculptured steeple a peal of bells, both small and large, rang out the grand sound on Easter morning.

As to Brother Gaucher—he who till now had been the butt of the monastery on account of his ungainly ways—the jokes had entirely ceased; he was known as the Reverend Father Gaucher, a man of much learning and a great mind, who lived quite apart, and was no more to occupy himself with the various occupations of his domestic calling. He lived shut up in his distillery, while thirty monks were collecting herbs for him. This distillery, which was so private that not even the Prior was admitted into it, was an old abandoned house, quite at the extremity of the canon's room garden.

The monks in their simplicity had worked themselves up to consider it quite a mysterious and formidable place, and if by accident any adventurous and curious monk reached as far as the recess of the door, he would come down in great haste, quite frightened at the sight of Father Gaucher with his alchemist's beard, stooping over his ovens. Inhaling the grateful steam, and slowly stirring it with his pipe, he seemed to recognize the malicious eye of Aunt Begon in the small glistening spangles that floated the emerald mixture; they seemed as if laughing at him, and to say: "Come! take another drop!" Drop added to drop at last filled the goblet overflowing. The exhausted monk fell down in a large arm chair, his body quite powerless, eyelids half closed. He remembered his sin, by fits and starts repeating in a low tone in a delightful penitent way: "Ah! I am damning myself! I am damning myself!" But what was worst of all was that to be found written at the bottom of this diabolical elixir by some foul means were all the bad songs that Aunt Begon used to sing: "Three little old women who liked a feast," or Kegerrette (maitre Andre's friend), "Does she ever go to the woods alone?" and always the famous one relating to the White Fathers, "Patatan, Patatan." Only imagine what a noise and confusion all this must have created. His neighbors in the nearest cells looked at him with a sly air. "Ah! ah! Father Gaucher, you had some bees in your bonnet last night as you undressed." Then he would begin to despair and to cry and to fast, and to use sackcloth and the discipline. Nothing could succeed against this devil in the form of the elixir, and every night at the same hour the same play was enacted, and, an areometer in his hand and surrounded with cucurbites made in pink sandstone, gigantic alembics, crystal serpents, it was a strange mixture, and a bewitching light gleamed forth through the window. At even, when the last Angelus was sung, the door of this mysterious place was discreetly opened, and the reverend father went to church to attend the evening service, you should have seen what a reception was given him when he crossed the monastery! The brothers formed a line to let him pass. They bade each other keep silence. "Chut—he has the secret!" The Treasurer followed him, and spoke with bated breath and with his head down. Amidst all these adulations the reverend father passed by spicing his forehead, his broad-brimmed three-cornered hood on the back of his head like a halo, and looking with delight

around him at the great courts, thickly planted with orange trees; the blue roofs (where weathercocks were turning round), and in the glistening cloisters, between whose elegant pillars the canons, newly clad, were defiling two by two with restful countenances.

"They owe all this to me!" said the reverend father to himself, and even the very thought of it puffed him up with pride. You will see how the poor man was punished for it. Would you believe me, one evening during the divine service he arrived in the chapel in a very agitated state, very red and out of breath, with his hood awry, and he was so much shaken that when he took holy water he plunged in his arms up to his very elbows. At first this mishap was put down to his being late, but when he began to make exaggerated bows to the organ loft and the galleries around, instead of to the high altar, and to rush through the church like a madman, and stroll hither and thither in search of his place in the stalls, and when once seated he bowed to right and left, smiling with an imbecile look in his face, a hum of astonishment filled the three naves. The monks were whispering to each other over their breviaries: "What is the matter with Father Gaucher? What is the matter with Father Gaucher?"

The Prior twice, with an impatient movement, let his crozier fall in order to impose silence. It is true that the Psalms were still being heartily chanted at the extremity of the choir, but the responses were not so spirited. Suddenly, in the midst of the Ave Verum, Father Gaucher falls from his seat, and begins intoning in a clear voice: There lived once upon a time, in Paris a white Monk. Patatin, Tarabin, Tarabin, etc. "This last act caused general dismay. Every one got up. Cries of "Remove him; he is possessed with a devil!" The canons crossed themselves. The Prior's crozier began to exert itself. But Father Gaucher did not observe or hear anything, and two strong monks were obliged to drag him out by the little door of the choir. He was meanwhile kicking like one possessed, and continued with renewed zeal his song of Patatin and Tarabin.

The next day at dawn the unfortunate man was on his knees in the Prior's oratory, and was performing his penance amid floods of tears! "It was the elixir, it was the elixir which was too much for me," he kept on repeating, while he beat his breast: The Prior was quite touched in witnessing such genuine grief.

"Come, come, Father Gaucher, quiet yourself, and all will right itself. After all, it was not so very scandalous as you think it was. It is true there was that horrid song which was a little bit hum-hum. It is only to be hoped that the novices did not hear it. Now tell me exactly how it all happened. It was by tasting the elixir, was it not? You were rather too prodigal with it. Yes, yes, I understand, like Schwartz, the inventor of gunpowder, you have been the victim of your own invention. And now tell me, my honest friend, is it necessary for you to taste yourself this most dreadful elixir?"

"Unfortunately it is, my lord! The meter shows me how much alcohol I ought to put in, but for the finishing touch I would only trust to my own taste."

"Ah, very well! but listen, and I will ask you another question. When you taste this alcohol out of necessity do you like it? Does it please you?"

"Alas! yes, my lord!" answered the unfortunate man, getting very red, "for the last two nights especially I found out a particularly nice taste in it. I am quite sure the devil has played me this trick. I am quite determined not to use the meter again, all the worse if the 'liqueur' is not tasted enough or finished up."

"Heavens! protect us from such a resolution," answered the Prior, sharply. "We must not displease our customers. All that you can do, now that you have had a lesson, will be to be more careful. Let us see, about how many drops does it take to make up your account? Fifteen or twenty?"

"Twenty, I should say."

"The devil would be very clever to catch you with twenty drops. Also, in order to prevent any future accident, I will permit you to say your evening prayers in the distillery, instead of coming to church. And now go in peace, my reverend father, and please take care to count your drops."

Alas, the poor reverend father counted them in vain; the devil held him and would not give him up. Strange noises came forth from the distillery. During the daytime everything was quiet. The father was always calm; he prepared his chafing dishes, his alembics, carefully sorted his herbs—they were all herbs found in Provence, rare ones and gray and variegated ones exhaling perfumes. But at night when the simples were infused, and the elixir was cooling in immense brass caldrons, the poor man's martyrdom began. Seventeen—eighteen—nineteen—twenty! The drops fell from the pipe into the pewter goblet. All these twenty drops the father swallowed at one gulp, without much feeling of delight. But the twenty-first he longed after. Oh! to taste that twenty-first drop; so, in order to escape temptation, he would go and kneel quite at the extremity of the laboratory, and his thoughts were for some time in his Pater Nosters. There rose a little perfumed smoke from the still heated "liqueur," which enveloped him, and, whether he chose or not, brought his thoughts back to his caldrons. The "liqueur" was of a beautiful golden green color. Meanwhile, orders were pouring into the monastery—it was a great blessing they received them—from Nismes, Aix, Avignon, Marseilles. Gradually the monastery became a small manufactory. There were brothers who packed, brothers who ticketed, others who managed the transport business. In this way they became very lax in their religious duties—the bells were very rarely rung; but I assure you the poor country folks were no losers by the change! Well, one fine Sunday when the treasurer was reading the account of the year which was ending before the whole assembled chapter, the hearty canons were listening with gleaming eyes and smiling lips, when quite suddenly Father Gaucher rushed in among them crying: "It is all over now. I will make no more. Give me back my cows!"

"What is the matter, Father Gaucher?" asks the Prior, who however, had his doubts as to what was the matter.

"What is the matter, my lord! The matter is that I am on the high road to perdition, an eternity of flames and pitchforks. The fact is that I drink like a fish."

"But I warned you to count the drops."

"Oh! yes, it was very well to count the drops, but now I should have to count the goblets. Yes, Reverend Father, I have reached to that depth of degradation I take my three bottles nightly. You understand that this cannot last, therefore, you must find some one else to concoct the elixir for you. Let the everlasting fire consume me if I meddle with it again."

I can tell you the whole chapter did not laugh when they heard these words. "But, unfortunate man, you will be the cause of our ruin," cried the treasurer, agitating his enormous book.

"Would you prefer that I should be damned?"

At these words the Prior stood up. "Reverend Father," he began, extending his beautiful white hand on which was the pastoral ring, "everything will be arranged for the best. It is at night, is it not, my dear son, that the devil tempts you?"

"Yes, holy Prior, regularly every night. As soon as evening closes in, I find myself perspiring at the mere thought of what is going to happen me, like Capiton's ass at the thought of his burial."

"Very well! Calm yourself. We will recite St. Augustine's prayers for your benefit, and I will join to them a plenary indulgence. By these means you will be quite safe. It is actually giving you absolution while you are in the act of sinning."

"Oh, well, many thanks, my Lord Prior," and without further ado Father Gaucher returned to his distillery as gay as a lark. Surely from that day forth, every evening at the end of evening the officiating monk never missed saying: "Let us pray for our poor father Gaucher, who sacrifices his eternal happiness to the monastery."

"Oremus Domino."

Then when the prayers of the crowded monks sounded through the nave like the blowing of an easterly wind amid snow, at the other extremity of the monastery Father Gaucher, behind the blazing window of his distillery, was heard singing with all his might:

"In Paris there lived a white monk,

Patatin, Patatin," etc.

Here the good Caré stopped, quite frightened.

"Mercy!" cried he: "If my parishioners were only to hear me!"—*Temple Bar.*

THOSE DREADFUL JAPS.

It was a fearfully hot season, and let me tell you that heat is heat in the States. I was coming from Canada to sail the next day for home. I took the train at Niagara Falls, and had a long sixteen hours' ride before me. The nasty white dust sifted through the window blinds and sashes; the sun glared in fiercely, spite of the shades provided by the company; the car was crowded, and every moment the atmosphere grew more and more oppressive, until breathing became absolutely painful. As things reached this crisis a brilliant thought struck me, emanating from sheer desperation. Why not get off at Albany and take the night boat down the river to New York? I should arrive in plenty of time for the sailing of the *Russia*, and escape the further misery of six hours in the train. Surely, on the beautiful Hudson, a comparatively cool breeze could be found.

We were already nearing Albany; so, hastily thrusting my scattered belongings into my portmanteau, I stood ready and waiting as the train entered the large railway depot. Two hours later, behold me tranquil and triumphant, after a very good dinner, and with an excellent cigar, pacing the deck of the finest river steamer in the world.

It was a beautiful night, the moon at its full, the stars all out in their lesser glory. As I roamed up and down I passed the door of the ladies' saloon, and my attention was caught by a figure sitting silent and alone, in the moon-beams. When I passed again I caught a glimpse of a bended brown head and two ungloved hands loosely clasped together; a pretty, quiet figure, with feminine grace in its attitude. She did not look up as I stood between her in the moon-light, but moved a little impatiently, as if only half conscious of the obstruction. When I came by a third time she had vanished.

Shortly after, as I was still wandering listlessly to and fro I heard the sound of the piano in the saloon. Instinctively the thought formed by desire, took shape within my mind: "She who thus plays must be the girl that sat half hidden in the shadows."

Throwing away what remained of my cigar, I stepped within the gilded apartment from whence the sweet sounds issued. The room was comparatively empty, for most of the passengers were on deck. As I had suspected, at the further end, seated before the grand piano, her back toward me, I saw my Incognita. Her head was a little drooped, and the fine curves of her figure well defined against the crimson gorgefulness of walls and furniture. She was absorbed in the music. I approached quietly and stood by her side, looking down upon her. Her face thus seen was very charming, softly tinted and delicately cut; a drooping mouth, half melancholy, half determined; and braids of nut-brown hair rolled high upon a shapely head.

As she finished I made some appreciative remark, to which she responded gravely, but with a certain dignified pleasantness that marked her as one used to the world.

In the midst of a lengthy argument over Chopin, in which she was displaying considerable fire and spirit, a shrill, piping voice cried out, "Mamma, mamma," followed by a long and voluble explosion of Hindostanee, or any one of the languages of the ten lost

tribes, as far as intelligibility was concerned. My companion replied in the same incomprehensible form of speech; the result being the appearance, from one of the adjacent state-rooms, of two of the most astonishing figures I had ever beheld.

They were the most ultra-ugly children imaginable, sallow-faced, with dark almond-shaped eyes whose heavy lids unclosed with difficulty, black brows and lashes, and hair growing loose upon their foreheads, brushed back and braided into long tails upon their shoulders. On one these heavy locks were ebony black, on the other of a common light brown, that added greater plainness to the yellow skin and thin, sharp features.

These two strange little folk ran toward my pretty incognita, and laid hold of her with their skinny little paws, gabbling all the time in their unreasonable jargon. She answered them in soothing tones, and taking the little girl upon her lap, drew the boy to her side as she continued her consolatory remarks. Feeling decidedly an outsider in this domestic scene, I made a movement to leave them. She raised her eyes, over which a shadow had come and dimmed their charms, and said:

"You must forgive my little ones; they are Japanese, and understand but a few words of English."

I took this as my dismissal, and left her; but, as I looked back from the doorway, I saw her still bending over those fearful imps, caressing their horrid little faces with her soft white hand. I resumed my promenade.

"Good Heavens," I thought. "Her little ones! She an English-woman, and they—Japanese! Then—horrible, unbearable thought!—her husband—the father of the children—what was he but a Japanese also!"

An hour later, as I approached the door of the saloon, I came face to face with the mysterious subject of my thoughts. She was coming out for a breath of the evening air, she said, before consigning herself to her comfortable quarters for the night, I fancied she met my glance less calmly as she broke into a rapid flow of words, fearing, perhaps, I should ask some leading question.

Leaving over the railing, glancing now at the gliding water, now at my companion's face, about whose finely cut features the moon's rays lingered tenderly, we grew more friendly. But all my efforts, put with my greatest finesse and delicacy, failed to draw from her any confidence regarding her name, her station, her past, present, or future.

She was dressed in mourning—I noticed, and she wore on the third finger of her left hand, a heavy gipsy ring with a single stone—a diamond of great beauty; otherwise her attire was plain in the extreme. As it grew later, she turned from gazing at the quiet river below us, and, fixing her fearless eyes on mine, held out her hand and said:

"Good-by, and thank you for a pleasant evening."

"Good-by!" I echoed. "But I shall see you in the morning; I have promised myself the pleasure waiting upon you in New York. Seeing you to a hotel, or—your home."

"You are most kind," she returned quickly; "but I am quite provided for, and I shall require no assistance."

Then bowing, she withdrew, and I was left lamenting.

I did not see her again, though I lingered about the next morning, walked through the saloon many times, touched the notes of the piano invitingly. All to no purpose; she would not appear.

My voyage home was a dull one.

I was again in the States, and again on my homeward journey; the *Russia* this time was full to overflowing, but as I had jolly companions with me I was not unhappy. We sailed late in the day, and after dinner I sat smoking, comfortably at ease in a chair. As the sun went down into the sea on one side and the moon rose from it on the other, I saw a slim girl over by the wheel-house.

She was enveloped in a loose wrap of some kind, pulled well up about her throat and ears, and, as she bent upon her crossed arms, a view of her countenance was rather difficult to obtain. With invention born of necessity, I threw myself forward and tossed my lighted cigar into the gliding waves. It gleamed for an instant in the shadows of the keel ere it went out, but my object was accomplished; the sudden flash as it passed before her eyes caused her to start from her meditative posture, and throw back her head. The dark drapery dropped from about her, and, as she turned full upon me, I beheld once more, under the moonlight, the finely-cut face and honest, earnest eyes of *La Mystere*!

A sudden thrill at my heart told me the meeting was anything but unpleasant to me. Was she equally pleased? A slight flush spread over her brown hair; then she held out her hand in the same old fearless manner, lifting her handsome eyes to mine.

"History and life are forever repeating themselves," she said. "Is it not so?"

I took her outstretched hand, I looked into her happy eyes, and in that moment felt hopelessly, helplessly, unwillingly but sternly in love with the mother of two Japanese infants.

Of the ten days that followed I will give no minute description. Any one will easily understand how dangerous ten days at sea passed in the presence of a pretty, fascinating, cultivated, incomprehensible woman may prove.

So the days glided by; I loved her more and more desperately, and, as I told myself, more and more hopelessly. I had learned at her name was *Sandwell*.

Once only we spoke of the future. I had made some senseless remark as to the blankness of life after our parting, and the probable do-nothing state I should sink into. She lifted her arched brows a trifle scornfully, and her lip curled a little, though she did not make me any answer.

"And you," I asked, "what will you do?"

She flashed her handsome eyes upon me as she replied:

"Simply my duty. You forget—I am going home to my little ones."

The day we landed was a forlorn ending to our Summer sailing; it rained copiously—rained as it only can in Liverpool. Through some mistake there was no one to meet her, so she allowed me to take her to the train, see her comfortably placed in a first-class carriage, booked for London, and did not refuse the miscellaneous collection of literature I thrust upon her.

I was very miserable at seeing her go from me, yet I had not the courage to try and win her. Japs and all. I could love her distractedly, but not her accessories.

The guard rang the bell; I put out my hand.

"Good-by," I said, and some of the mournfulness of my heart echoed in my voice. "Good-by; I shall not easily forget you."

She gave me her hand, the brave eyes met mine unflinchingly.

"Good-by," she returned, quite calmly. "Thank you very, very much for all your kindness."

She loosed her hand from mine, the last bell rang, the train moved, she smiled, and I turned away. Looking back for a farewell glance, I saw the bright brown head sink on her clasped hands, and I felt the gray eyes were filling fast with tears. She, too, then felt this parting!

I was at the opera one night when *Patti*, as *Margarita*, was charming every one, though to me even her delicious voice brought no solace; the entrancing music fell flat upon my ears and heart for the lack of one woman's face. Yet even as I argued with myself against this useless passion, I felt her presence near me. I raised my eyes; the occupants of one of the large boxes on the grand tier were moving about in a subdued but excited manner; I heard a low cry, and then, as the group parted, my glance met the beautiful gray eyes of *La Mystere*.

At that moment the curtain went down at the end of the fourth act, and a crowd of men surging out from the stalls prevented my reaching the box before the occupants had left it. I caught a glimpse of a white gown in one of the passages and rushed blindly after it, though it seemed that all the men I had ever known in all my life, conspired at that particular moment to keep me from flying to the assistance of my unknown. When I did reach the corridor, she was standing half supporting a lady, so beautiful and yet so ethereal-looking, it seemed as if even the breath of the Summer night would blow her away.

The moment *La Mystere's* eyes caught sight of me they lost their anxious look, and the little troubled frown disappeared from her brow. She put out an eager hand, from which she had withdrawn the glove, saying impetuously, as though we had parted but yesterday:

"Oh! Mr. Earnsford, we are in such trouble; the carriage has not come, and see, she *must* be taken home immediately."

To offer my brougham, to put myself, horses, servants, everything at her little feet was the work of a moment. She accepted the first calmly enough; but just as I was depicting to myself the bliss of escorting her home, a tall, distinguished, and rather cross-looking man joined them, apparently very much heated and disgusted.

"Not a cab to be found anywhere," he said irritably, but she interrupted him.

"Never mind, George, Mr. Earnsford has offered us his brougham, so we can get *Cora* home comfortably without delay."

George looked at me with the air of "And who the deuce is Mr. Earnsford?" but before he could put his look into more polite words, *La Mystere* seized him by the arm, whispered something in his ear, and pointed to the other lady, who was growing rapidly more and more pale. George turned to me.

"You are very kind," he said, "I accept your offer without hesitation; here is my card."

He held out the bit of pasteboard which I thrust into my waistcoat pocket; then, almost lifting the elder lady in his arms, he passed down to the carriage, followed by *La Mystere*, whose only sign of thanks was a quick look towards me from her handsome eyes, and a slight flush on her fair face. Another moment and they were gone. With a feeling of triumph I went back to my stall and listened in calm serenity to the final act of the opera.

Had I not secured the right and means of seeing her again? The man's card was in my pocket; he was evidently some relation, and from him I could find her address, go to her and tell her—what? That I loved her, but not the little Japs; that she must love me and forget the little Japs; in fact, that with me she could not need the little Japs.

I sauntered home to my chambers, happy in the thought of what the day would bring me. I put my hand in my pocket for my talisman, and it said "No.—Eaton Square."

At a little after four I strolled into Eaton Square, and rang the bell of No.—. The door flew open.

"Not at home," said the irreproachable butler.

"I called to inquire—" I began, when he resumed in a most respectful tone:

"Was I Mr. Earnsford?"

"Yes."

"Then my lady had left directions that should Mr. Earnsford call, he was to be told they had all gone to the country, that my lady was better, and very much obliged for Mr. Earnsford's kindness."

"To what part of the country?" I asked, insinuatingly.

"To her ladyship's father's," replied the man-servant, implying by his manner, of course you know where that is, or, if you do not, you know nothing, and are not worthy of enlightenment. As I stood hesitating what more to say, a door at the end of the hall was pushed back and, within the room thus revealed, I beheld the elder of the two Japs—the girl with the yellow hair and black eyes. She caught my unwilling gaze, and pointing her finger at me, commenced jabbering something in her mother tongue. I lingered no longer; another instant the door closed, and I stood outside the wide portico, in silent rage.

A week went by. At the end of that time, I found one Saturday morning, with my other correspondence, a letter to this effect:

"St. Mary, Kent, June, 186—

"My Dear Sir—The ladies of my family have reported to me your kindness and politeness to them the other night at the opera. Their hurried manner of leaving town prevented their thanking you in person when you called. Will you do me the honor to pass a few days at my house in this old-fashioned village? It will give me great pleasure to receive you, and to show my appreciation of the kind services you rendered one of my daughters some months ago, to which you have now added another to the list. I enclose the trains; pray take which best suits you. Yours sincerely,

"HENRY KENDALL."

Needless to say, I accepted the invitation by return of post. Two days later, the four o'clock express saw me speeding on my way, this time with every assurance of meeting La Mystere face to face, and learning at last somewhat of her history, past and present, and maybe form for both of us some possible future.

At St. Mary Cray I alighted. A groom came forward; a moment more and we were bowling along over a fine country road. A drive of less than half an hour brought us to the lodge gates, then a moment more, and the priory stood before us; a dear old-fashioned latticed-windowed house, with an overhanging roof, and triple chimneys of the Tudor period. The door stood open; it always was open, that door, testifying mutely to the hospitality of all who dwelt within.

A fine, handsome old man came out to meet me, with snow-white hair crisp and youthful standing about his head.

"So," he cried, in a ringing voice; "this is Mr. Earnsford! We have you at last, and are delighted to see you, sir." Then turning to some one within, he called: "Here, Weasel, tell Cora and Dorothy Mr. Earnsford has come."

Some things come to one by instinct. I knew that "Weasel" could be no other than one of the small Japs, and my instinct proved correct. Presently there appeared the delicate, fragil-looking lady I assisted at the opera, and at her side the Japanese boy, his sallow complexion, black hair and eyes, looking more diabolical than ever beside her flower-like fairness.

"This is my daughter, Lady Dinmore," said Mr. Kendall; "and this—is my grandson."

I thought the old man's happy face clouded somewhat as he acknowledged the last relationship; and I experienced a horrible sensation of the inevitable crease over me, as I found, here at the threshold of her own home, evidence of Dorothy's being the mother of these children. La Mystere must of necessity be Dorothy, for had I not heard them all address Lady Dinmore as Cora, and then, too, had she not just the face for a Dorothy, not beautiful, but bright, and fair, and proud?

The day waned and no Dorothy appeared; it was not until dinner time that I saw her. She came into the drawing-room last of all, wearing some kind of thin black gown that showed her white arms and peck, with a bunch of roses at her waistband. Mr. Kendall simply said,

"You and Dorothy are old companions; no need to introduce you. What makes you so late, Doll?"

"Angel would not go to sleep," she answered, in a low voice. "I had to sing to her until she did."

The same look of annoyance passed over his face that I had noticed when he spoke of Weasel. He said, a little sharply,

"You take too much care of those children, Dorothy. Leave them more to the nurses."

"I cannot, papa. You know I promised him."

"Well, well, never mind, my dear; we won't discuss it. Mr. Earnsford, will you give your arm to Lady Dinmore? Dolly, you come with me! Sorry George wasn't able to come down to-night, but an M. P.'s always busy now-a-days."

A most agreeable dinner followed, and one I should have better enjoyed had I not been haunted by the all-pervading presence of the two absent Japs, and by the half sad expression upon Dorothy's face, that had settled there after her mention of him. Could it be possible that this sweet Englishwoman regretted her Japanese husband?

Only one circumstance gave me hope, her name—Sandwell had a truly English ring, and could not be Orientalized. Shortly, however, that faint consolation was destroyed by my servant, who, a worse gossip than any *femme-de-chambre*, poured out to me the facts that she had taken the name of Sandwell from an old aunt whose property she had inherited, the name being part of the legacy.

"They do say, sir," continued Jackson, "as her own name was a monstrous queer-sounding one. She's always called Mistress Dorothy through the house, and has only been home a short time—only since my lady's marriage; and when she did come, she brought them fearful blacks with her. It's shocking to bear them a-calling her mamma, and it don't seem natural as they should be hers."

A week, two weeks, were gone, and still I lingered at the Priory. My passion for Dorothy had become the prominent part of my being. Day by day, hour by hour, it became more obvious to me that I should part from her either as her future husband, or a badly wounded, unsuccessful suitor. Yet during these two weeks, not one word had ever come to my ears regarding her past life. She was still young—too young for her to have been anything more than slip of a girl when the heavy cares of life apparently became hers.

Well, to cut it short, we were walking home one evening from a lawn party, given at one of the neighboring houses; Lady Dinmore, her husband, Mr. Kendall in front, Dolly and I loitering behind them. It was a lovely moonlight night; the little river rippled like a silver thread at our feet; the trees cast deep shadows before us; the air was sweet with a thousand flowers. The influence of the night was not to be resisted. Another moment and—she knew it all. Knew how I loved her, how I had fought off that love, and

how it would not be conquered, but grew stronger and stronger until it held me captive, and made me sue for her love in self-defense.

No Lovelance could have pleaded more warmly, and no Clarissa listened more coyly. The beautiful color stole over her face, her slender hands held each other in sweet confusion, and the proud, handsome eyes were inverted beneath the ardor of mine.

At last she spoke,

"The children!"

"Ah, Dolly!" I answered; "do you suppose I would separate them from you? I must love them, for your sweet sake. I confess," I added, impatiently, "I would rather they were not yours, and not Japanese. Of course, I have no doubt your husband was no end of a good fellow, but that's neither here nor there; they are yours, and that's enough. I love you, I want you, and naturally must take the children with you. I am not such a savage as to ask a mother to part from her little ones."

"Husband!—father!—my own children!" faltered Dorothy, her gray eyes full of indignant surprise, then on a sudden breaking into a ringing peal of laughter. "Oh, my poor misguided, credulous Philip! And did you think me the mother of Angel and Weasel? I married!—my husband a Japanese! Oh, forgive me, but it is too delicious!"

Dolly, however, was merciful. She saw my confusion, and choking back her merriment as best she could—though it would crop forth every moment in little, spasmodic bursts—she took my arm and maraled the following incidents:

"Mr. Kendall is my stepfather. My mother, an English lady, was the widow of a Spanish Don, who, being on the unfortunate side of politics, at his death left my mother very poor and with two little babies. My twinbrother, Guy, was always a wild, harum-scarum boy, and, as he grew older, never could agree with either my mother or her husband, though a kinder father could not be. Guy ran away at the age of sixteen. We heard nothing of him for four years. Then, two years ago, a letter reached us from the clergyman of a Japanese settlement in the Far West of the United States, saying Guy was very ill. His wife, a Japanese lady of royal birth, had died, leaving two little ones to his care. The clergyman stated that he had performed the marriage ceremony between them, she having previously become a Christian, and added, if we wished to see Guy alive we must lose no time."

"Of course, there was no end of the scene, and my poor mother, long a sufferer of heart trouble, died in consequence of the shock. Mr. Kendall was thus rendered totally unfit for traveling, even if my stepfather's health would have permitted his leaving her. I persuaded him to allow me to go to America—I was used to going about, and did not fear the journey. I reached San Francisco in time to see my poor brother before he died, and to promise him, as a last request, to take care of his little ones and be a mother to them. I was bringing them home when I first met you, and our second meeting came about by my being obliged, some months later, to go back to the States and take possession of their property as their guardian, my brother having left them with a handsome fortune."

She paused, then added a little breathlessly, but with a dignified movement of her proud head:

"I have never been married. I am simple Dorothy del Balbo."

"Oh, Dorothy!" I cried, in an agony of shame—"will you, can you forgive my stupid mistake? I was a fool—a blind, idiotic fool! But do forgive me, my darling! Show your Christianity by heaping coals of fire upon my unworthy head—say you to my pleading!"

"If you wish it," she replied tenderly and lifted her proud eyes to mine, proud no longer, but full of truest love.

And there, in the shelter of the woods, only the bright moon to look down upon us, I took her in my arms and sealed the contract that made me then, and has made me ever since, the happiest man in the world.

And the little Japs, you ask? Gay, more familiarly known as Weasel, is a fine young fellow now at Cambridge, and carrying all before him. And Alice! Look at that tall, slight girl now entering the room, in white fleecy drapery that clings closely about a finely modeled figure; masses of golden hair twine about her sharply head; black pencilled brows and deep almond-shaped eyes complete the beautiful apparition. To-morrow is her wedding day, and, looking at her as she stands there, you hardly wonder that she is making one of the best matches in Kent.—*The Argosy*.

SOLUTION OF DOUBLE ACROSTIC OF DEC. 31ST, BY "SATOHARA."

Friend		Wishes.
F	urro	W
R	ossin	I
I	ri	S
E		H!
N	am	E
D	res	S

No correct solutions received.

CHURCH SERVICES.

CHRIST CHURCH.

Sunday Morning..... 11 A.M.
" Evening..... 5.30 P.M.

E. CHAMPEYNS INWINE, M.A.,
The Parsonage, 101.

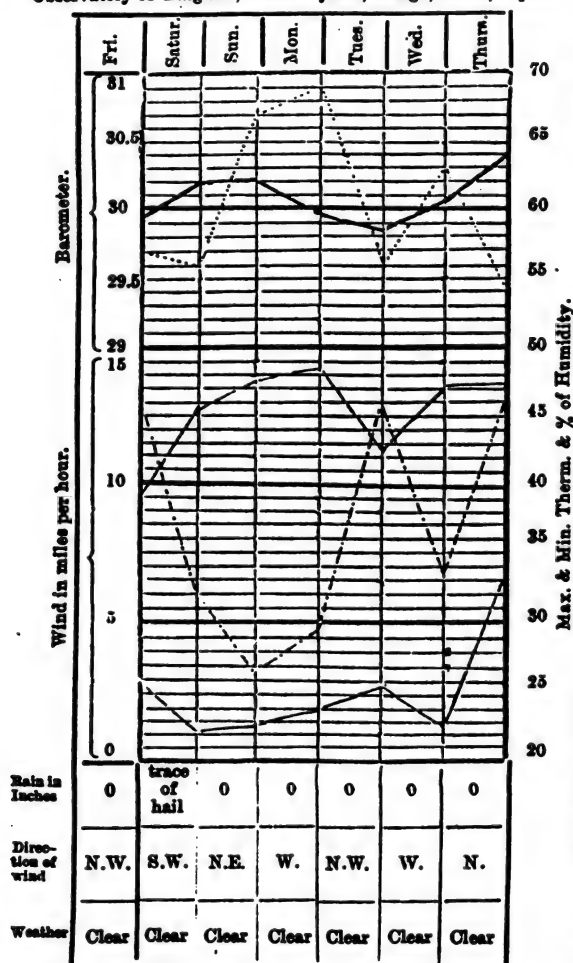
UNION CHURCH, No. 167.

Sunday Morning..... 11 A.M.
" Evening..... 8 P.M.

REV. LUTHER H. GULICK, M.D.,
Pastor.

METEOROLOGICAL REPORT

FOR WEEK BEGINNING FRIDAY, DECEMBER 24TH, 1880.
Observatory of Daigaku, Moto-Fujicho, Hongō, Tokio, Japan.



REMARKS.

Heavy line represents barometer.

Light continuous line—max. & min. thermometers.

.....represents velocity of wind.

.....percentage of humidity.

Max. velocity of wind 38.8 miles per hour on Tuesday at noon.

The barometer is reduced to the freezing point and to the level of the sea.

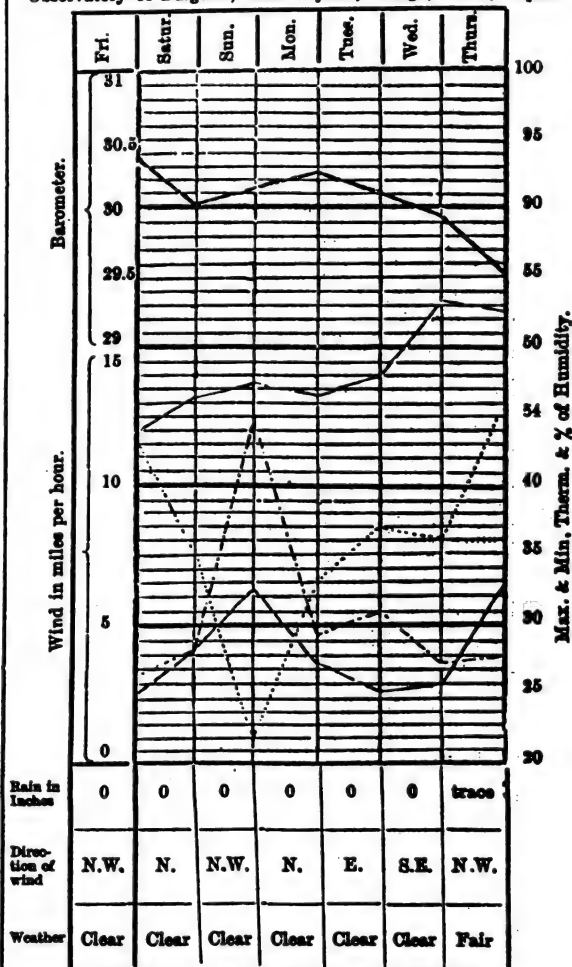
The highest reading of the barometer during the week was 30.448 inches on Thursday, at 10 p.m., and the lowest was 29.739 inches on Tuesday at 7 a.m. Very considerable barometrical fluctuations occurred during the week. The highest temperature during the week was 48°.3 on Monday and the lowest was 22°.3 on Saturday, the maximum and minimum for the corresponding week of last year being 57°.5 and 27°.5 respectively. There was no rain during the week but a trace of hail on Saturday. The rain for the corresponding week of last year was 1.030 inches.

NATIVE CURRENCY QUOTATIONS.

		Discount on Yen Sats.			Gold Yen.	Nibus.	Silver Subsidiary (New.)	Silver Subsidiary (Old.)
		A. M.	Noon.	Closing.				
1881.								
Tuesday	Jan.	4	66	65½	—	—	—	—
Wednesday ...	"	5	65½	—	—	—	—	—
Thursday	"	6	65½	66	—	—	—	—
Friday	"	7	67½	67½	70	—	—	—
Saturday	"	8	69½	70	—	—	—	—

METEOROLOGICAL REPORT

FOR WEEK BEGINNING FRIDAY, DECEMBER 31st, 1880.
Observatory of Daigaku, Moto-Fujicho, Hongō, Tokio, Japan.



REMARKS.

Heavy line represents barometer.

Light continuous line—max. & min. thermometers.

.....represents velocity of wind.

.....percentage of humidity.

Max. velocity of wind 29 miles per hour on Thursday at 9 a.m.

The barometer is reduced to the freezing point and to the level of the sea.

The highest reading of the barometer during the week was 30.440 inches on Friday at 7 a.m. and the lowest was 29.320 inches on Thursday at 11 p.m. The barometric range for the week was unusually great, being 1.120 inches. The fall in the barometer towards the end of the week was accompanied by a rise in temperature, the highest for the week being 53°.3 on Wednesday and the lowest 25°.3 on Tuesday, the maximum and minimum temperatures for the corresponding week of last year being 53°.9 and 26°.5 respectively. A trace of rain fell on Thursday, the total amount for the corresponding week of last year being .765 inches.

YOKOHAMA-TOKIO RAILWAY.

DOWN TRAINS LEAVE SHINBASHI.

A.M.	A.M.	A.M.	NOON.	P.M.	P.M.	P.M.	P.M.	P.M.	P.M.
8.0	9.15	10.30	12.0	1.30	2.45	4.0	5.15	6.30	8.0

UP TRAINS LEAVE YOKOHAMA.

A.M.	A.M.	A.M.	NOON.	P.M.	P.M.	P.M.	P.M.	P.M.	P.M.
8.0	9.15	10.30	12.0	1.30	2.45	4.0	5.15	6.30	8.0

YOKOSUKA STEAMERS TIME TABLE.

LEAVE YOKOHAMA.

DAILY:—8.30, and 9.45 A.M.; 12.00, 1.30, and 4.15 P.M.

LEAVE YOKOSUKA.

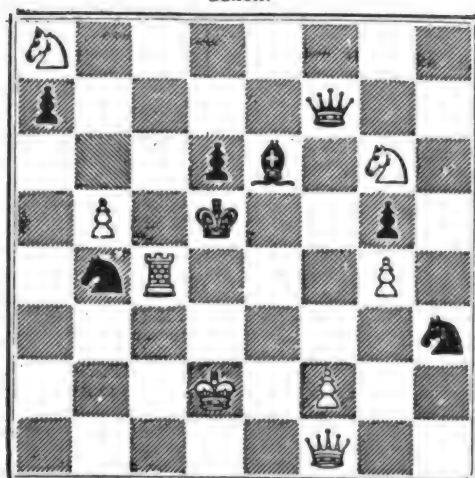
DAILY:—6.45 and 9.30 A.M.; and 12.00; 1.30 and 4.00 P.M.

CHESS PROBLEM,

By T. M. BROWN.

(From the American Chess Nuts.)

BLACK.



WHITE.

White to play and mate in 3 moves.

SOLUTION OF CHESS PROBLEM OF DEC. 31st, BY E. B. COOK.

White.

1.—Q. to K. 6.

2.—P. R. 3.

3.—Q. mates.

Black.

1.—K. Kt. 4.

2.—Anything.

1.—Any other move.

2.—Q. B. 5.

3.—P. Kt. 3, mates.

Correct solutions received from—V. d P. and Q.

SHIPPING INTELLIGENCE.

INWARDS.

- Jan. 1, Japanese steamer *Sumida Maru*, Hubenet, 896, from Hongkong via Kobe, Mails and General, to M. B. Co.
 Jan. 2, French steamer *Menzaleh*, Homery, 1,273, from Hongkong, Mails and General, to M. M. Co.
 Jan. 2, British steamer, *Propontis*, Thomson, 1,350, from Antwerp via Manila, General, to Wilkin & Robison.
 Jan. 3, Russian transport, *Erma*, Captain Kolfchan, — from Hiogo.
 Jan. 3, Japanese steamer *Suminoye Maru*, Frahm, 852, from Hakodate, Mails and General, to M. B. Co.
 Jan. 5, Japanese steamer *Shario Maru*, Kilgour, 524, from Kobe, Mails and General, to M. B. Co.
 Jan. 6, British steamer *Oceanic*, Metcalfe, 2,440, from Hongkong, Mails and General, to O. & O. Co.
 Jan. 6, Japanese steamer, *Hiroshima Maru*, Haswell, 1,146, from Shanghai and ports, Mails and General, to M. B. Co.
 Jan. 6, Japanese steamer *Tokai Maru*, Hogg, 1,042, from Kobe, Mails and General, to M. B. Co.
 Jan. 6, Japanese barque *Sumanoura Maru*, Spiegelthal, 925, from Nagasaki, Coal, to M. B. Co.
 Jan. 8, Japanese steamer *Kokonoye Maru*, Dithlefsen, 1,133, from Hakodate, Mails and General, to M. B. Co.
 Jan. 8, American ship *Grandee*, from New York, Kerosene.

PASSENGERS.

Per *Sumida Maru* from Hongkong:—General J. Stahel (U. S. Consul at Kobe) and 1 Japanese in cabin; 55 Japanese and 2 Chinese in the steerage.

Per *Menzaleh* from Hongkong:—Mrs. Pelikan, child and servant, Middle Hahn, Messrs. Wertheimer, Bieber, Yamagata, Elfen and Elfen.

Per Japanese steamer *Hiroshima Maru* from Shanghai and wayports:—Miss Vincent, Messrs. C. F. Hooper, L. W. Mason, M. Ginsburg, Harris, E. Kinch, E. C. Kirby, E. Davis, C. Pennelau, Parenogo, and 5 Japanese in the cabin; 3 Europeans, 6 Chinese and 109 Japanese in the steerage.

Per British steamer *Oceanic* from Hongkong:—For Yokohama: Miss G. Morris, Messrs. G. S. Veitch, and E. P. Moberly; 2 in the steerage. For San Francisco: W. C. Johnson, wife and child, 4 Europeans, and 296 Chinese in the steerage.

Per Japanese steamer *Kokonoye Maru* from Hakodate:—80 Japanese in the steerage.

OUTWARDS.

Dec. 31, British steamer, *Sunda*, Reeves, 1,074, for Hongkong, Mails and General, despatched by P. & O. Co.

Dec. 31, American ship *S. F. Hersey*, Waterhouse, 990, for Manila, Ballast, despatched by, Jardine, Matheson & Co.

Dec. 31, U. S. sloop-of-war, *Saratoga*, Commander Sampson, 1,900, 8 guns, for Kobe and Nagasaki.

Jan. 1, American steamer *City of Tokio*, Maury, 5,050, for Hongkong, Mails and General, despatched by P. M. Co.

Jan. 5, Japanese steamer *Genkai Maru*, Conner, 1,917, for Shanghai and ports, Mails and General, despatched by M. B. Co.

Jan. 6, Japanese steamer *Tsuruga Maru*, Cheetham, 661, for Kobe, Mails and General, despatched by M. B. Co.

Jan. 8, German brig *Carl*, Thomsen, 225, for Kobe, Ballast, despatched by Edward Fischer & Co.

Jan. 8, British barque *Zoila*, Peregrine, 953, for Iloilo, Ballast, despatched by Frazer & Co.

Jan. 8, British steamer *Oceanic*, Metcalfe, 2,440, for San Francisco, Mails and General, despatched by O. & O. Co.

Jan. 8, Japanese steamer *Sumida Maru*, Hubenet, 896, for Hongkong via Kobe, Mails and General, despatched by M. B. Co.

PASSENGERS.

Per American steamer *City of Tokio* for Hongkong:—Messrs. A. S. Edwards, J. Sohm, J. Smith, C. E. Cassels, and C. Berger in the cabin; and 190 Chinese in the steerage.

Per British steamer *Sunda* for Hongkong:—Wong Wah Choon in the cabin; 2 Chinese and 1 Korean in the steerage.

Per Japanese steamer *Takamago Maru* for Shanghai and ports:—Mr. and Mrs. Smith, Messrs. McThorne, Beyrich, F. Reid, Musgrave, E. J. Smithers, C. T. Blanchet, and 25 Japanese in the cabin.

Per Japanese steamer *Genkai Maru*, for Shanghai and ports:—Mrs. Harris, Mrs. Stewart, Dr. Van der Heyden, Messrs. H. W. Lea, Yamaoka, Hoole, A. E. Salter, Hulme, Oki, Ichiwara, Manosaki, and Sano (2).

Per British steamer *Oceanic* for San Francisco:—For Paris: H. E. Melchor Ordenes and wife, Mr. Elduayen, Messrs. Mariano Henostroza, Manuel Cataner. For London: Mr. Ed. Davis. For New York: Mr. Geo. Hamilton. For San Francisco: Genl. Stahel, W. C. Johnson, wife and child, Messrs. H. M. Roberts, F. S. James, John Middleton, and L. J. Bradbury; 7 Europeans, and 294 Chinese in the steerage.

Per Japanese steamer *Sumida Maru* for Hongkong via Kobe:—Mr. and Mrs. Yoshida, Mr. and Mrs. Matsuda, Messrs. Schidlowsky, Hamane, Market, Yashimoto, Hokugo, Jila, J. da Gengo.

CARGOES.

Per British steamer *Sunda* for Hongkong:—

Silk, for London 86 bales.
 " " France 40 "

Total 126 bales.

Per Japanese steamer *Sumida Maru* from Hongkong via Kobe:—Treasure \$ 8,050,000

Per Japanese steamer *Genkai Maru* for Shanghai and ports:—Treasure \$10,000 00

Per Japanese steamer *Hiroshima Maru* from Shanghai and ports:—Treasure \$41,961.85

REPORTS.

The Japanese steamer *Shario Maru* reports:—Left Kobe at daylight on the 3rd, and arrived at Yokohama at 1 a.m. on the 5th instant. Passed twenty-two sailing vessels in the Kii Channel, all bound for Kobe.

The British steamer *Oceanic* report:—Left Hongkong December 30th, at 3.15 p.m. First three days had moderate to strong N. E. winds with a high sea, thence to port moderate variable winds and fine weather. Arrived at 0.45 a.m. Jan. 6th, 1881.

The *Sumanoura Maru* reports:—Left Nagasaki on the 29th ultimo and encountered light variable winds throughout the passage.

NEXT MAIL DUE FROM,

AMERICA	P. M. Co.	
AMERICA	O. & O. Co.	Jan. 10th 1
EUROPE, via HONGKONG	M. M. Co.	Jan. 14th
HONGKONG	P. & O. Co.	Jan. 8th 2
HONGKONG, via KOBE	M. B. Co.	Jan. 10th
HONGKONG	P. M. Co.	
HONGKONG	O. & O. Co.	
SHANGHAI, HIogo & NAGASAKI	M. B. Co.	Jan. 13th

- 1.—Left San Francisco, December 21st, *Belgic*.
 2.—Left Hongkong, December 29th at noon, *Malacca*.

NEXT MAIL LEAVES FOR,

AMERICA	P. M. Co.	Jan. 23rd
AMERICA	O. & O. Co.	Jan. 8th
EUROPE, via HONGKONG	P. & O. Co.	Jan. 15th
EUROPE, via HONGKONG	M. M. Co.	Jan. 8th
HIKODATE	M. B. Co.	
HONGKONG, via KOBE	M. B. Co.	Jan. 8th
HONGKONG	O. & O. Co.	Jan. 12th
HONGKONG	P. M. Co.	
SHANGHAI, HIogo, & NAGASAKI	M. B. Co.	Jan. 12th

The arrival and departure of mails by the "Occidental and Oriental," the "Pacific Mail," and the "Peninsular and Oriental" companies, are approximate only.

SHIPPING INTELLIGENCE.

VESSELS IN HARBOUR.

NAME.	CAPTAIN.	FLAG AND RIG.	TONN.	FROM.	ARRIVED.	CONSIGNERS.
STEAMERS.						
Hiroshima Maru	Haswell	Japanese steamer	1,146	Shanghai & ports	Jan. 6	M. B. Co.
Menzaleh	Honery	French steamer	1,273	Hongkong	Jan. 2	M. M. Co.
Nagoya Maru	Wynn	Japanese steamer	1,260	Shanghai & ports	Feb. 5	M. B. Co.
Propontis	Thomson	British steamer	1,380	Antwerp via Manila	Jan. 2	Wilkin & Robison
Volga	Guiraud	French steamer	1,502	Hongkong	Dec. 16	M. M. Co.
SAILING SHIPS.						
Alexander	Carson	American schooner	52	Kurile Islands	Nov. 3	J. E. Collyer
Boston Vale	Buckingham	British barque	411	Liverpool	Dec. 17	Hudson & Co.
Black Diamond	Baede	German barque	601	Nagasaki	Dec. 23	P. Bohm
Cilurnum	Beadle	British ship	1,550	Hongkong	Nov. 8	Edward Fischer & Co.
Fontenaye	F. Tribe	British ship	564	Antwerp	Dec. 9	A. Reimers & Co.
Helena	Ewalt	German schooner	60	Kurile Islands	Oct. 31	Captain
Lottie	Hilts	German schooner	26	Kurile Islands	Sept. 4	Hohnholz & Co.
Madame Demorest	Walker	British barque	870	Newcastle, N.S.W.	Apr. 19	Walsh, Hall & Co.
Mary C. Bohm	Petersen	German schooner	55	Kurile Islands	Oct. 24	P. Bohm
Mikado	Lehman	British barque	643	London	Dec. 24	Hudson & Co.
North Star	Johnson	Russian schooner	42	Kurile Islands	Nov. 16	H. W. Hohnholz & Co.
Otaego	Isaacson	Russian schooner	46	Kurile Islands	Nov. 3	H. Cook
Otome	Hardy	American schooner	72	Kurile Islands	Dec. 13	H. Snow
Pioneer	Maies	Russian schooner	72	Romo, via Hakodate	Jan. 17	Walsh, Hall & Co.
Polynesian	Collins	British ship	1,293	Shields	Nov. 28	Findlay, Richardson & Co.
Royal Tar	Gaves	British barque	598	Newcastle, N.S.W.	Dec. 23	Walsh, Hall & Co.
Scottish Fairy	Toozes	British barque	750	Put in dismasted	Oct. 10	Malcolm & Co.
Stella	Werner	American schooner	30	Kurile Islands	Oct. 11	Captain
Victoria Cross	Tweddie	British barque	668	Antwerp	Dec. 3	Boyes & Co.

VESSELS OF WAR IN PORT.

NAME.	GUNS.	TONN.	H. P.	DESCRIPTION.	WHERE FROM.	COMMANDER.
BRITISH—Albatross...	4	894	—	Sloop	Chefoo	Captain Errington
FRENCH—Champlain ...	10	1,940	450	Corvette	Nagasaki	Captain Michand
GERMAN—Veneta ...	19	2,000	—	Corvette	Kobe	Captain Zirzow
ITALIAN—Vettor Pisani ...	12	1,800	—	Corvette	Kobe	Cap. H.R.H. D. of Genoa
RUSSIAN—Kniaz Potarsky ...	12	4,291	—	Ironclad	Nagasaki	Captain Tirtoff
" Craymer ...	—	1,500	—	Corvette	Nagasaki	Captain Nazimoff
" Africa ...	14	1,400	—	Cruiser	Nagasaki	Captain Aleasoff
" Ermak ...	4	375	—	Transport	Hiego	Captain Kolfehan

VESSELS ON THE BERTH.

DESTINATION.	NAME.	AGENTS.	TO BE DESPATCHED.
Shanghai and way ports...	Propontis	Wilkin & Robison	Jan. 8th
New York via Kobe and China ...	Bengal	Adamson, Bell & Co.	Quick despatch
Hongkong ...	Volga	M. M. Co.	Jan. 9th
Shanghai and way-ports ...	Hiroshima Maru	M. B. Co.	Jan. 12th, at 4 P.M.
Hongkong ...	Malacca	P. & O. Co.	Jan. 15th
Hongkong via Kobe ...	Niigata Maru	M. B. Co.	Jan. 22nd, at 4 P.M.

COMMERCIAL INTELLIGENCE.

IMPORTS.—In sympathy with higher prices at home buyers show a disposition to operate, especially in *Yarns*, and prices have advanced as per quotations given below. *Shirtings* are wanted. *T. Reds* show an advance of 5 cents all round. *Lawns* are asked for at improved rates as the season approaches. *Woolens* all more or less neglected.

COTTON YARNS:—

Nos. 16 to 24, Common to Medium ...	per picul	\$30.00 to 32.00
" " " " " " " " " " " " " " " "	"	\$32.50 to 34.00
Bombay, No. 20 do. " " " " " " " " " "	"	\$30.00 to 31.75
Nos. 28 to 32, Common to Medium ...	"	\$34.50 to 35.50
" " " " " " " " " " " " " " " "	"	\$36.00 to 37.00
" 38 to 42 " " " " " " " " " " " "	"	\$40.00 to 41.00

COTTON PIECE GOODS:—

Grey Shirtings:—7 lb. per piece 28½ yds. 39 in.	\$1.50 to 1.90
" " " " 8½ lb. " 38½ " 39 in.	\$1.75 to 2.25
" " " " 9 lb. " 38½ " 45 in.	\$2.22½ to 2.62½
T. Cloths:—7 lb. " " 24 yds. 32 in. per piece	\$1.55 to 1.70
Drills, English:—14-15 lb. 40 " 30 in.	\$2.50 to 2.70
Indigo Shirtings:— " " 44 in.	\$1.50 to 1.60
Prints:—Assorted " " 30 in.	\$1.40 to 2.60
Cotton Italians & Sateens Black 32 in.	\$0.09½ to 0.15½
Turkey Reds: 2 to 2½ lb. 24 yds. 30 in.	\$1.55 to 1.75
Do. 2½ to 2½ lb. 24 " 30 in.	\$1.70 to 1.85
Do. 3 lb. " 24 " 30 in.	\$1.85 to 1.95

COTTON PIECE GOODS:—Continued.

Velvets:—Black ... 35 yds. 22 in. per piece	\$7.00 to 9.00
Victoria Lawns ... 12 " 42/3 " "	\$0.73 to 0.75
Taffachelass:— " 12 " 43 " "	\$1.70 to 1.90

WOOLLENS:—

Plain Orleans ... 40-42 yds. 32 in.	4.50 to 6.00
Figured Orleans ... 29-30 " 31 "	3.50 to 4.25
Lastings ... 29-30 " 31 "	10.00 to 11.00
Italian Cloth ... 30 " 32 "	0.22 to 0.31
Camlet Cords ... 29-30 " 22 "	4.50 to 5.75
Mousselines de Laines:—Crape 24 yds. 30 in.	0.16½ to 0.17½
do. Itajime 24 " 30 "	0.23 to 0.29
do. Yuzen 24 " 30 "	0.35 to 0.45
Cloths, all wool plain or fancy ... 48 in. to 52 in.	0.80 to 1.50
Pilots ... 54 " to 56 " "	0.32½ to 0.47½
Presidents ... 54 " to 56 " "	0.60 to 0.65
Union ... 54 " to 56 " "	0.32½ to 0.60
Blankets, green, 6 to 8 lbs. ... per lb.	0.39 to 0.42

SUGAR.—Small sales only at quotation: holders are firmer in consequence of adverse news of Formosa crop. Stock 40,000 piculs.

SAIGON RICE.—Two thousand piculs have met with buyers. Stock 21,000 piculs.

KEROSENE.—Buyers have entered the market and taken off 20,000 cases; prices have in consequence gone up to our quotation. Stock 450,000 cases.

Sugar:—Takao in bag ... per picul	\$4.48	Japan Rice ... per picul	\$3.00 to 3.35
Taiwanfoo in bag ... "	\$4.45	Japan Wheat ... "	\$2.10
Ching-pak and Ke-pak ... "	\$7.75 to \$8.75	Saigon Rice [cargo] ... "	\$1.83 to 1.85
China No. 4-5, Kongfun & Kook-fah ... "	\$6.50 to \$8.50	Kerosene Oil ... case	2.00

EXPORTS.

SILK.—Since our last report of the 31st ultimo, the demand then noted has still continued. Hank sorts have been most sought after, and an advance of \$10 on last quotations has followed. Stocks are estimated at about 5,000 bales.

	Exchange 3/8½	Exchange 4.76
Hanks.—No. 1 & 2	\$550 to \$560 = 17/8 to 18/ = fca. 48.90 to fca. 49.70	
" " 2	\$540 to \$550 = 17/4 to 17/8 = " 48.30 to " 48.90	
" " 2½	\$520 = 16/10 = " 46.50	
" " 3 & infra.	\$490 to \$500 = 15/8 to 16/2 = " 43.60 to " 44.80	
Filatures.—Extra	\$640 to \$650 = 20/11 to 21/3 = " 57.90 to " 58.70	
" " 1	\$610 to \$620 = 19/11 to 20/3 = " 55.30 to " 56.10	
" " 2	\$570 to \$590 = 18/8 to 19/4 = " 51.80 to " 53.50	
" " 3	\$540 to \$550 = 17/9 to 18/1 = " 49.10 to " 50.00	
Kakadas.—Best	\$590 to \$600 = 19/4 to 19/8 = " 53.50 to " 54.40	
" Medium & Good	\$550 to \$570 = 18/1 to 18/8 = " 50.00 to " 51.80	
Re-Reels Medium to Best	\$535 to \$580 = 17/7 to 19/ = " 48.90 to " 52.70	

TEA.—Our market has been quiet during the past week, settlements reaching some 900 piculs only, chiefly composed of Good Medium and lower grades.

The stock is reduced to some 6,000 piculs, one half of which is low Common to Common.

Common { ... } \$9 to \$12	Fine ... \$21 to \$23
Good Common { ... } \$15 to \$16	Finest ... \$25 to \$27
Medium ... \$17 to \$19	Choice ... \$28 to \$29
Good Medium ...	Choicest ... \$32 to \$34

EXCHANGE AND BULLION.

EXCHANGE.—Sterling rates have weakened towards the close of the American and French mails, in spite of considerable settlements of Private Paper, the bulk of which has been in francs at from 4.77 to 4.74 for six month's sight bills, principally for silk shipments.

STERLING—Bank 4 months' sight	3/8½ to 3/8½	ON SHANGHAI—Bank sight	72½
" " " " " " " " " " " " " " " "	3/8 to 3/7½	Private 10 days' sight	72½
" " Private 4 months' sight	3/8½	ON NEW YORK—Bank Bills on demand	89½
" " " " " " " " " " " " " " " "	3/9	Private 30 days' sight	90½
ON PARIS—Bank sight	4.65	ON SAN FRANCISCO—Bank Bills on demand	89½
Private 6 months' sight	4.75	Private 30 days' sight	90½
ON HONGKONG—Bank sight	par.	KINSEATZ	66½ dis.
" " Private 10 days' sight	½ % disc.	GOLD YEN	380 nom.

SHIPPING.

SHIPPING.—There are no disengaged sailing ships in ports, all having been taken up for Philipinies or Japan loading. The first direct steamer from Manila, the *Proponiti*, arrived a few days ago.

MISCELLANEOUS.

**CROSSE & BLACKWELL'S
CELEBRATED OILMEN'S STORES.***Nine Prize Medals, Paris, Vienna and Philadelphia.*

PICKLES AND SAUCES,
JAMS AND JELLIES,
ORANGE MARMALADE,
TART FRUITS, DESSERT FRUITS,
PURE SALAD OIL,
MUSTARD, VINEGAR,
POTTED MEATS AND FISH,
FRESH SALMON AND HERRINGS,
HERRINGS A LA SARDINE,
YARMOUTH BLOATERS,
BLACKWALL WHITEBAIT,
PREPARED SOUPS, IN TINS,
PRESERVED VEGETABLES,
HAMS AND BACON, IN TINS,
PRESERVED CHEESE,
OXFORD AND CAMBRIDGE SAUSAGES,
BOLOGNA SAUSAGES,
YORKSHIRE GAME AND PORK PIES,
TONGUES, GAME, POULTRY,
PLUM PUDDINGS,
LEA AND PERRINS' WORCESTERSHIRE
SAUCE.

*Fresh supplies of the above, and numerous other table
delicacies, may be had from most Storekeepers.***CAUTION.***To prevent the fraud of refilling the bottles or jars
they should invariably be destroyed when empty.**Goods should always be examined upon delivery, to
detect any attempt at substitution of articles of inferior
brands.**All genuine goods bear the names of Crosse & Blackwell
on the Labels, Corks and Capsules of the Bottles,
Jars and Tins.*

CROSSE & BLACKWELL,
PURVEYORS TO THE QUEEN,
SOHO SQUARE, LONDON.

July, 1878.

ADOLPHUS SINGTON & CO.,

5, ST. PETER'S SQUARE,
MANCHESTER,
ENGLAND.

CONTRACTORS, CIVIL ENGINEERS, AND
EXPORTERS

OF ALL DESCRIPTIONS OF
MACHINERY.

May 4, 1878.

MISCELLANEOUS.

**J. & E. ATKINSON'S
PERFUMERY,***celebrated for nearly a century past, is of the very best English
manufacture. For its purity and great excellence it has
obtained the following*

EXHIBITION PRIZE MEDALS,
LONDON, 1873. PARIS, 1875. CORDOVA, 1872. LIMA, 1872.
VIENNA, 1874. PHILADELPHIA, 1876.
GOLD MEDAL PARIS, 1878.

**ATKINSON'S CHOICE PERFUMES FOR
THE HANDKERCHIEF.**

White Rose, Frangipanne, Ylang-ylang, Staphenotis,
Opopanax, Jockey Club, Eau Bouquet, Trevel,
Magnolia, Jasmia, Wood Violet, Gold Medal Bouquet,
and all other odours, of the finest quality only.

ATKINSON'S FLORIDA WATER,*a most fragrant Perfume distilled from the choicest Essences***ATKINSON'S QUININE HAIR LOTION,***a very refreshing Wash which stimulates the skin to a healthy
action and promotes the growth of the hair.***ATKINSON'S
ETHEREAL ESSENCE OF LAVENDER,***a powerful Perfume distilled from the finest flowers.***ATKINSON'S WHITE ROSE TOILET VINEGAR,***a new and indispensable Toilet accompaniment, and most
refreshing Perfume for the Handkerchief.***ATKINSON'S WHITE ROSE TOOTH PASTE,***and other Specialties and general articles of Perfumery may
be obtained of all dealers throughout the World, and of the
manufacturers.*

J. & E. ATKINSON,
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PRICE LIST FREE ON APPLICATION.

*CAUTION.—None of J. & E. ATKINSON manufacture
their articles of one and the best quality only. Purchasers are
cautioned to avoid counterfeits by observing that each article
is labelled with the firm's Trade Mark, a "White Rose" on a
"Golden Lyre."*

ESTABLISHED 1799.

THE "HIOGO NEWS."

PUBLISHED AT HIOGO EVERY MORNING,
(Sundays excepted).

**SUBSCRIPTION \$24 per Annum, payable half-yearly
in advance.**

Terms for Advertising can be obtained at
"JAPAN MAIL" OFFICE.

Yokohama, February 12, 1874.

tf.

Alex. Campbell,
GENERAL COMMISSION AGENT,

No. 33, TSUKIJI, TOKIO.

Tokio, 26th June, 1880.

THE BEST REMEDY FOR INDIGESTION.

TRADE

NORTON'S

MARK.

*CAMOMILE PILLS are confidently recommended as a simple Remedy for Indigestion, which is
the cause of nearly all the diseases to which we are subject, being a medicine so uniformly grateful
and beneficial, that it is with justice called the "Natural Strengthener of the Human Stomach."
"Norton's Pills" act as a powerful tonic and gentle aperient; are mild in their operation, safe
under any circumstances, and thousands of persons can now bear testimony to the benefits to be
derived from their use, as they have been a never-failing Family Friend for upwards of 45 years.
Sold in Bottles at 1s. 1½d., 2s. 9d., and 11s. each, by all Medicine Vendors throughout the World.*

CAUTION.*Be sure and ask for "NORTON'S PILLS," and do not be persuaded to purchase an imitation.*

November 11th, 1878.

MISCELLANEOUS.

ANDW. HANDYSIDE & Co.

Limited.

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BRITANNIA IRON WORKS, DERBY,

Manufacture all kinds of

IRON WORK,

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BRIDGES of every description. Girder Bridges. Arch Bridges. Suspension Bridges.

A. H. & Co. make every year for Foreign Countries some thousands of Tons of Bridges.

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12 Shapes and Sizes.

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JOSEPH GILLOTT'S STEEL PENS. Gold.

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JOSEPH GILLOTT'S STEEL PENS. 1878.

April, 1880.

MISCELLANEOUS.

SAVORY PANCREATIC EMULSION MEDICINAL MOORE'S FOOD

IN CONSUMPTION AND WASTING DISEASES

IMPROVES THE APPETITE INCREASES STRENGTH AND WEIGHT.

Bottles 1s. 6d., 4s. 6d., and 8s.

SAVORY BEST FOOD FOR INFANTS MOORE'S INFANTS

SUPPLIED TO THE ROYAL NURSERIES.

THE MOST DIGESTIBLE, CONTAINS THE HIGHEST AMOUNT OF NOURISHMENT IN THE MOST CONVENIENT FORM.

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Asthma & Difficult Breathing

promptly relieved and paroxysms averted by

Datura Tatula Inhalations

Testimonials accompanying each box of Cigarettes, Olfans and Pastilles. This is the economical form of tobacco, and also in powder for burning, from 1s. 6d. to 5s.

August 2, 1879.

26780

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PATENT AIR CHAMBER

HATS AND HELMETS

THE ONLY EFFECTUAL PROTECTION AGAINST SUN STROKE.

To be obtained of all respectable Hatters and Outfitters and Wholesale only of

J. ELLWOOD & SONS, LONDON.

Beware of Useless Imitations.

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THE BEST REMEDY FOR ACIDITY OF THE STOMACH, HEARTBURN, HEADACHE, GOUT AND INDIGESTION.



DINNEFORD & Co., Chemists London,

N.B. ASK FOR DINNEFORD'S MAGNESIA.

April 10, 1880.

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FLUID MAGNESIA.

And of Druggists and Storekeepers throughout the World.

1y.

MISCELLANEOUS.

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and all other insects are destroyed by

KEATING'S INSECT POWDER,

which is quite harmless to Domestic Animals.

In exterminating Beetles the success of this Powder is extraordinary, and no one need be troubled by those pests. It is perfectly clean in application.

Ask for and be sure to obtain "KEATING'S POWDER," as Imitations are Noxious, and fail in giving satisfaction.

SOLD BY ALL CHEMISTS IN BOTTLES, 1/- & 2/6 each.

KEATING'S WORM TABLETS,

A PURELY VEGETABLE SWEETMEAT, both in appearance and taste, furnishing a most agreeable method of administering the only certain remedy for **INTESTINAL** or **THREAD-WORMS**. It is a perfectly safe and mild preparation, and is especially adapted for Children.

TESTIMONIAL.

Medical Hall, Gildersome, Nov. 28th, 1876.

MR. KEATING,

Dear Sir,—I think it nothing but my duty to inform you of the immense sale I have for your Worm Tablets, which I may justly say is enormous, and in every case gives the greatest satisfaction. I have now in stock two bottles containing the Round Worms brought me during the last few days by customers, one Worm 40 yards long. I dare not be without the remedy.—Yours respectfully,

M. A. WALKER.

SOLD IN BOTTLES, BY ALL CHEMISTS AND DRUGGISTS.

Proprietor—**THOMAS KEATING, London.**

REWARD AND CAUTION.—Whereas fraudulent imitations of this unsurpassed remedy have been sold, I hereby request anyone knowing of the vendor of the same to communicate with me, on conviction of the offender a liberal reward will be paid.

April, 1880.

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WILDEN WORKS.**

STOURPORT ENGLAND.

SHEET IRON,

BRANDED

"BALDWIN-WILDEN," AND "SEVERN."

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" SPARKLING SAUMUR,
" SHERRY, CLARET, PORT,
" &c., &c., &c.

EDWARD FISCHER & Co.,
No. 14.

Yokohama, 31st January, 1880

MISCELLANEOUS.

HONGKONG AND SHANGHAI BANKING CORPORATION.

PAID-UP CAPITAL \$5,000,000.
RESERVE FUND... .. \$1,600,000.

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JOHN WALTER, Manager.

Yokohama, 25th August, 1880.

The "Japan Mail,"

A Daily, Weekly, and Fortnightly Journal,

ESTABLISHED, 1865.

TERMS OF SUBSCRIPTION.

WEEKLY EDITION. The "Japan Weekly Mail," a Weekly Review of Japanese Commerce, Politics, Literature and Art.—Per annum, \$24; Six months, \$13; Three months, \$7.

FORTNIGHTLY Edition, being a Summary of the foregoing, is published for transmission by the American Mail Steamers via San Francisco. Per annum, \$12; Six months, \$7; Three months, \$4.

THE JAPAN DAILY MAIL is published every morning (Sundays excepted) and contains the Arrivals and Departures of all Shipping, Passenger lists, Cargoes, Vessels on the Berth and in Harbour &c., &c. Also the latest Telegrams, Japanese news, Reports of Trials in the Courts of Law, Meetings of public bodies, and all matters of interest to the Community. Special attention is called to this Journal as a medium for circulating local advertisements. It has a large and constantly increasing circulation, its low price bringing it within the means of all classes of the community. It therefore affords exceptional advertising advantages, and secures to all announcements the utmost publicity, the object aimed at by advertisers.

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Printed and published for the Proprietors by the Manager
A. HERBERT BLACKWELL, at the "Japan Mail" Office, 16 Bund
Yokohama.

THE Japan Weekly Mail,

A WEEKLY REVIEW OF
JAPANESE COMMERCE, POLITICS, LITERATURE, AND ART.

VOL. V. No. 2.]

Yokohama, January, 15th 1881.

[\$24 PER ANNUM.

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NOTES.

On Saturday, the 8th instant, His Imperial Majesty the Mikado inaugurated the commencement of the New Year's work by a review of the Imperial Guard, and the whole of the Garrison of Tokio, at the parade ground of Hibiya.

Between half-past nine and ten o'clock the distinguished visitors invited to be present arrived on the ground, consisting of the Diplomatic Corps, the high Japanese officials, and many foreign naval and military officers, amongst whom was the renowned African traveller, Baker Pasha, conspicuous in his uniform of that Turkish rank, with red fez.

Punctually at ten o'clock His Imperial Majesty arrived at the place in his state carriage, escorted by a troop of lancers, and alighted at a small field tent, hung with silk brocade and emblazoned with his crest in gold. After a delay of about fifteen minutes the Mikado mounted a handsome bay Japanese pony, the trappings of which were profusely embroidered with gold, and proceeded to ride along the lines of troops that nearly surrounded the parade ground, accompanied by a brilliant staff, amongst which were numerous foreign officers. The inspection of the ranks being completed, His Majesty trotted smartly up to the saluting point, followed by his staff. The report that the Mikado is an excellent horseman is certainly correct. He has a capital seat, and seems perfectly at home in the saddle. The troops then marched past in quick time, the cavalry and artillery afterward passing at the trot. Then the whole, after re-forming on the opposite side of the parade ground from the saluting point, advanced in close column with the officers in front, and so brought the review to a close. His Majesty then dismounted, and after a few minutes drove back to the Palace.

The marching, covering, and distance of almost all the infantry were anything but good. The passing of the artillery and cavalry at the trot was very well performed, although the horses of one of the mountain guns took charge

of it for some moments. The weather was beautiful, and but for the cloud of dust raised by the troops, the morning would have been most enjoyable.

No one is perhaps better qualified to retail a report and at the same time to investigate its source, than its originator. It is well known, however, that rumour being a most intractable agent, is very prone to run riot, and if left unrestrained, soon so disfigures itself as to be incapable of recognition by its own parents. There is a quaint game which is sometimes played by merry folks on winter evenings, and which must certainly have been conceived originally by a gentleman connected with the press. Some call it the 'game of circulation,' others, the 'play of dot and carry one,' but whatever be its name, it is a frolic with a moral. It is managed in this wise. Somebody concocts, and commits to paper a short story—the shorter and simpler the better—which he presently whispers to some one else, who passes it similarly, *scotto voce*, to his neighbour, and so on until it goes the round of the whole party. The last recipient then retails the version he has received, and this being compared with the original, the two are generally found to have no shadow of resemblance beyond a few common acoustic fragments. We cannot help thinking that this game represents the serious business of a Japanese newsmonger's life. Here is an example of his method:—"Dollars," he says to A, "are very plentiful, I understand, and easily procured in the United States." Then to B:—"America is a country of limitless resources. How fortunate that its Minister is well disposed to the Japanese!" Subsequently to C:—"A foreign loan is the only remedy for the financial crisis; the ex-minister of Finance is in favour of contracting one immediately they say." Finally to D:—"Mr. Okuma's carriage was seen in the neighbourhood of Tsukiji this morning." So the game is set agoing, and presently X, Y or Z comes hot foot to the reporter's office and tells him, on the best authority, that it has been decided to float a large loan in America without delay; that Mr. Bingham has undertaken to put the matter through, and that he and Mr. Okuma have been holding daily, nay hourly conferences on the subject for some weeks. So the newspaper is furnished at once with padding for gulls and sapient contradiction for sober readers, while the story, though it presently fades and is forgotten, succeeds for a moment in conveying the impression, that a gentleman who has always shown himself an honest friend to Japan, is yet capable, on occasions, of counselling her to her prejudice.

Now, again, we find three reasons popularly assigned for the recall of the Chinese Minister. First, he has been injudicious in his private communications with Mr. Bingham on the subject of Riukiu; second, his presence here would inevitably become inconvenient before long in view of China's ultimate intentions with regard to Riukiu, for the Dowager Empress, having refused to ratify the convention concluded by the Japanese and Chinese Ministers at Peking, and having submitted the matter to their councillors, have determined

on rejecting Japan's offer to surrender the islands (!), and propose to keep the question in abeyance pending certain extraneous issues; and the third, that His Excellency Ho-ü goes home because his period of service has expired.

We need scarcely say that the last is the one true and sufficient cause of the contemplated change—simple enough indeed, but eminently unsatisfactory to a certain section of the public. The Minister, Mr. Ho-ü, would not, we apprehend, be over grateful for permission to retain a post from which he may reasonably hope to be promoted now that he has so satisfactorily discharged its duties for the prescribed number of years; while the Vice Minister, Mr. Chang, being ineligible for preferment according to the rules of the Chinese Civil Service, and being also perhaps influenced by certain private considerations upon which we should be scarcely justified in commenting, is by no means sorry to be relieved of his public functions in due course, and to betake himself to the quiet enjoyment of an ample fortune in his own country.

Truly if all the tea-pot storms that puff about our ears from day to day, emanated from any veritable *Æolus*, the political horizon would be in a very tempestuous condition.

There is no truth in the rumour that a telegram has been received announcing the immediate departure of Sir Harry Parkes for Japan.

The oldest foreign resident of Yokohama cannot probably recall such another winter as we have enjoyed up to the present. The weather has in fact been too fine, for though the frost's wonted companion, small-pox, has scarcely made his presence known, diphtheria and typhoid have been far too busy for our comfort or peace. In spite however of cloudless skies and more than usually gentle winds, the cold has been sufficiently intense to suggest less fortunate conditions elsewhere, and we are not surprised to receive from the provinces many sad tales of suffering and exposure. In Omi, the fall of snow has been so great that the works on the Yanagase Railway are completely interrupted, nor is there any hope of their resumption before April or May; while from Oshiu it is reported that several houses have been crushed and their inmates buried alive under mountains of drift and glacier. Snow is, however, one of the 'celebrities' of Oshiu. The labour of preserving the houses from annihilation is said to be enormous; and if travellers may be believed, the accumulations cleared from the roofs sometimes raise the level of the road in front so that access is only possible from the upper windows. Passages from house to house, too, lead in many instances through snow tunnels, and since every ray of sunshine is utterly chilled by the frost's breath, the slopes of the hills and recesses of the valleys are ultimately carpeted with a sheet of the minutest possible icicles, which the wind sometimes takes up and whirls along in fleecy masses like the foam from an immense cataract. Human lungs may not of course encounter such an enemy, so that men only venture out of shelter in the calmest weather. Yet even in Oshiu the cold seems to be no less partial than with us, for a gentleman, just returned from a visit to the north, assures us that whereas in one mountain gorge he passed within a few feet of an inaccessible snow-drift which had just engulfed the bodies of two unfortunate coolies, a journey of less than three miles brought him to a dusty road among plains where the rice stubble was scarcely whitened. We have certainly a good deal still to learn about the conditions of life in the interior of Japan.

The saving which has been effected in the Government expenditure during the latter half of the past year is un-

doubtedly a matter of hearty congratulation. On the average one fifth of their several estimates have, it appears, been placed to the credit of the Treasury by the various Departments, while the Dajokwan and Okura-sho have been even more conspicuously economical. It is now in contemplation to reduce that portion of the Civil Service Grant which is appropriated to legation and consular purposes, from eight hundred thousand to two hundred and fifty thousand yen per annum. We can very well understand that since the money required for this section of the Service must be paid in coin, its diminution would be especially welcome, but we cannot clearly see how such a vast saving is possible, consistent at least with wisdom. It has always been evident to those who were at the pains to think, that in the early days of her intercourse with the West, Japan required a Consular and Ambassadorial staff considerably in excess of her permanent necessities. If the time has truly come when she can with convenience escape this drain upon her resources, let her do so by all means without delay, but for obvious reasons too much haste in such a matter is greatly to be deprecated. Precipitate retrenchment is scarcely less delirious than wanton extravagance. The contemplated reductions must in many cases amount to utter abolition, and public opinion may possibly refuse to comprehend the motive of so radical a reform.

We regret to learn that no success has yet attended the very laudable design of transferring to private speculation the various industrial enterprises hitherto conducted under Government auspices. But it was of course impossible to expect any rapid public response to such a proposition. Were the spirit of private enterprise sufficiently strong to produce candidates for these responsibilities, the Government would long ago have been relieved from the necessity of supporting them. We do hope therefore that this momentary failure will not induce any change of purpose. It is absolutely essential that habits of collective action should be engendered among the people, and this can never be effected by example alone. Nothing shows more plainly that the faculties of the nation are only half developed than its reluctance in this instance.

The reflection may be idle, yet we cannot choose but think, what a happy *deus ex machina* foreign capital and foreign energy might prove under the circumstances.

The close of 1880 witnessed the liberation of the last prisoners undergoing punishment for the Satsuma Rebellion. These men have now, it appears, formed a company, and are about to commence some industrial enterprise, probably in the nature of mining. If the good wishes of their countrymen, old friends and sometime foes alike, can bring them success, they may be very sure of succeeding, for however mistaken the cause that induced them to revolt, their heroic support of that cause will not easily be forgotten.

The world will never know, perhaps, a title of the matchless intrepidity displayed by Saigo's followers during the course of that long and hopeless struggle. Most of those who could have told the story best, did not live to see the sequel, while others have been kept silent by prudence or regret. Nevertheless, we cannot but hope that when time has softened the memories of those terrible days, some competent pen will transmit to posterity the details of all that was done and dared. For there is little likelihood that the Japanese Samurai will ever again have an opportunity of displaying that marvellous spirit which lends an air of almost fabulous romance to many a page of his country's history. Something we have ourselves heard—some rumours that still live in

household traditions—stories of men who walked up to the cannon's mouth in parties of four or five, hoping that some one of their number might survive to avenge his comrades; of others who, mortally wounded, staggered into the midst of the enemy, carrying in their hands bamboo tubes filled with powder, so that even their very deaths might not be profitless; and of others again who died by their own hands on the battlefield lest the care of their hurts might hamper their fellows: but such things are nothing more than a faint echo of the facts that made these misguided heroes' conquerors their first and sincerest mourners. The sin and its sequel are now happily things of the past, but it can scarcely be for Japan's good to consign to complete oblivion the record of so much that was noble on the one side and magnanimous on the other.

The much talked-of tramway from Shimbashi to Asakusa seems to be at last on the verge of inception. The capital required—four hundred thousand yen—has been completely subscribed, and a piece of land for a terminus obtained from the Railway authorities. This work will prove an unqualified blessing if it brings some respite to the terribly tortured animals that now struggle backwards and forwards along the Ginza, till death rescues them from perpetual pain. Western experience, indeed, proves that the effort of overcoming the inertia or checking the momentum of a huge tramway omnibus more than compensates for the ease of keeping it in motion when once started, but this is a question of comparison, whereas the present condition of the Tokujo coach-horses is one of superlative suffering. We do hope that if official interference is not possible for the moment, the Government will at least see their way to instituting some supervisory regulations for the tramway horses, so as to terminate the harrowing scenes now enacted day after day in the streets of the capital.

In speaking last week of the dinner given in honor of H. I. H. Prince Takahito at Shiba Rikyu, we inadvertently mentioned that the Foreign Representatives were present, whereas the only foreigners invited were H. B. M. Chargé d'Affaires and Mrs. Kennedy, with their guests Sir Samuel and Lady Baker. The Japanese *invités* were the Prime Minister, the Members of the Privy Council and the Ministers of Departments. Several Japanese ladies were also present, which is a decided innovation considering the nature of the occasion.

For some time back Mr. Sawa, Assistant Inspector of Police, who last year returned with Inspector General Kawaji from a European tour, has been in daily attendance at the Legislative Department of the Council of State, and it was justly anticipated that important changes in the constitution of the police force were contemplated. Today (Friday) an Imperial proclamation changes the name of the Police Bureau from 'Keishikwan' to 'Keihokiyoku,' and also institutes a new body of Gendarmes (Kempei) which will be under the control of the War Office. The difference of nomenclature seems to denote an alternative from inspectoral (*shi*) to protective (*ho*) functions, while the object of military police is probably to obviate in some degree the everlasting enmity between bayonet and bâton, which has hitherto caused so many serious affrays, as well as to provide for the employment of the police in the field without exciting jealousy among the troops. It appears also that the city of Tokujo is to be divided into six districts to each of which three hundred policemen will be allotted, while the term of

service, which has hitherto been altogether arbitrary, will in future be for life. This will of course necessitate a complete revision of the pay warrant, but upon this point as well as the minutæ of the new system, we are not yet in a position to afford any precise information.

The total loss caused by the late disastrous fire in Osaka is computed at seventy-eight thousand yen. The estimate is probably not exaggerated, for the city, having hitherto enjoyed comparative immunity from such calamities, is but ill furnished with fireproof godowns.

The pulping implement employed by the Japanese in the manufacture of native paper effects the operation by a bruising process, whereas European machines are constructed on a cutting principle. The strength of this particular class of paper (Minozami, &c.) is so seriously impaired by the latter method that foreign machinery has hitherto been deemed inapplicable. An improvement has, however, been introduced lately by an Englishman, it is said, in conjunction with a Japanese tradesman of Tokujo, by name Hirano, and the new machine promises to be a complete success. It is capable of pulping a ton of material per diem, and will no doubt be of great service in Saga and other paper producing districts.

The condition of the *Thabor* is reported to be so hopeless that all idea of repairing her has been abandoned. The machinery and fittings are to be taken out and another steamer built in her place at once.

Reports from Corea seem to show that in the Fusan market cheap articles of western manufacture are preferred to Japanese, though no particularly brisk trade obtains in either class of commodities. Gold dust has risen considerably in value, and its purchasers are said to be much embarrassed by the skillful adulteration which has lately come into vogue. As for the exchange, it is simply disastrous to the export trade. Ten cents of Korean money cannot be procured for less than three yen of Japanese, a quotation that presents a very tolerable contrast to the rates ruling here.

The Japan Weekly Mail.

'FAIS CE QUE DOIS; ADVIENNE QUE POURRA.'

NOTICE TO CORRESPONDENTS.

No notice will be taken of anonymous correspondence. Whatever is intended for insertion in the JAPAN WEEKLY MAIL must be authenticated by the name and address of the writer, not for publication but as a guarantee of good faith.

It is particularly requested that all letters on business, relating to Advertisements, Job-printing, or Accounts, be addressed to the MANAGER.

And that literary contributions of every description be addressed to the EDITOR.

YOKOHAMA: SATURDAY, JANUARY 15TH 1881.

JAPANESE ERA 2540, MEIJI 14TH YEAR, 1ST MONTH, 15TH DAY, DO-YO-SI.

THE INFANTRY OF JAPAN.

THE want of steadiness displayed by the infantry in marching past at the Imperial inspection last Saturday has been the subject of considerable comment and it must be confessed that the criticism is not undeserved. The wheeling was notably bad and the distances would have horrified an Aldershot Brigadier. Some of the blame may justly be charged to the nature of the ground, which is rough, stony and in the last degree ill-conditioned. No

infantry in the world could be expected to do itself thorough credit under such adverse circumstances, but even after every possible allowance has been made, the fact remains that Saturday's exhibition was the reverse of creditable either to the troops or their officers.

For our own part we attach but little importance to these inspection displays in the abstract. The day has not yet passed perhaps when leathern stocks, pipeclay and Sir Garnet Wolseley's 'unclutchable' back hair constituted the essentials of smartness, but none the less have wiser counsels dissipated a great deal of the value once set upon perfect wheeling, lines without a shadow of sinuosity, and all the other pet hobbies of the Brigade Sergeant Major on parades. Any-one who has ever undergone the ordeal of a General Officer's inspection, will no doubt remember the thrill of perturbation that succeeded the Brigadier's caution, 'the line will advance,' and then the painful 'feeling inwards and looking outwards,' rudely interrupted by a plunge into a rut, a stumble over a stone, and a volley of smothered execrations from one's comrades, as one lurched helplessly forward, marring the symmetry of the whole line and dooming oneself to be thenceforth treated with all the haughty disdain that righteous men accord to the deepest degree of moral turpitude. We may be very sure, however, that despite the barrack-square's old habits, and a flustered Brigadier's 'cavalry imprecations,' such memories did not cause much concern to the thin line of red-coats which, struggling up the steep banks of the Alma without the very rudiments of a 'correct' formation, and finding itself suddenly within a few yards of a massive Russian column, began quietly to take 'pot shots' at the grey grenadiers, with pretty much the demeanour of Private Marksman on an off-day at the Wimbledon Butte. One genuine campaign has generally been sufficient to dispel all red-tape notions about orderly advances in line and inflexible wheeling. The breech-loader too, that deadly enemy to all deliberate tactics, has completely changed the complexion of battles, and taught the military world that a cloud of skirmishers harassing the enemy's gunners, probing all the weak points of his armour, and despatching a deadly caution to every indiscreet fragment of his force; a cloud of hornets in fact, capable of instantaneous dissipation and equally rapid concentration, is the one and only advisable formation for infantry in assault. The British army does indeed cherish glorious traditions that tell of stiff deployed lines advancing, shoulder to shoulder, under fire, and bringing their bayonets down to the charge simultaneously with a cheer that always presaged victory, but those traditions can never again be repeated, and, as the greatest of British modern military authorities says, "the officer who would now dare to attempt such an operation under the fire of breech-loading rifles, should either be tried for murder or lodged for life in a lunatic asylum."

Granting however that precise movements and formal tactics are things of the past, we have to guard against an error which may easily emanate from such conclusions, and which could scarcely be less fatal than the most obstinate adherence to old-fashioned methods. To suppose that we want less perfectly drilled soldiers now than we did fifty years ago would be to draw an inference the very reverse of what the facts justify. It used to be believed that troops thoroughly conversant with the lessons taught on the parade ground, were capable of marching into battle, sustaining and returning an enemy's fire and even delivering an assault, without losing their formation or falling into any serious disorder. Experience certainly con-

tradicted this creed more often than otherwise, but still the hypothesis was not theoretically extravagant nor inconsistent with the data. Now, however, it is universally admitted that even under the improved system of tactics adopted of late years, a certain amount of disorder is inseparable from the only manœuvre by which we can hope successfully to assault an enemy's position. The practical requirements of the age have in fact attained a point which is as yet beyond the reach of regulation tactics. It is as idle as it is easy to teach a man to march past as though he were 'part of a wall': it is as difficult as it is essential to make him a good skirmisher. Formerly the soldier was not an integer but a fraction. It was enough for him to do as others did, and when in a dilemma he found himself deprived of the seldom failing corporal or squadron leader's counsel, he could not gravely err if he took post in the nearest line and kept his dressing. Now on the contrary, every unit of an efficient force must be individually perfect, self-reliant, and at the same time sufficiently conversant with all tactical principles to be able to act independently and unerringly in any complication that may arise. It results therefore that the influence of the so called 'loose formation' has not been to render barrack-yard drills superfluous, but rather greatly to enhance their value, and if certain elements no longer consistent with practical requirements have been abolished, others, more complicated and very much more difficult to acquire, have been introduced in their stead.

Although therefore the tactical imperfections of last Saturday's display are in themselves comparatively trivial matters, they assume a very different complexion when considered in connection with the military defects of which they are the outcome. All radical progress must of necessity be slow, and though the martial spirit of Japan, that unparagoned Yamato-damashii, is as old as the days of Phalestres and Alexander, material for moulding soldiers after western types was conspicuously absent in this country twenty years ago. Even in the times of the never ending Gempei feuds, and during the still fiercer struggles of the Onin period, troops received no tactical training whatsoever. Every feudal chief had his own following, of which the individuals were no doubt apt enough with lance, sword, or bow, but utterly careless of any concerted action other than that dictated by some tie of consanguinity or vow of fellowship. Strategical combinations were for the most part impossible to a general. To seize a strong position, turn an enemy's flank, or deliver an unexpected attack; these represented the sum of his capabilities, for beyond the approximate choice of place and time he had comparatively no control over the conduct of the combat. Each baron manœuvred his own contingent, sometimes anticipating the plan of attack, sometimes ignoring it altogether, for in the tumult of the fight, rivalry between allies, or personal feuds between opponents, had more immediate tactical influence than either a General's orders or the purpose of the campaign. Large military reforms are ascribed to Hideyoshi, but they had reference rather to the levy than the management of troops, and even under the Tokugawa dynasty a parade such as that of Saturday last, was represented by a motley muster of spearmen, archers and halberdiers, where the circumstances of a battle were simulated by general confusion and ceaseless blowing of conches, while the autumn manœuvres of our own day were replaced by bearhunts on a gigantic scale. We need scarcely be at the pains to point out what a vast improvement has been effected in the condition of the Japanese army since these customs obtained. Any-one, whether soldier or civilian, cannot fail to appreciate

the contrast, though it is no doubt most palpable to those who have been familiar with all the stages of the transformation, and who can consequently recall the times when a private saw no impropriety in leaving the ranks to question his instructor, or when a native officer and the company under his command might be seen interchanging lowly obeisances of apology or deprecation on the occasion of some mismanaged manoeuvre! Whatever tactical defects an Imperial inspection may now bring to light, they sink into utter insignificance by the side of the reforms that have been wrought since those days, and for our part we should be the last to under-estimate the value of so much successful effort.

But the work is incomplete. There has been a lamentable failure somewhere. Whether it be—as seemingly competent authorities have sometimes said—that while adopting a European system of tactics, the corresponding principles of interior economy have been neglected; or whether it be—which we are most reluctant to admit—that the *esprit de corps* and the peculiar *lien* between it and discipline which in Europe constitute the pivots of perfect military mechanism, are unattainable in this country, we confess ourselves unable to determine; but whatever the cause, it is an undeniable fact that the Japanese infantry soldier, as represented in the garrison of Tokiyo, is ill set up, ill disciplined and utterly devoid of smartness. If he meets an officer, in nine cases out of ten he waits to be saluted; he is seldom without a hole or ragged place somewhere in his uniform; his boots—more often worn *en pantoufles* than otherwise—are rarely blacked, and his clothes never fit him.

Such things may appear mere bagatelles, and so they are in themselves, but to a military eye they are full of significance. They declare, without the necessity of reference to either inspections or parades, that these men are not effective soldiers, and that they are still immeasurably incompetent to become useful units in that single line formation to which modern tactics are gradually tending. The British linesman throws away his knapsack when he goes into battle; the Japanese would probably add his boots and tunic before he felt at ease. Even then, however, he might do good service. Clothes are not essential in action, neither would barefooted men necessarily be the first to run-away, but what is essential is discipline, and that, we must confess, seems most lacking here. Not once have we been so fortunate as to encounter a body of infantry marching at attention in the streets of the capital. As for the formation adopted on the march, it can only be described as the most eminently obstructive to thoroughfare that could possibly be devised. Two deep is the front prescribed by law for troops moving within the precincts of London. In Japan four ranks are formed, two on either side of the road, and vehicles as well as pedestrians are supposed to find a passage in the middle. This might certainly be feasible if the ranks were strictly kept, but they are not. On the contrary the men, carrying their rifles some at the trail, some at the shoulder, straggle about at will in the already narrow interval, so that it is sometimes literally impossible, and always a matter of much difficulty, to make one's way through. The question of formation is of course one that concerns the War office alone, but the inconveniences of the present fashion are so palpable that they ought to constitute an additional reason for steadiness on the men's part and watchfulness on that of the officers. The latter, however, give themselves no concern whatsoever about the orderly appearance or behaviour of their command, while the men on their side have ap-

parently so little respect for their superiors, that we have actually seen the double line of ranks enclose a party of women and carry them along in their midst with jibe and joke for a space of nearly half-a-mile under the very eyes of their officers, and in a crowded thoroughfare. The thing sounds incredible but it is nevertheless true, and knowing it, we are not surprised to find that even their Emperor's presence fails to make such troops steady.

A soldier's dress is held by some to be a matter of very secondary importance, but great military authorities think otherwise. 'The better you dress a man, the more highly will he be thought of by women, and consequently by himself,' says Wolseley. The mutiny at Vellore was caused by an attempt to change the uniform of the Madras army, and we have the authority of the Duke himself for the fact that many of the best men in the Peninsular War were the greatest dandies. One thing at any rate is very certain, and that is, that well disciplined, effective troops are invariably neat in their appearance, while slovenliness is an infallible sign of misconduct and inefficiency. We presume that in such matters the same law obtains here as elsewhere, and if so, our statement that military reform in Japan is still incomplete, remains unfortunately incontrovertible.

But we have no desire to dwell longer upon such topics. That we have written about them at all is because the Japanese soldier, being already incomparable as to pluck and endurance, may ultimately, we are persuaded, become one of the most effective combatants in the world, if only he be properly manipulated, and it is therefore all the more lamentable that, having made so promising a start, he should be suffered to halt halfway. We cannot do better than quote in conclusion the words of a celebrated General:—"The greater the individuality you give to the soldier himself and to his battalion, the more he feels that his individual conduct is of importance. No pains should be spared by officers in impressing upon their men the consequence that attaches itself to the behaviour of each of them. Make a man proud of himself and of his corps, and he can always be depended upon. He must believe that his duties are the noblest that fall to man's lot. He must be taught to despise all those of civil life. Soldiers, like missionaries, must be fanatics. An army thoroughly imbued with fanaticism can be killed, but can never suffer disgrace; Napoleon, in speaking of it, said, 'il en faut pour se faire tuer.'

SILK.

THE season for the purchase and export of this great staple seems to be naturally bisected by the close of the year; and we hope it will not be deemed out of place, if we give some short notice of that moiety of the present season, which has now elapsed.

Turning to the statistics of the trade at this port we find that the figures of export, compared with recent years, give the following results:—

	1880.	1879.	1878.
England..... Bales	2,485	4,777	8,548
Continent..... "	4,929	4,959	7,579
United States	8,459	2,828	1,536
	10,878	12,564	12,668

From these figures we deduce three observations:—

(1) That the export to England has again seriously declined, the number of bales destined for that country being about half the total recorded at same date last year; (2) that the great reduction noticed in the export to the Con-

tinents from 1878 to 1879 has continued, and that the figures for the past six months are nearly identical with those of the previous year; (8) that the export to the United States has gone on steadily increasing, until New York would now appear to take precedence of London as an outlet for the silk-produce of this Empire.

1. The constantly declining export to the United Kingdom would seem to point the moral that (with the present increased banking facilities between the various countries of the world,) London must be content to abdicate her proud position, so long enjoyed, as the boasted emporium of raw material for the whole of Christendom. It has been the same in other branches of trade, and the tendency of the mercantile age is undoubtedly towards distribution as opposed to concentration. Twenty years ago all the Tea exported hence was shipped to London, from thence it was forwarded to New York, and again distributed through the Eastern States. Next the emporium was shifted to New York; and now, with improved banking and transit facilities, every little town in the United States or Canada may draw its annual supply direct from the country of production. The same thing applies to Silk. Not so very long ago the princely merchant of Lyons had to depend upon the London market for his supply of Asiatic raws; while now, the smallest throwster of Italy or France, the most obscure spinner in the Swiss republic, or the most recently established "twister" in New Jersey or Massachusetts can send out his credits and obtain his requisite quantity of raw material—whether small or large—ten bales or a thousand—without the intervention of merchant or market. It is well known that the actual consumption of Raw Silk in England has long been reduced to a minimum; and now, with the re-export trade so much diminished, the silk-merchant in London finds much of his occupation gone.

2.—The continued comparatively small export to that great beehive of silk manufacturing—the South of France—may arise from several causes. The good crop in Europe last year must to some extent have lessened the demand for Asiatic kinds: the large production of Northern China will also have had a marked effect; the reported bad outlook in what is known among manufacturers as the "spring" trade, and the continued demand for mixed fabrics (which require Waste Silk in their preparation) will have had their influence on the purchase of Raw Silk in this market.

3.—It is incontrovertible that the silk-manufacturing industry in the United States is largely on the increase. The great stimulus given to one branch of the trade by the renowned American invention of the sewing-machine, added to the heavy protective duty charged on the machine-twists of English or European manufacture, has undoubtedly assisted this development; and it may be, that for the future, Japan will find her chief outlet for produce (both Silk and Tea) in the great American continent, with its boundless latent wealth and well-nigh inexhaustible resources.

Turning again to the statistics we find that the settlements by foreign mercantile firms during the six months may be analysed and compared as under:—

	1880.	1879.	1878.
Hanks	Bales 5,105	8,090	9,745
Filatures and Re-reels ..	8,870	8,725	1,605
Oshu sorts	1,515	1,680	1,825
	10,290	18,495	13,175

1.—*Hanks*. A great falling-off is noticeable both in purchase and production, in fact the better qualities would

seem to have disappeared altogether. The reason for this is patent:—finding the "filature" trade more remunerative, the up-country reellers have purchased the best cocoons for use in their *bassines*; or have bought up the better class of hanks (whether Joshu, Shinshu or Koshiu) from the peasant grower for conversion into re-reels.

During the first few months of the season transactions in Hanks were comparatively small; but of late there has been a good demand, and the present year opens with large shipments to France. We append a table of prices current each month for No. 2 quality, with the lay-down cost in London and Lyons.

	1880.	in London	in Lyons per	
July 1	\$500	per lb.	17/ 4	kilo fcs. 48.18
Aug. 1	\$510	"	17/ 8	" 49.07
Sept. 1	\$520	"	17/10	" 49.42
Oct. 1	\$515	"	17/ 7	" 49.00
Nov. 1	\$490	"	19/11	" 46.80
Dec. 1	\$580	"	17/11	" 49.80

1881.

Jan. 1	\$540	"	18/ 8	" 50.65
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As will be seen from these figures prices kept fairly steady until November, when there was a sensible drop; this was followed by a speedy improvement to a point above any price touched during the half-year, and at date of writing it is doubtful if a parcel of No. 2 Shinshu could be bought under \$570 per picul. We notice in the printed tables of lay-down cost an allowance of 1½ per cent. for loss in weight on the voyage home; and in addition to this we are told that there is often a further loss when the silk is "conditioned" for sale in Europe. Would it not be possible to maintain a Condition-house here? so that merchants would be enabled to buy in this market and sell at home on something like equal terms.

2. *Filatures and Re-reels*. The production of these has much increased; during the past year many new filatures and re-reeling establishments have been started, and at some of these the work at present done is very unsatisfactory. The finer kinds of filatures proper go to Europe, and there come into competition with the lower and medium classes of Italian or Brutia raws. The coarser filatures and re-reels are chiefly exported to the United States, and the rising importance of the New York market has caused an overproduction of these classes. At the present moment the bulk of the silk stock in Yokohama consists of these kinds; some of the parcels are very inferior, being foul and very mixed in size, the result of great negligence or want of experience in the reeling factories. Indeed silk buyers and inspectors generally, complain loudly of the unreliable nature of these silks. Would it not be feasible to start a Public Reeling Establishment, where the size, etc., of such silks could be accurately determined? It might be possible to combine the Condition-house and Reeling establishment as is done in Europe: for the American manufacturer can buy his European raws "conditioned" and would like to get his Asiatic material in the same way. If our native friends wish to hold their own as a silk-growing nation, they cannot afford to neglect these means and appliances, and we hope shortly to recur to this subject at greater length.

3. *Oshu*. This class, as we have before explained, is now principally included under the generic term "Kakeda," which has by no means recovered the popularity it once enjoyed, and which was lost through the mixture and adulteration so often complained of. In fact the American demand for Kakedas would seem to be entirely suspended on that very account, and this should give an emphatic

warning to the Oshu silkmen, that "honesty is the best policy."

We should also notice a salient feature of the period under review, viz.—the increased direct export on native account. Doubtless some of the shipments registered in foreigners' names, have been sent forward on consignment by native producers or dealers; but in addition to this a large direct trade has sprung up both to America and France, so that as much as 1,957 bales were shipped in this manner during the last six months, against 685 in 1879, and a merely nominal quantity in 1878. So far as we can learn it is not pretended that these sendings are in execution of manufacturers orders sent out direct to native producers, but are forwarded, simply as consignments, by some of the native trading companies to Japanese firms or Consuls abroad for sale and returns. We mention the fact as one of the signs of the times.

Waste Silk.—As we predicted at the opening of the season, business in this article has much diminished: as the following table of export will show:—

	1880	1879	1878
Waste..... piculs	9,569	10,838	5,998
Cocoons	718	8,858	1,836
	10,282	14,691	7,829

Here we find a reduction of about 80 per cent., the great falling-off being in Pierced Cocoons. In these the figures shew a diminished export of 8,100 piculs, the actual transactions being less than one-fifth of those chronicled for the half-year ending 31st December, 1879. Prices on the whole have somewhat advanced on those nominally current 1st July last.

	Prices 1st Jan., 1881.	1st July, 1880.	1st Jan., 1880.
Mawatta Oshu...	\$175/180	\$180/185	\$190/215
Noashiito Oshu....	145/150	125/130	125/175
" Shinshu...	135/140	115/120	135/145
" Joshu...	115/125	95/100	125/145
Kibiso Kikai.....	110/115	90/ 95	100/145
" Oshu	105/110	85/ 90	180/140
" Joshu	45/ 60	35/ 40	50/ 75
Cocoons Oshu.....	90/100	85/ 90	90/125
" Shinshu	80/ 80	80/ 85	90/110
" Joshu ...	75/ 85	75/ 80	85/105

In conclusion we observe that about half-a-million cartons of Silkworm-eggs have gone forward to Europe, so there should be no lack of seed for next year's crop in Piedmont and Lombardy. We notice also that settlements in Shanghai to the end of December reach a total of 68,000 bales, against 50,000 for the corresponding period of 1879, so that, with the rumoured poor outlook for manufactured goods in Europe, there should be no scarcity of raw material for some time to come. Notwithstanding this, our market has been very active during the first fortnight of the present year, large transactions have been entered into by some of the noted silk-export houses, and prices have materially advanced on all descriptions. The exact cause of this revival is not very apparent: it may be that the fickle Goddess, "Fashion," has once more declared in favor of the "noble article," or perchance the throwsters and manufacturers of Europe dread a famine in the beloved staple from the contingency of a possible blockade by Russian ships of Chinese ports. Whatever be the true reason, we fear it is far too recondite for the superficial research of a simple journalist: let us heartily wish the "leviathan operators" every success, and cordially trust that "the evening's amusement may bear the morning's reflection;" or, in other words, that eminently satisfactory returns may follow, in due course, the ventures now entered upon with such high hope.

GROUPS OF PLEASURE AND PAIN.

SINCE writing last week on the subject of architecture, we have had an opportunity of examining the new building at Uyeno, destined ultimately to become a permanent museum of antiquities. It is decidedly one of the best specimens of architecture hitherto attempted in Japan. The amount of stone employed does not indeed satisfy the character of the building, nor is the quality of that stone everything that could be desired, for its dull colour, contrasting feebly with the red brick, much of the light and shade essential to this class of architecture is wanting. It is in truth a pity that the perfect attractiveness of the original design should have been thus marred by parsimony, but for the rest there is very much to admire both in the general plan and in the details of the construction. Attempts have evidently been made to introduce oriental features, and our readers will presently have an opportunity of judging for themselves how far the result justifies the innovation. For our own part we greet with thorough appreciation the horse-shoe arches, the gracefully moulded parapets and finials, completely Japanese in style, no less than many other charming features in the decoration, and we heartily congratulate Mr. Conder, the architect, not only on the felicity of his conceptions, but also on the fact that he has been allowed to carry them out at least in part. We refrain from any minute description of the building as it will so soon be open to the public, but we are very much mistaken if it does not receive a considerable share of admiration from the visitors to the forthcoming Exhibition. The general effect is for the moment marred by certain temporary structures intended to contain exhibits, but when these are removed and the museum stands alone, its architectural features will not, we are persuaded, accord ill with the *entourage* of noble old trees and shady glades that suggest such a pleasant story of Uyeno's regal cenobites in 'the days that are no more.'

Altogether the Exhibition buildings are in a much more advanced condition than we had believed, and whereas report fixes the beginning of May for the opening ceremony, we are now assured that the 3rd of March has been definitely appointed for that event. There may be some cogent reason for this haste, but to us it suggests considerable uneasiness. So far as the preparations for the Industrial Exhibition are concerned, there is little need of deliberation, unless indeed, the directors should desire to be so far original as to exclude the public until everything is thoroughly ready for their reception. But the case of the National Museum is very different, and we sadly fear that some features disastrous to its symmetry and surroundings will be the outcome of this precipitancy. Already gross-minded myrmidons of the 'line and compass gardener' are busy with tape and staff tracing conventional mounds between well ordered walks, and parceling out rectangular parterres, that will presently develop into a patch of meretricious artificiality in the very heart of the grand old park's gracefulness. What madness is this which has persuaded the Japanese to confound masonry and mechanics with landscape gardening, and to repudiate the comely offspring of their own happiest inspirations? Are their æsthetic instincts so very feeble that a few barbaric examples suffice to lead them astray; examples of which the most notable is furnished by a certain official residence in Tokiyo, where a building of some architectural merit has for its foreground a huge circular parterre, bordered by a line of diminutive pines in such perfect military dressing that they forcibly recall the 'rank and file' elms described by Virgil in the vineyards of Attica? We had hoped that this prostitution of native genius to foreign Yahooism was no longer anything more than a memory of the confused intelligence and

dazed perception to a certain extent inseparable from the first shock of western contact. But it would seem that we have been over sanguine. The thousands of Japanese who will visit the Exhibition at Ueno in the course of the next few months, are apparently destined to be sent home with the belief that European ideas of gardening are borrowed from treatises on mensuration and that for all these centuries we have been looking at nature with blind eyes. On our own behalf—especially as Englishmen—we protest against such a false impression. To Holland above all, and less intimately to the whole continent of Europe, belongs the mathematical fashion of horticulture brought to such perfection (?) by Champliet and Le Nôtre; but to England essentially appertains the exquisite landscape gardening, in which art has been able to borrow from nature her grandest as well as her most graceful features, and to combine them with just so much order as may make them lend each other fresh beauties, while at the same time losing nothing of their individual simplicity. We too have had our period of heresy; a period which produced such charming sophists as Temple and Evelyn, and which has left us not a few miracles of that symmetrical artifice so pleasantly satirized by Pope, when he says:—

'Grove nods at grove, each alley has a brother,
'And half the platform post reflects the other.'

But amongst the mercies of modern progress not the least joy is due to the birth of that better intelligence by which such barbarous notions of beauty have been replaced. We have no hesitation in saying that neither in the gardens of Alcinoüs, nor among the rose parterres of Postum, nor yet in the 'paradise' of the Vandal Kings at Grasse, could the spirit of true art find anything so congenial as she can to-day in the people's promenade at the Serpentine bridge or the 'forest wilderness' at Pain's Hill. If Japan must imitate, let her not choose as models the things we have long discarded, nor fancy that she is placing herself abreast of western civilization when she adopts the miseries that belonged to our age of Gothicism. A corporal of sappers, or a foundry foreman, might approve such designs as have been carried out in the grounds of certain public buildings in Tokiyo, but the thing is no more consistent with the European æsthetics of to-day than 'bunkum' is with the true American character, or sober truth with that of Falstaff.

To accomplish any real success, however, with the English system of landscape gardening, three things are essential; money, time and space. The two first are not of course very serious obstacles, but the last is seldom attainable within the precincts of a city. It is not often that art achieves such a triumph as that described by Walpole, when he says, speaking of the Hamiltons' pleasure-grounds, that "the walks seem not designed, but cut through the wood of pines; and the style of the whole is so grand and conducted with so serious an air of wild and uncultivated extent, that when you look down on this seeming forest, you are amazed to find it contains only a few acres." This sort of thing is of course not to be expected on any scale however reduced, and thus for all its acknowledged inferiorities, the formal fashion is still unavoidably employed in England when space is very limited. But no such difficulty exists in the case of the Japanese garden. It adapts itself to all circumstances and is certainly not least charming when most miniature. The tiny lake, the mossy watercourse, the range of low-browed hills with beetling cliff and shapely shrub, the feathery bamboo, the plum grove, and an endless variety of trees, skilfully dwarfed so as to harmonize exactly with their surroundings; these are materials which in cunning hands may be made to fit a cottage arbour quite no less aptly than a palace park. In no

country in the world has the science of rockeries been carried to such an extent as in Japan. Every stone has its name and fashion of employment, and in the good old times, when the nobles came up to the capital every second year to do homage for their fiefs, it was counted a small matter to carry from distant provinces large granite rocks, masses of blue shale and other quaint monsters, for presentation to the Shogun, or for the adornment of the exquisite pleasure-grounds attached to every Yashiki. The love of horticulture too, as indeed of all natural beauties, is absolutely universal. The commonest peasant, nay even the city scavenger, is no stranger to the sentiment, and one of the very first luxuries a successful merchant allows himself is a garden. Why a people with such æsthetic proclivities, and who for generations of generations have never varied in their allegiance to an unerring creed, should now suddenly forsake the good and cleave to the evil, is a problem whose solution lies deeper than the sources of our intelligence.

Some may hold that the whole matter is not worth a thought but for our part we take a very different view. In some respects the mind of the nation is still in the mould, and any impression it receives now may become indelible. Not long ago when the spirit of innovation had wellnigh grown into a phrensy, it did not seem impossible that the mad demolition of old institutions would extend even to those parks and gardens which we, though seeing them only after they were already marred by the touch of iconoclasm, rightly reckoned among the most exquisite efforts of human art. Many were indeed hopelessly annihilated, but the reaction fortunately was not long deferred, nor much less complete than the delirium that had preceded it. For the moment there are no symptoms of a relapse, nevertheless on behalf of our own reputation, no less than for the sake of those who, incapable of discrimination, mistake blind imitation for the wisdom of progress, we most emphatically protest against the belief that these architectural gardens have anything tolerable to western eyes or anything in common with true western art.

REVIEW.

We have often been very much puzzled to account for the fact that Japan and Japanese things should have been so long entrusted for literary discussion to those who, as a rule, are least qualified for the task. It may be that in such a matter too much familiarity with his subject rather impedes than assists an author, since it persuades him to treat as trivialities much that possesses large interest for the outer world, and as a consequence, men, otherwise highly competent, are deterred by the apparently unattractive nature of their materials; or it may be that since merit is always modest, true scholars have been heretofore ousted from the field by that splendidly mendacious class of which Marco Pinto is a type; men who have well balanced the chances of dexterous hyperbole and most unlikely exposure, and who hold with Mandeville, that books of travel are an excellent vehicle for trotting out one's gifts since, like Episcopalian preachers, they run little risk of contradiction. At all events the amount of honest and well-authenticated matter hitherto given to the world by writers on Japan, is superlatively incapable of comparison with the sprightly and speculative dissertations of globe-trotters and professional book-makers. To have passed a few days in Japan, nay even, in some cases, to have associated with a Japanese, seems a sufficient reason for 'going to press,' and since reviewers at home are not always in a position to be impartial—having occasionally to consider the state of their own feet before they tread on other people's corns—while those on this side of the Pacific are apt to be counted jealous carpers if they raise their voices, it results that the public is splendidly duped and occasionally disgusted, as has been lately the case, when an 'artist' curio-dealer and a glib charlatan paraded such flimsy pretences to æsthetic knowledge, that the whole subject of Japanese art was rendered generally distastful by this particular abuse.

Remembering all these things we received the announcement of the *Chrysanthemum*'s* forthcoming publication with much satisfaction. Such a work seemed to promise some measure of immunity from the evils we have described. It would supply the students and old residents of Japan with a vehicle for making known the results of their studies or observations, and would also be likely to preserve much valuable material unsuited for the columns of the Yokohama journals and insufficient for separate publication. On the whole, however, we are disappointed by the new magazine, or speaking more accurately, by its first number. It is at once too much and too little: too much from a pecuniary point of view; too little from a literary. With the subscription of two dollars per annum the expenses of publication may possibly be defrayed, but certainly nothing resembling an adequate remuneration can be expected by the contributors. Such considerations may have little weight with the authors of the *Chrysanthemum*, but they cannot fail ultimately to become paramount, and it seems at least an unwise policy wittingly to hamper a laudable undertaking with conditions from the outset so unsatisfactory.

The materials of the first number—especially as a first number—are not very happily chosen. The *pièce de résistance* is Mr. Satow's Review of Imbrie's "English-Japanese Etymology." Of this we need not at the moment speak, partly because it is as yet incomplete, but principally because anything from Mr. Satow's pen, having reference to Japan, leaves little room for criticism. For the rest the chief impression one receives from a perusal of the Magazine is that its pages are devoted to discussions on the just methods of rendering the New Testament into Japanese. The subject is certainly of the greatest importance and well deserves ventilation, but it is not one in which the general public can take much interest, and were perhaps better relegated to a less prominent place in the Magazine. So far as the terms 'soul' and 'spirit' are concerned, Mr. Waddell's researches do undoubtedly demonstrate the inaptness of previous renderings, but scholars have long ago admitted the impossibility of finding exact equivalents for such expressions. In our own language the words have acquired their present signification altogether by use, and a similar process alone can qualify their Japanese representatives. Meanwhile Mr. Waddell's analysis is exhaustive, and can scarcely fail to be serviceable, though on the whole, we venture to think, he might have criticized his colleagues' dilemma a little more tenderly.

The question raised by Mr. Piper is of very much greater moment, since it concerns the style of the translation, and consequently reflects upon the validity of the work as a whole. We confess that we ourselves have been troubled by reflections similar to those now put forward in the pages of the *Chrysanthemum*, but we have felt little inclination to discuss the matter, thoroughly appreciating, as we do, the earnest scholarship of the translators, and being at the same time persuaded that no aspect of the problem can have escaped such zealous minds as theirs. Still, we cannot say that we approve of the style adopted. It is in fact no style at all—neither written nor colloquial—and is certainly not calculated to render the Holy Scripture popular among educated Japanese. If it achieved the purpose of its conception, if it conveyed the sense of the text intelligibly to all classes, its inelegance might easily be condoned; but that such is not the case we have been taught by the evidence of experience. At the same time it must be confessed that obscurities due to inept translation are as nothing compared with those attributable to the abstruse nature of the subject itself. No method of translation could elucidate these, and in its present form the testament is, we believe, intelligible—and that but imperfectly—to the best educated section of the community alone; in other words, to the very section most intolerant of everything unscholarly or inelegant. The Japanese bible is a sealed book to all but the priests. A single line of the text requires a page of commentary to explain its meaning, and western translators have done well in preserving Christ's Gospel from such a misfortune. Nevertheless a commentary of some sort will always be necessary, and the question consequently narrows itself to this:—is it wise to sacrifice elegance—and therefore perhaps

some particle of reverence—to the desire of obtaining that which is practically inaccessible?

The somewhat hacknied 'Koyeki Mondo' makes its appearance again in the pages of the *Chrysanthemum*. Saisuke and Gwanroku's dialogue was interesting for its own sake once, and will always, be more or less useful to students of the language, but there are already so many translations of it in existence that Mr. Imbrie's seems rather superfluous. Nor is it by any means faultless. For example: the expressions 'O Kogi to mesu mono' and 'Kono Nippon to iu mi-kuni' do not convey to a Japanese any such ideas as, 'the Government as we call it' and 'this country which we speak of as Japan.' The words 'to mo-u' and 'to iu' are in these cases simply demonstrative adjectives, and the proper rendering of the phrases is the '(former) Government' and 'this country of Japan.' We have always believed too that 'futodoki semban' meant 'most unprincipled' not 'monstrously audacious,' and that 'oibore jiji' signified 'dotard' not 'decrepit old man,' while the expression 'I'm dreadfully sorry for you' is not one that we should have been disposed to class among the amenities of language. Mr. Imbrie's notes and grammatical hints will, however, undoubtedly prove of great value, for his very accurate knowledge of colloquial Japanese is beyond question.

We write thus with considerable reluctance, but we have too much respect for the authors of the *Chrysanthemum* to suppose that honest criticism can possibly be unwelcome to them. Moreover now that the Magazine is fairly launched, we do most earnestly desire its success, not only for the sake of the scholars whose names are associated with it, but also because we feel that it supplies a want long experienced. This interest in its fate and this faith in its capacity urge us speak plainly, and if our words should be so fortunate as to elicit a worthier effort, we shall not regret the performance of so uncongenial a task.

THE LOTUS FLOWER.

[From the Japanese.]

The waters are soiled and dark below—

(Beautiful Bloom of the Lotus Flower!)

Why art thou fair as a flake of snow?

(Beautiful Bloom of the Lotus Flower!)

Over the waters thy lifted leaves—

(Beautiful Bloom of the Lotus Flower!)

Thrill with the fragrance their heart receives—

(Beautiful Bloom of the Lotus Flower!)

Now is the mystery plain to me—

(Beautiful Bloom of the Lotus Flower!)

Heaven came down with its love to thee—

(Beautiful Bloom of the Lotus Flower!)

And the Angel in the arore to view,

Crystalline pure from the mire she grew—

(Beautiful Bloom of the Lotus Flower!)

Morning and even the gift was new,

Heaven that came in a drop of dew—

(Beautiful Bloom of the Lotus Flower!)

F.B.H.

Tokio, 14th January, 1881.

REUTER'S TELEGRAMS.

LONDON, 7th January, 1881.

Parliament was opened to-day by Royal Commission. In the Queen's Speech it was stated that hopes are entertained of a peaceful solution of the Greek frontier question, and that British authority will be vindicated in the Transvaal. The speech also referred to the abandonment of Kandahar, and the necessity of strict legislation for Ireland.

LONDON, 9th January, 1881.

Turkey and Greece have refused to submit to arbitration regarding the Greek frontier.

The House of Lords voted the address in reply to the speech from the Throne after a short debate.

The House of Commons has adjourned the debate on the address in reply to the Royal Speech, Mr. Parnell opposing the address.

* The *Chrysanthemum*, a monthly Magazine for Japan and the Far East.

LONDON, 10th January, 1881.

The *Indian Chief* has been wrecked at Ramsgate, with a loss of eighteen lives.

LONDON, 13th January, 1881.

A serious riot has occurred in Ireland, and the meetings of the Land League have been forbidden.

Four British regiments and a British battery have been ordered from India to the Cape.

MISCELLANEOUS NEWS.

The Messageries steamer *Tanis* brought the French mail on the 12th instant. The O. & O. steamer *Belgic*, expected on Thursday last, has not yet arrived. The P. & O. steamer *Malacca* left for Hongkong, with the homeward mails, at four o'clock this afternoon.

The P. M. S. S. *City of Tokio* left Hongkong for Yokohama on Thursday afternoon. She is advertised to leave this port for San Francisco on the 23rd instant.

The S. S. *Merionethshire*, from London, left Hongkong for Yokohama yesterday morning.

The fire-bell rang out its unwelcome alarm at twenty minutes past one on the morning of the 14th instant, as a fire had broken out at Negemachi, not far from the Railway station. The conflagration was soon got under control, although at one time it threatened to assume serious proportions.

We have been informed that His Excellency Matsuda, Governor of Tokio, has invited the members of the *corps diplomatique* and many native and foreign private gentlemen to a *soirée*, to be held on the evening of the 18th instant, at nine o'clock. During the evening a theatrical performance is to be given.

The Annual Meeting of members and pew-holders of the Episcopal Church took place yesterday afternoon, at the hall of the Chamber of Commerce. The attendance was very small. The Chairman, Mr. Enslie, read the following report:—

GENERAL REPORT OF THE COMMITTEE OF CHRIST CHURCH, YOKOHAMA, FOR THE YEAR 1880.

TO THE SUBSCRIBERS.

Gentlemen,—The Committee of the British Episcopal Church Establishment at this port beg, in closing their year of office, to submit their accounts and report for the year ended 31st December 1880, shewing as follows:—

RECEIPTS.

Amount received by donation from the Rev. Mr. Garrett	\$ 400.00
Amount received by loan at 8 per cent. per annum	1,500.00
" " for Pew Rents	2,451.67
" " from Christmas Collection	182.18
" " by sale of tickets for Concert	411.03
Balance carried down	120.54
	\$5,065.52

DISBURSEMENTS.

Paid Balance due Treasurer 31st December, 1879	\$ 109.16
" Incumbent's stipend	2,175.00
" Premium on Fire Policies on Church, Organ, and Parsonage, for \$10,000	208.00
" for Repairs to Parsonage and Church	2,116.00
" incidental expenses during 1880, including Ground Rent	457.26
	\$5,065.42

Balance due Treasurer, 31st December, 1880..... \$ 120.54

The account now presented have been audited by Mr. C. F. Hooper.

With the exception of a very considerable item for repairs to the Parsonage, amounting to \$1,938, and \$178 for the Church, the receipts and disbursements for the past year have undergone no noticeable change as compared with those for 1879.

It was originally roughly estimated, as stated at the last General Meeting, that some \$900 would be required for these repairs, but on going into this matter more minutely it was found that work of a more substantial and solid nature was imperative. After much consultation the necessary alterations were decided on and completed at the cost already mentioned. The interior of the building has undergone a great change, the windows have been increased in size, the roof has been relaid, and the building is now in every respect a substantial and pleasant place of residence. To meet this expense a loan of

\$1,500, redeemable in five years, has been raised on the Church Compound by way of mortgage, at the moderate interest of 8 per cent. per annum; the generous donation of \$400 by the Rev. Mr. Garrett, the late incumbent has already been gratefully acknowledged. There is every reason to expect that for a considerable time no further call will be made upon the Church funds in connection with the Parsonage.

The unanimous wish expressed at the last General Meeting that the late incumbent of Christ Church should be informed of the general regret felt at his departure, and the high appreciation of his services entertained by the subscribers, was duly communicated to the Rev. gentleman, who left for England in January last.

His successor, the Rev. Mr. Champneys Irwine, arrived a very few days before his departure, and immediately entered on his ministerial duties.

In September last the Hon. Treasurer informed your Committee that the current expenses of the church would probably exceed by about \$700, the receipts for the current year, and after much consultation as to the best means of raising the required amount, it was agreed to ask the musical portion of the community to give a concert in aid of the Church funds.

The request for assistance consequently made was favourably entertained by the Yokohama Choral Society, and a concert was given on the 16th ult., which realised the sum of \$440,—less about \$160 for expenses.

Your Committee now beg publicly to express their grateful appreciation of the generous aid given by the members of that society on the occasion in question, under the able leadership of Mr. Griffin.

The thanks of your Committee are moreover due to all the ladies and gentlemen who have so kindly assisted in the choral services of the Church during the past year, and more particularly to those who have so frequently presided at the organ; also to Mr. James, who during several years has discharged the duties of Honorary Secretary and Treasurer, and has notified his unwillingness to serve again.

We remain, Gentlemen,
Your obedient servants,
MONTAGUE KIRKWOOD,
EDWIN WHEELER,
JOHN WALTER,
A. J. WILKIN,
J. J. ENSLIE,
Chairman and Acting Treasurer.

The accounts and report were passed nem. con., and after a few desultory remarks, the meeting was dissolved.

We reprint the following items from the columns of the *London World*:—"Major Hogg of the Poona Horse, who sent an account of the battle of Maiwand to the Bombay newspapers, and signed his name to the same, has considerably disturbed the equanimity of the military authorities in India. General Warre, the Commander-in-Chief at Bombay, ordered him to Poona to 'explain;' but the Major put in a medical certificate, and started for England by the P. & O. On the steamer's arrival at Aden a telegram from the outraged authorities awaited him, warning him to be prepared for something—whether an immediate return to the East, or an interview with the authorities at the India Office or Horse Guards, is not known. Major Hogg did gallant service in the battle itself, and ran great risks; but it is sometimes safer to lead a charge than to write about it.

"Some surprise has been expressed that in the official despatches concerning the battle at Kushk-i-Nakhud no mention has been made of the medical officers who were under fire on that occasion. Surgeon-Major Preston of the 66th went into action with his regiment, and was desperately wounded whilst going to the aid of one of the men. Surgeon Edward Roe stuck to his field-hospital until almost surrounded by the Ghazis, and then carried away a wounded man for a long distance until he got him out of danger.

"Now that some truths are being discovered about the Maiwand fight it would appear that the story of the battle, as told in the columns of a morning contemporary some weeks ago, was rather under than over 'coloured.' Colonel Galbraith's charger was described as 'a gallant gray;' the only animal which the colonel rode on the day was a dark chestnut, a favourite Arab.

"During the siege of Candahar meat and water were plentiful, but beer and Scotch whisky were more precious than rubies. At the sale of General Brooke's effects a bottle of the former was knocked down to a thirsty Lancer for eleven rupees, and the mountain dew fetched over fourteen rupees a bottle.

"General Primrose has been blamed for the precipitancy with which he abandoned the cantonments at Candahar and made for the citadel—sacrificing in the haste many stores and much baggage. The General, however, was fortunate enough to save all his own property, which was carted into security at a very early hour. It was thought that a portion of his superfluous carriage might have been of use to others; but this may be camp scandal.

"When the vexed question of improving the status and increasing the pay of military surgeons is on the tapis, it is as well to recognise the dangers they encounter, and willingly share in common with combatant officers in active service. An Officer in a Highland regiment, engaged in one of the late battles under General Roberts, describes the valour of his medical attendant in a few words, written with difficulty from his tent, where he still lies dangerously ill. He was shot down when leading on his men.

"The two men who carried me into a hut set down their rifles to try and prop me up when a Ghazi rushed out on us, alashed me about the head, laying me flat on the ground, and wounded the guard, then turned on me again, cutting my back and set to work to finish me, when a Ghoorka killed him, and his body all but fell across mine. After this they put me in a dhoolie, and Dr. Roe came and was sowing up my wounds, when there was an alarm given by the man placed as sentry, and they were surrounded. Dr. Roe collected five men—two of them wounded—and kept out the attacking furies, killing eleven of them, and the rest bolted."

By our American exchanges we find that a proclamation respecting the abrogation of discriminating duties in connection with Chinese owned vessels has been issued. The ordinance runs:—"Whereas satisfactory evidence has been given to me by the Government of his Majesty the Emperor of China, that no discriminating duties of tonnage or imports are imposed or levied in the ports of that nation upon vessels wholly belonging to citizens of the United States, or upon the produce, manufactures or merchandise imported in the same; therefore I, Rutherford B. Hayes, President of the United States of America, by virtue of the authority vested in me by law, do hereby declare and proclaim the foreign discriminating duties of tonnage and import within the United States are and shall be suspended and discontinued so far as respects the vessels of China, and the produce, manufactures and merchandise imported therein into the United States from China, or from any other foreign country so long as the exemption aforesaid on the part of China of vessels belonging to citizens of the United States, and their cargoes shall be continued, and no longer.

"In testimony I have hereunto set my hand and caused the seal of the United States to be affixed. Done at the city of Washington this 23d day of November, in the year of our Lord one thousand eight hundred and eighty, and of the independence of the United States of America the one hundred and fifth.

By the President:

[Seal]

R. B. HAYES.

Attest: WM. M. EVARTS, Secretary of State.

In a late number of the *San Francisco Bulletin* the following details are published respecting an Insane Commitment against a Japanese subject:—"Judge Finn last Monday issued an order restoring Tsuke Ikigami, alias Joe Henley, to the privileges of a sane citizen. Ikigami, who is a Japanese 24 years of age, was represented by counsel, and befriended by the Japanese Consul, who acted as interpreter to the Court. During the hearing Dr. John Henry, one of the physicians who committed the petitioner to the Asylum, said that he had been committed on the testimony of Mrs. Foster, by whom he had been employed. He (the Doctor) had thought he observed signs of epilepsy in Ikigami previous to his commitment, but now he was competent to take care of himself. A certificate of discharge from the physicians at Napa was read, setting forth that Ikigami had been committed to that institution October 14th, and discharged November 25th, and that during that time they had noticed no signs of epilepsy or insanity. The Japanese Consul testified to having the confinement of the peti-

tioner called to his notice. He visited Napa, where he found Ikigami in as sound mental condition as he (the Consul) was himself. Ikigami testified to his endeavoring to collect some money due him from his former employer, Mrs. Foster, and then before he comprehended his position he was taken before the Commissioners of Lunacy and sent up to Napa. The Japanese Consul stated to the Court that the petitioner had been very much depressed since his confinement, as in Japan the act of being committed to a foreign insane asylum was considered a great disgrace, and Tsuke deeply felt his position. After Judge Finn granted the order, counsel stated that suit would be brought against Mrs. Foster to recover the monies due the petitioner. It was suggested that the case might yet assume more serious proportions, as the Japanese Consul considered that the treaty stipulations between the United States and Japan had been broken by the incarceration in an insane asylum of a native of the latter country in the former without first notifying the Japanese Representative of the position of his countryman, in order that he might represent him."

The Melbourne *Age* of November 25th last, contains an interesting article on the trade between the Australian Colonies and the East. The writer, referring to Japan, says:—"In reviewing the prospects of more extended trade relations between Australia and what in Europe is collectively termed the East, it would be impossible to overlook the importance of the Empire of Japan. The extraordinary progress which has been made during the last twenty-five years by the Japanese in not only developing the natural and industrial resources of their country, but in asserting its position in the community of nations by the adoption of the highest elements of civilization, forms one of the most interesting studies to be found in the world's history of progress during the nineteenth century. Possessing a population of about 35,000,000 souls, whose wants are annually, as the more general adoption of western manners and customs extends, increasing, it is not surprising to find the Imperial authorities actively bestirring themselves to induce local production. Up to the present time Japan has drawn largely from Europe, especially from Great Britain, to supply the new wants of her people. The balance of trade has to a certain extent, as it might be expected under such circumstances, been against Japan. The empire has been drained of its gold, receiving in return only perishable commodities, and such commodities as under other conditions might have been produced by local industry. The Government of the Mikado have now fully grasped the situation, and from the latest reports furnished us by the Japanese Consul, Mr. Alexander Marks, which brings up our information to the 5th of October, are evidently anxious that the one-sided trade which has hitherto existed between Japan and other countries should be merged into a system likely to afford more beneficial results to their own country.

"Before examining how far Australian trade in the future will practically benefit from the adoption by Japan of a policy of protection, it will be well briefly to direct attention to the resources of the empire, which are as yet little known in Australia. Turning to the report of the finance minister for the current fiscal year, which dates, like our own, from the 1st of July, 1880, to the 30th of June, 1881, we find that the estimated resources for the year amounted to 59,933,507 yen, or, taking the yen at 4s. currency, £11,986,701. The proposed expenditure, which provides for contingent and extraordinary disbursements, the reduction of the national debt and the redemption of paper money, would appear to absorb the whole revenue, but a more careful examination of the figures goes to show, that the Ministry have allotted the difference between actual Government expenditure—which includes provision for the army, navy, State officials, Imperial household, judicial and religious departments, public works and the like—and the revenue to the creation and support of local industries. Thus we find a grant of 103,172 yen to supplement deficiency in capital for maintaining public industries and works; manufactures under Home department, 30,000; mines under Public Works department, 44,211; public works under ditto, 28,961. There is no special vote in this year's estimates for the sheep farm under the Home department; it may therefore be now

regarded as self-supporting. For the creation of industries in connection with public works 1,331,559 yen are set aside; for new manufactures under the Home department, 83,314 yen; and in addition to these there are several specific votes, such as for the manufacture of oil, and for general industries under the Colonization department. The wisdom of the Japanese Government in adopting this principle will only be denied by those whose interests incline them in another direction. To approach the question fairly it must be understood that the great mass of the people of Japan are in a state of pupillage. Numbers indeed have not arrived even so far as this. The governing classes are educated far in advance of any other country under similar conditions, and with a true spirit of patriotism would seem to have apprehended that the future of their nation can only be secured by encouraging progress and localizing the discoveries which centuries of patient investigation and study have given to the more civilized communities of the west. Prevented for the time by the treaties which the State has entered into with Great Britain and other powers from adopting a policy of protection similar to that adopted by the United States, Canada and Victoria, and so recently by the German Empire, the Government of Japan have turned their attention to the possibility of developing local industries either by the direct interference of the State in establishing Imperial factories, or by assisting by subventions existing guilds. At the present moment there is a good deal of agitation going on regarding the future of manufactures in Japan. The representative of free-trade England has thrown the whole of his weight into the scale on behalf of British exporters to Japan. On the other hand the policy of the Kiito Aratamo Kwaisha has been, not only to foster local efforts, but to control, to a certain extent, both foreign and native trade. The foreign party assert that "the chief obstacles in the way of an extended trade lie in the absence of a common understanding with producer and consumer, importer and exporter, and the exclusion, by the interference of a small number of Japanese dealers, of the real traders from free intercourse with foreign merchants in the open ports." The reply which the national party make to this charge is substantially that the progress of the country is retarded, its industrial development checked and its financial resources wasted by the killing competition with outside nations; that unless careful steps are taken to conserve its wealth, Japan will become pauperised, and the strides which it has recently made in the list of civilized communities rendered useless. To avoid such a national calamity the Government are stimulating by example and assisting in other ways the creation of new industries; and as it is highly probable that Australia will in the future play an important part in feeding, so to speak, these new industries, the crisis through which Japan is at the present moment passing is of more than ordinary interest to ourselves.

"One of the most prominent of new Japanese industries is that of cloth making. The Imperial Government have erected at considerable cost two large woollen factories; the machinery has been supplied by European machinists, and comprises all the latest improvements for weaving cloths of almost every description. Already one or two cargoes of Australian wool have been despatched to Yokohama, and with such success that further orders are looked for at an early date. Unlike India, in almost all parts of Japan woollen clothing at some season of the year becomes an absolute necessity, and with the spread of European fashions the native dress is fast disappearing; the wants of 35,000,000 people must soon assume considerable dimensions. Allied to the fleece is the sheep from whose back it is shorn, and here again the Japanese are likely to become good customers for stock to Australia. We have already mentioned the Imperial sheep farm, under the control of the Home department. The public accounts show that within the last four years some considerable sums have been expended in this direction with a view to breeding wool-growing sheep for future requirements. We are informed that it is the intention of the government to develop the sheep-breeding industry by drafts on Australian stocks, thus giving us a desirable market for our surplus in a direction hitherto hardly acknowledged,

and perhaps unknown, to many of our stockowners. There is also a large trade capable of development in horses; indeed, from what we can gather, it only remains for some bold pioneer to open up a trade which has surroundings sufficiently favourable to hold out promising hopes of its being made a permanent financial success. Tallow again, we are assured, would find a ready market in Japan; and as local industries develop, a yearly increasing trade might be done in this staple. Hides and leather are two other exports from Australia which would command, at all times, a sale at high prices, more particularly the latter, as for purpose of local manufacture, the demand at present is by far in excess of the supply. Our candle factories should also find in Japan an outlet for their goods, as experts tell us that they can compete readily with the European exports sent to Yokohama and the open ports both as regards price and quality. We understand that, by the suggestion of Mr. Consul Marks, samples have already been despatched to Japan by Messrs. Kitchen and Sons, with a view of opening up business. The return commodities Australia could take from Japan are not numerous; but doubtless, if a regular trade between the two countries were opened up, every year the list would be added to. The principal items at the present time would consist of tea—of which Japan produces a large quantity—rice and sulphur; whilst a considerable trade might also be done in matches, sardines and preserved salmon. As we import the latter largely from Europe and the United States, there is nothing to prevent our doing business in the same line with Japan, if price and quality enable them to enter fairly into competition with the present market supply. A movement has, we are glad to learn, been already made to test the practicability of a fair interchange of products between Australia and Japan, and it appears highly probable that an Austral-Japanese trading company, under the auspices of the Government of Japan, will be formed for the express purpose. Regarding the peculiar position of Japan trade at the present moment, and the keen competition she is experiencing on all sides, we think that this suggestion, which, we may mention comes from the consul for Japan, Mr. Alexander Marks, is one that deserves attention, and would, if practically worked out, prove successful. Should this be the case, we may lay claim fairly to it as one of the fruits of the Victorian International Exhibition.

JAPANESE ITEMS.

[The following Notes on various Japanese matters are chiefly derived from the native papers, occasionally supplemented from original sources of information, and are carefully collated and edited, so as to make them readable and intelligible.]

COURT, POLITICAL AND OFFICIAL.

A native contemporary says that the 23rd instant being the birthday of Her Majesty the Empress Dowager, Their Majesties the Emperor and Empress will visit the Aoyama palace to offer their congratulations. The Princes of the Blood, the Prime Ministers and Privy Counsellors, and officials of the three highest grades, will also attend for the same purpose.

The *Nichi Nichi Shinbun* reports the departure, on Sunday the 9th instant, of the young Prince Arigusawa, for London.

The same paper states that His Excellency Ho Ju Chang, the Chinese Minister, will, on his return to China, be appointed Minister at Washington. His Excellency Su Kiu Sei is named as his successor at Tokio.

The *Choya Shinbun* states that Mr. Yoshida Masaharu, Japanese Envoy to Persia, was, with his staff, presented to the Shah of Persia on the 24th of September, by the Persian Minister for Foreign Affairs.

We learn from the *Nichi Nichi Shinbun*, that a telegram was received on the 8th instant to the effect that Mr. Ikeda Kanji, Superintendent of the Nagasaki Custom House, who has been indisposed for some time past, expired at four o'clock in the previous afternoon. The native paper we quote gives the following short sketch of his career. "Mr. Ikeda Kanji was born at Nagasaki; at the time of the Restoration he received an appointment in which he distinguished himself so greatly that when His Excellency Iwakura, Junior Prime Minister, was sent to Europe and America, the

subject of our sketch was delegated to accompany him as Secretary. On his return his attention was directed towards encouraging trade between China and Japan, and he addressed the Government on the subject. When the Formosa question arose he accompanied Ambassador Okubo to Peking, and afforded him great assistance in bringing matters to an amicable arrangement. After this Mr. Ikedo Kanji was appointed Consul at Tientsin, where he renewed his efforts to promote mutual commerce between Japan and China. Here, however, he unfortunately contracted disease of the lungs, which compelled his return to Japan, where he was appointed to the superintendency of the Nagasaki Custom House, a post which he occupied with the greatest credit until unhappily cut off, at the early age of thirty-four, by the insidious disease against which he had striven for some time."

The *Hochi Shinbun* writes as follows:—"A rumour is current to the effect that the Japanese Government will declare a policy of neutrality in the event of war breaking out between Russia and China."

The *Akebono Shinbun* says that the Senate will be re-opened, after the New Year's vacation, to-day, the 15th instant, on which occasion His Majesty the Emperor will be present.

Another vernacular paper writes that Mr. Sawa, a third rank police official, who has recently returned from Europe, attends the legislative section of the Council of State every day: the cause of his visits is unknown, but they are believed to be connected with reforms in the police department.

The *Nichi Nichi Shinbun* says that the draft of the new Marine laws was forwarded to the Senate for inspection on the 7th instant. A Committee, composed of several Senators and Secretaries of the Legislative Department, has been engaged in considering them. The code contains over six hundred sections, and treats of marine insurance, and marine laws in time of peace or war, and the general subject of naval warfare.

We learn from a native journal that the Draft of the Reformed Prison Regulations, which has greatly engaged the attention of several secretaries of the Council of State and the Home Department, is said to be completed.

His Imperial Highness Field Marshal Prince Arisugawa, attended by His Excellency Iwakura, Junior Prime Minister, paid a visit to His Royal Highness the Duke of Genoa, on board the *Vettor Pisani*, on Monday last.

We recently noted that some alterations in the existing Court etiquette were in contemplation. We now read in the *Nichi Nichi Shinbun* that Mr. Nagasaki Shogoro, a *shiroku* of the prefecture of Kagoshima, who lately returned from England, has been appointed an officer of the Bureau of Ceremonies in the Imperial Household Department. Recently, he presented a memorial on the subject, and it is said that he will be allowed to gradually alter the present ceremonial of the Court, so as to make it conform with that of western countries.

The *Hochi Shinbun* reports the return of His Excellency Matsukata, Minister for the Interior, to Tokio on Monday morning, from his visit of inspection to the Shimosa Farm and the Chiba Kencho.

According to the *Mainichi Shinbun*, Mr. Sakai Akira has been promoted from the post of Secretary, to that of Governor, of the Tokushima prefecture.

We read in a vernacular journal that Mr. Yoshida, the Japanese envoy to Persia, will return with all his suite about the beginning of next month.

His Excellency Kono, Minister of Education, has, we hear from a native source, applied for permission to establish a *Kinder-garten* in every city and prefecture, and it is expected that the application will shortly be granted.

His Excellency Sano, Minister of Finance, paid a visit of inspection to the paper mills at Ooji, on Monday last.

The *Choya Shinbun* says that it was reported that owing to the financial crisis there would be great changes in all the Government Departments this year, many of the officials receiving their congé, but that such is not the case and that the only reductions will be in the expenses of items of daily use. In the Imperial Household Department, when the subject of economy was being discussed in connection with decreasing the number

of subordinate officials, one of the Assistant Ministers rose up and said—"In our Department only one Minister is really required, and the two Assistant Ministers are useless, so that I should like to be dismissed." The subject was, however, changed.

We learn from the *Choya Shinbun* that His Majesty the Emperor has attended the Daijokuwan at 10 a.m. daily, since the 11th instant.

The same paper states that all the Foreign Representatives who were invited by the Emperor to witness the field manoeuvres at the Hibiya parade ground on the 8th instant, attended at the Imperial palace on Wednesday last, to return thanks for the Imperial invitation.

"With regard to the approaching treaty revision," writes the *Nichi Nichi Shinbun*, "all the treaty powers have sent in memorials to our Government, stating their ideas on the subject, with the exception of Great Britain. The authorities have therefore asked the British Government to send in its views as soon as possible."

Another native paper writes that with the view of establishing a force of gendarmes—a proposition spoken of for the past two years—the General Staff office has drawn up a scheme, which was forwarded to the Council of State and received its final discussion on the 6th instant. The regulations are now to be submitted to the Senate for consideration, and it is thought they will be put in force in March next. The force is to be organized in Tokio, but will serve throughout the whole of the country. The head office of the force will be in the War Department, and two thousand men will be stationed in Tokio. The men are to be armed with revolvers and sabres. The Capital will be divided into six wards, and three hundred men will be stationed in each division. Patrols of five men each will be on duty night and day. If they arrest offenders, either upon complaints, or *flagrante delicto*, they have the power to examine them at once, and if necessary to take them to the nearest police station or military court. The men for the force will probably be chosen from amongst those policemen in receipt of salaries varying from 12 to 15 yen per month. The officers will be selected from the army.

His Excellency Matsukata, Minister for Home Affairs, inspected the buildings for the Second National Industrial Exhibition, in the public gardens of Uyeno, on Thursday last.

The *Mainichi Shinbun* says that ten officers from the Russian men-of-war now in harbour paid a visit to the Department for Foreign Affairs, on the morning of the 13th instant.

The *Hochi Shinbun* says that His Excellency Nagaoaka Mori-yoshi, Envoy Extraordinary and Minister Plenipotentiary to the Court of Holland, was presented in audience with His Majesty the King of Denmark, in the city of Copenhagen, on the 19th ultimo.

We notice in a native paper that a new hall, intended to be used for the reception of distinguished foreign visitors, is to be erected on the site of the old Museum, inside the Yamashita gate, at a cost of 40,000 yen.

The *Choya Shinbun* states that the reforms in the Police Bureau, so frequently mentioned of late, are to be put into force about the 20th instant.

NAVAL AND MILITARY.

A native journal states that His Excellency Admiral Enomoto, Minister for the Navy, paid a visit to the Naval College on Monday last, and inspected the Cadets at work.

Port Admiral Nakanuda paid an official visit on board the *Vettor Pisani*, on Tuesday last at noon.

Another journal states that during the firing of the salutes at the Kanagawa fort on the occasion of His Majesty the Emperor visiting the *Vettor Pisani*, an accident occurred, by which two gunners were badly injured. It appears that after firing the third round from the second gun, the sponging must have been imperfect, as on the charge being rammed home it exploded and the two men were both thrown into the sea. The paper we quote suggests that the accident was due to the previous cartridge remaining undischarged.

The *Nichi Nichi Shinbun* publishes the following extract from the *Kogyo Shimpō*:—"Of all our men-of-war, the *Fuso Kan* is

the most powerful ironclad. She was built by the famous Mr. Reed, M.P., but since she has been brought to Japanese waters that part of her hull which is below the waterline has always been decaying, so that every six months she has had to go into dock at Yokosuka for repairs and repainting, which latter was always done with red paint. On the last occasion, however, (namely the 13th ultimo) examination shewed that spots appeared all along her sides below the water line, and on scraping them off the iron beneath was coated with black rust and was only 4.3 inches thick. It has been the rule to paint only these spots with red paint, but it has resulted in her becoming weak and useless in only a few months. It is said that this is the only ship on which this peculiarity has been observed, yet she is plated with iron of the best quality. There are therefore two theories; one is that the oil used in mixing her paint is of a bad quality, and the other that an electric current has been induced by some action of the sea. On the 15th ultimo, some members of the Tokio Medical College and one of the staff of the *Kogio Shimpō* went to examine her and tried, but without success, to come to some explanation of the cause."

The same paper states that the training ship *Risjo Koa*, which sailed for Shimizu at the close of last year, for the purpose of testing her engines before starting on her long voyage for Australia, returned to the Yokosuka dockyard on the 6th instant, her engines not being in order. She will remain there until the necessary repairs are completed, and then start on her cruise. Captain Willan and Navigating Lieutenant James, foreign instructors in the Naval College, have been appointed to the ship, and Lieutenant Nagai has been discharged and appointed an attaché of the Naval College.

THE *Mainichi Shinbun* is our authority for stating that 5,000 stand of the Murata rifle (named after its well-known inventor) are to be manufactured at the Koishikawa Arsenal by the middle of next March.

Lieutenant General Ibi, Commander of the Nagoya garrison, arrived in Tokio on Thursday last. Lieutenant Generals Kurakawa, and Toda also arrived in the Capital on the same day.

INDUSTRIES, TRADE AND FINANCE.

We read in the *Akebono Shinbun*, that last year the experiment was tried of importing from Kagoshima some tobacco seeds which were planted out at Isimi-gori in the prefecture of Chibi. The result has proved most successful, as not only are the leaves well developed, but they are also of a fine flavour. This will probably form the nucleus of a new industry.

The *Hochi Shinbun* says that the Second National Industrial Exhibition is to be opened on the 1st of March next.

The *Akebono Shinbun* writes as follows:—A competitive exhibition of silk, cocoons, silk thread, and silk fabrics was opened in the Nagano prefecture for thirty days, commencing from the 15th of October. There were 724 exhibitors, and the exhibits amounted to 753 articles, valued at yen 11,877.31. The exhibition was visited by 27,635 persons, and 368 exhibitors obtained prizes.

The *Nichi Nichi Shinbun* writes as follows:—"It may be asked how it happens that the branches of Agriculture and Commerce are to be separated from the Home Department and established as a fresh Department, when economy is so urgent. These industries, however, require much encouragement, and having nothing to do with either the laws or regulations ought not to be mixed up with the affairs of the Home Department. The new Department is consequently to be called into existence, and the Minister for Home Affairs will remain in charge of the executive, while the Minister for Agriculture and Commerce will be responsible for the increase of products, and the prosperity of our commerce. As upon his exertions will depend the prosperity or poverty of our country for the future, great care will be taken in selecting a suitable man for the position. We hear of Mr. Matsukata Masayoshi, the present Minister for the Interior, and Mr. Kawase Hideoharu, Superintendent of the Board of Commerce, being mentioned as likely to hold the respective positions of Minister, and Vice-Assistant Minister."

The *Mainichi Shinbun* states that before the opening of Fusan and Gensan, in Corea, a little cotton used to be exported thither

from Osaka, but that now the quantity sent there has greatly increased. The Cotton Company of Osaka exported to Corea over 7,320,000 *kwas* last year. In consequence of this some other cotton merchants and capitalists in Osaka are combining to form a new company to engage in the cotton trade with Corea.

The *Akebono Shinbun* has the following from a correspondent in Corea:—"Business is very dull at Fusan, it being the close of the year, and only small quantities of rice are exported as it is impossible to purchase large amounts from the natives. Corean money also has become very scarce, and is now 35 per cent premium over Japanese money, which has put currency generally in a very bad condition. At present one *Kwan-mon* of Corean money equals 3.05 or 3.06 yen in Japanese currency. Shares, amounting to 3,000 yen in all, have been subscribed for issuing paper notes convertible into Corean money, and it is expected that these notes will shortly be put in circulation throughout the whole country."

The *Bukka Shimpō* says that there is not much change in the silk trade at present, but that contracts are still made daily. The *Volga*, which left here on the 9th instant, took over thirteen hundred bales, which had been bought by different firms at the end of last year.

The same paper states that there is also no great change to report in the tea trade in Yokohama at present. A few contracts are made now and then, and there are about five thousand *kin* of tea of the 1st, 2nd, and 3rd class qualities stored in the native town.

We take the followings remarks on the rice trade from the same journal:—"The *Mikumi Maru* and the *Kwaiko Maru* brought 3,500 bags of rice from Ise yesterday. The recent dry weather, being unfavourable to the wheat crop, had the effect of sending up the price of rice. On Monday last it threatened to rain or snow and prices consequently declined, but as the alarm was false, they have advanced again, though not as much as was anticipated, owing to the scarcity of money and the extent of the stocks imported. There are, moreover, large stocks waiting for buyers at the various ports, so that we do not believe that the dry weather will make any material difference in prices, while rain or snow would cause a downward tendency."

A native paper states, that encouraged by the success of the competitive exhibition of sugar recently held at Osaka, many of the traders and manufacturers in the neighbourhood of that city have arranged to hold meetings in the Chamber of Commerce, on and after the 1st of next March, to consider means for the encouragement of this industry, and the improvement of the present methods of manufacture. Application has also been made to the Home Department to permit officials from the Board of Agriculture to attend these sittings, and the request has granted.

MISCELLANEOUS.

A native paper states, that "two natives of Corea resided in Tokio during the latter part of last year. They had cut their hair and adopted European clothes, and looked just as if they were Japanese. They were in the habit of paying frequent visits to the Chinese Legation, and one of them has just returned to Corea. We cannot speak for certain of their intentions, but rumour is rife that as it is not yet foreseen how Corea will be affected by the Russo-Chinese negotiations, these men were sent here by their Government to find out all that they could about it."

We learn from a native paper that on the 27th ultimo a severe gale was experienced at Niigata; amongst other damage a part of the poorhouse was blown down, killing one man and injuring four others.

We notice in a local native journal that an application made by the people of Nishi-shioya Mura, in the prefecture of Kumamoto, for the construction of a new harbour at that place has been granted, and the sum of one hundred thousand yen, to be paid back by instalments in three years, has been advanced by the Government for the purpose.

A fire occurred in Shiba, Shimeicho, Tokio, at about 7.30 p.m. on Saturday last, and as there was a strong wind blowing the fire soon spread all over Udagawacho, and Shinsen-machi. It

was eventually extinguished at 8.20 p.m., after having destroyed over 135 houses.

The *Mainichi Shinbun* publishes a telegram stating that a fire broke out in the Kanazawa barracks on the 10th inst. No particulars are yet to hand.

The *Nichi Nichi Shinbun* says that the Universities, Normal Schools, and libraries under the charge of the Educational Department were all re-opened yesterday, the New Year's vacation having terminated.

We notice in one of our native contemporaries that the construction of a convict prison in Yesso is to be commenced some time this month.

Mr. Kajito, a lecturer in Kioto, has been sentenced, as we notice in a native paper, to thirty days penal servitude for having delivered an offensive lecture. Being dissatisfied with this judgment, however, he has appealed to the Daishin-In.

The application for opening a new harbour on the coast of Ito, near Kamo-gori in the province of Izu, has been granted, according to a local native paper, and the construction has been started. The capital is over 100,000 yen, and when completed, the harbour will be particularly good.

We read in the *Hochi Shinbun* that on the 1st instant, a number of artillery men belonging to the Hiroshima garrison, taking their side arms, proceeded to the police station near the barracks and made an attack on the police. The constables resisted with their swords and batons and a serious fight ensued. The police inspectors and military officers succeeded in quelling the disturbance, but not before fifteen policemen and many soldiers were wounded. An investigation is to be held into the cause of the riot, which is at present unknown.

The *Hochi Shinbun* contains the following:—Mr. Hayakawa Isami, one of the Judges of the Tokio Court, and belonging to the same clan as the late Judge, Iohi-nose Nawohisa, recently murdered in Tokio, has addressed a memorial to the Minister of Justice to the following effect:—"The late Judge Iohi-nose Nawohisa did not murder Watari, the father of his assassin, from any private spite." Again he states that "Watari was a man who did his utmost to obstruct the progress of our patriotic undertakings, and consequently the exigencies of the time called for his being punished by death. On the occasion of his being assassinated, his wife tried to defend him and was killed also, in consequence. The day after his death, all the members of the clan drank glass after glass of saké for joy, so that if the murdered judge was to be regarded as Watari's enemy, almost all those who fought on the Imperial side in the time of the Restoration must be called the foes of those against whom they fought."

A native journal gives an account of a fraud practised on some country people, that was ingenious enough to have been done by a London "confidence" man. It appears that in December last a ward office at Shika-higashi-gori, in the prefecture of Hingo, issued an announcement to the inhabitants of the district, stating that the portrait of His Majesty the Emperor would be on view on the 1st of January. Thereupon some unprincipled men went round to the various villages, representing themselves as agents from the office in question, and telling the inhabitants that in return for the honour of being permitted to gaze on the Emperor's portrait, each one was expected to contribute according to his means. The story was believed, and the rascals have made good their escape, with a respectable "loot."

IMPERIAL GOVERNMENT RAILWAYS.

TOKIO AND YOKOHAMA SECTION.

Statement of traffic receipts for the week ending Sunday 9th January, 1881.

Passengers, parcels, &c.	Yen 8,726.83
Merchandise, &c.	" 1,023.89
Total	" 9,750.72

Miles open, 18.

Corresponding week last year.

Passengers, parcels, &c.	Yen 7,675.70
Merchandise, &c.	" 1,016.24

Total	" 8,691.94
Miles open 18.	

Kobe and Ootzu Section.

Statement of traffic receipts for the week ending Sunday 2nd January, 1881.

Passengers, parcels, &c.	Yen 11,069.44
Merchandise, &c.	" 2,665.88

Total

Miles open 58.

Corresponding week last year.

Passengers, parcels, &c.	Yen 8,784.99
Merchandise, &c.	" 1,602.03

Total

Miles open 55.

Statement of traffic receipts for the week ending Sunday, 9th January, 1881.

Passengers, parcels, &c.	Yen 12,108.64
Merchandise, &c.	" 2,955.84

Total

Miles open 58.

Corresponding week last year.

Passengers, parcels, &c.	Yen 11,444.86
Merchandise, &c.	" 2,011.58

Total

Miles open 55

ARRIVAL OF THE FRENCH MAIL.

London, 8th December.—Bank Shares:—Oriental Bank Corporation £20. Chartered Bank £22 10s. Chartered Mercantile Bank £21 10s. Hongkong and Shanghai Bank £40. Consols 99.

London, 9th December.—A bailiff has been murdered at Cookstown in Ireland, whilst engaged in executing a decree against a tenant.

General Roberts was entertained at a banquet last night, given by the East India Club, the Marquis of Hartington presiding.

The latest news from Capetown states that advices had been received there from Pondoland of an engagement having taken place between the Pondomise tribe, who are intimately connected with the Basutos, and the Colonial troops, in which the Pondomise were utterly routed.

The Board of Trade returns of imports for the past month amount to £30,437,500, showing an increase of £4,093,750 compared with the same period last year. The exports for the past month amount to £18,875,000, showing an increase of £1,843,750 as compared with last year. Consols 99.

Vienna, 8th December.—Another severe shock of earthquake has occurred at Agram, causing a perfect panic amongst the inhabitants.

Constantinople, 9th December.—The Porte has sent a note to its representatives abroad, in which it calls upon the European Powers to bring their influence to bear in restraining the preparations for war which are at present being made by the Greek Government, and to ask Greece to declare categorically within a short period whether she accepts the proposals made by the Porte in its note of October last, that the frontier line should start north of Nolo, proceeding south of Larissa, Metzovo and Janina, and terminate at the mouth of the river Arta. The note concludes that if Greece gives a reply in the negative a rupture of the diplomatic relations between that power and the Porte will ensue.

London, 10th December.—General Roberts has been presented with the freedom of the Fishmongers' Company.

It is currently reported that the British Ambassador at St. Petersburg has resumed negotiations with the Russian Government in order to come to an understanding between the two countries respecting their positions in Central Asia, and that Russia is disposed to renounce her intentions in regard to Merr.

The Bank of England has raised the rate of discount to three per cent. Consols 98½.

London, 11th December.—The capital required for the Isthmus of Panama Canal has been fully subscribed.

A terrible colliery explosion has taken place at Peny-craig, in Wales, causing the death of 84 miners.

The Geographical Society is projecting another Arctic Expedition.

The latest advices from South America state that active operations have been recommenced between the Chilean and Peruvian forces, and that a column of Chilean troops has been disembarked at Pisco and is now advancing on Lima.

Tehran, 11th December.—The Persian troops have occupied Mergawar. Obeidullah, the Kurdish chief, has taken refuge in the mountains.

Athens, 12th December.—The Greek Chambers have voted a bill for raising a war loan. At yesterday's sitting of the Chambers the President of the Ministry denied the existence of any direct negotiations with Turkey. This statement doubtless had reference to *The Times'* telegram that Greece was intriguing with Turkey.

London, 12th December.—The body of General Brooke, who was killed at Kandahar, was landed yesterday with full military honours.

Paris, 12th December.—The death of Madame Thiers is announced.

M. Baudry d'Asson, the Legitimist member of the Chamber of Deputies, who was deprived of his seat for a fortnight for calling the Military "a Government of picklocks," and bodily removed by soldiers on refusing to withdraw, has instituted legal proceedings against President of the Chamber on grounds of illegal arrest.

Tehran, 12th December.—The Persian troops have destroyed the Kurdish town of Uehni and massacred all the inhabitants. An action has been fought at Mergawar between the Persians and Kurds under Abdul Kader, in which the latter were defeated.

London, 13th December.—A Cabinet Council, was unexpectedly summoned to meet to-day. Parliament is expected to be summoned for despatch of business immediately, in consequence of Mr. Forster's insisting upon the adoption of coercive measures in Ireland.

General Roberts has been created Doctor of Law by Dublin University.

Advices from Capetown state that the rebellion among the Boers, which hitherto has been confined to the Potchefstroom section, threatens to become general among them.

Two more regiments have been ordered to Ireland.

Constantinople, 13th December.—The note from the Porte to its representatives abroad respecting the Greek Question, which was stated to have been issued, is now said to be postponed.

Tehran, 14th December.—Sheik Obeidullah has ordered the Kurds to suspend hostilities until Spring.

London, 15th December.—Dewa Singh has been appointed Knight Commander of the Star of India.

The latest news from Ireland states that the Land Leaguers have prevented the exportation of cattle by an ostracized landlord.

The Cabinet is at present discussing a land bill for Ireland.

At a volunteer prize distribution held yesterday, Lord Lytton made a speech in which he strongly condemned the contemplated abandonment of the Kurram valley and Kandahar. He warmly eulogised General Roberts, who he said attributed his success principally to the support he (Lord Lytton) had afforded him during the campaign in Afghanistan.

Mr. Fawcett, in a speech to his constituents, said he should never relinquish his interest in India. The serious miscalculation in the Afghan war expenses he said showed inefficient control and necessity for reform in the financial administration of the Indian Empire.

Bombay, December 15th, 11h. 12m.—A special telegram to the *Times of India*, dated London, announces that Earl Grauville's proposal, on behalf of the British Government, that England and Russia should agree upon some scientific frontier and neutral zone, has been rejected at St. Petersburg.

London, 17th December.—The 97th regiment has been ordered to proceed to Ireland.

INDIAN NEWS.

Calcutta, 3rd December.—The comptroller-General intimates that the New Sterling Loan announced by the Secretary of State is not due to any necessities of the Indian Treasuries, and has in fact been arranged without the intervention of the Government of India. It may be connected with the conversion of the five per cent. Sterling Loan.

Perhaps, also, the India Office is taking advantage of the present state of the money market to reduce the general rate of Sterling Loans below four per cent.

Allahabad, 3rd December.—In answer to a letter from Wali Shere Ali Khan, late Governor of Kandahar, asking permission under existing circumstances to retire to India, the Viceroy grants his request and assures him that he will be treated as an honoured guest. The Wali shortly proceeds to Kurrachee.

Okakamund, 3rd December.—There have been extensive serious landslips on the Coonoor Ghaut. Wheel traffic is suspended. The manager of the Mail Tonga is assisting the transit of mails on horses and coolies. An engineer with large cooly gangs is removing the obstructions. Cattle are lying dead on the Ghaut.

Allahabad, 3rd December.—It is believed there will be no distribution of prize-money to the army of occupation at Kabul. The Star is to be given for the march from Cabul to Kandahar, and will be attached to the clasp, bearing the word Kandahar.

Allahabad, 10th December.—Information from Gilgit (Cashmere) says that the tribes have relinquished their intention of attacking Major Biddulph. Nevertheless the reinforcements under Major Tanner will be pushed forward with all possible speed.

The abandonment of Khyber is only now delayed pending a complete understanding with the local tribes. The tribesmen are to hold the Pass in our interest against all comers, and give us timely warning of any hostile movement. No fortifications will be allowed, but the military road will be maintained in good order.

Allahabad, 13th December.—The Viceroy's present condition is altogether satisfactory. The bulletin says the Viceroy has passed a good night, and there is an improvement in his condition, but fluctuations are to be expected.

Latest advices from Kandahar point to a more settled administration. Major St John is appointing Governors to remoter districts. It is reported that the Khan of Aga, Ayub Khan's father-in-law, is leading his own and other Ainak tribes against Ayub. It is believed a revolution in Herat is imminent. Less trustworthy reports state that Ayub has come to Farah, with the object of assembling the Duranis. It is stated that Mahomed Jan has been appointed Commander-in-Chief at Kabul, and Mir Butcha at Kohistan. The prime Minister of the Ameer is expected to visit India shortly.

COREAN NEWS.

(Translated from the correspondence of the *Osaka Shimpō*.)

Fusan, 16th December, 1880.

H. E. Hanabusa, our minister to Corea, arrived here on the 5th instant by the man-of-war *Amaji kan* and, after staying at the Consulate for two days, left for the capital on the morning of the 7th instant, accompanied by two attachés and an interpreter from the consulate. We hear that His Excellency will now reside permanently at the capital.

Mr. Ritojin, a native of the capital of Corea, and who since September of last year had been travelling in our country, where he was considered as the leading advocate for the civilization of Corea, returned here on the 17th instant by the *Chitose Maru*, and left for the capital overland. I saw the gentleman while he was here: he was clad in the European fashion, with a gold watch chain glittering about his waist, and his hair was dressed according to the European style. He speaks our Tokio dialect so like a Japanese that no one would take him for a Corean. He is a man of such high intelligence and elevated mind, that he equals the learned men of civilized countries. It is said that he came home with the intention of memorializing his Government at the risk his own life, being grieved at the uncivilized state of his country. When the wishes of this gentleman will come to be realized without danger to his life, it is expected that the Corean Government will necessarily change its old policy of exclusion, and throw open several ports for commerce with all nations of the west. Therefore this gentleman is regarded at present with great interest as the reformer of the general policy of the East.

It is intensely cold here at present. The thermometer ranges between 45 and 50 degrees Fahr. at noon; between

35 and 36 in the morning and evening, and between 24 and 25 at midnight. All water is entirely frozen, but nevertheless the weather continues to be bright and clear, and we have had no snow. The northerly winds are, however, very fierce and piercing.

As to the trade of this port, it is duller than usual at this time of the year. According to the report prepared by the Chamber of Commerce, the average daily business done at present is said to be 1,600 kanmon for sale, and 1,800 kanmon for purchase; but these figures only refer to retail transactions and there is no business done on a large scale. The market prices of goods for sale are quoted as follows:—Refined copper, 13 kan 300 mon (query, per kin?); rough copper, 12 kan 500 mon; tin, 21 kanmon; buttons, 6 kan 500 mon; white copper, 800 mon per kin; dye stuff, from 1 kan 700 mon to 1 kan 450 mon, and saffron dye at 1 kan 500 mon. Quotations of goods for purchase are as follows:—Best rice, 2 kan 200 mon; fine, 2 kan 800 mon; uncleaned rice, 2 kan 700 mon; cleaned common, 2 kan 600 mon; beans, 1 kan 850 mon; ox hides, from 8 to 9 kanmon; salted, 7 kanmon. There has not been much change in the prices of other goods. It has been hitherto usual at the end of every year for the Korean cash to fall extraordinarily in value, as our paper currency became scarce, but this year, on the contrary, cash are unusually scarce, and instead of falling they are rising in value. The rate of exchange is now between 25½ and 30 per cent. premium against Japanese paper currency.

We cannot foretell what further fluctuations may take place at the new year (old style), but under present circumstances, we suppose no great change will occur.

A letter from Gensashin, which left there overland last month and arrived here on the 16th instant, says that not much trade has been done since the steamer (what steamer is not mentioned) left, and the cause might be attributed to the scarcity of foreign muslin; the unsettled state of the difficulty between Ikeda & Co. and the Koreans, about the hemp business; and the excessive coldness of the weather; the snow lying two feet deep since the 23rd ultimo. Metals were, however, in good demand and some business was done in them every day, but, owing to the increasing severity of the weather, no large transactions could take place before next March. Dye stuff is quoted there at 1 kan 900 mon; white copper, 1 kan 850 mon; refined copper, 12 kan 900 mon; buttons, 6 kan 900 mon, and tin at 24 kanmon. As to the goods for purchase, best gold sand is quoted at 13 kanmon; middle, 10 kanmon; common, 7 kan 600 mon, and ox hides at 90 kanmon. The last-named article was plentiful in the market. Korean cash were scarce and at a premium of about 30 per cent. against paper currency. Between last May, when that port was opened, and the 30th of September, the imports amounted to 73,502,567 yen, and the exports to 74,004,701 yen.

The thermometer was at 30 degrees Fahr. at noon, and about 21 degrees in the morning and evening.—*Hioyo News.*

(To be continued.)

ITEMS FROM THE NATIVE PAPERS.

We have often remarked that the steamers trading from Kobe and Osaka to Shikoku, Kinshu, and various other places were not properly managed. They are frequently coming into collision with other vessels and meeting with accidents which entail loss of life and property. In order to rectify the growing evil and to place the management of this class of steamers upon a proper footing, Mr. Sugihara, of the Marine Department of the Post Office, has been ordered to Kobe and Osaka.

The increase of production, and consequent augmentation of exports, is an important duty devolving upon every native of Japan. In Tokio and Yokohama two associations—the Fuso and Boyeki—are engaged in this work, and in Kobe the Tea Trading Company has been formed under the patronage of prominent official and private gentlemen. This company will manufacture tea, and export it to New York, where an agency has been established. The capital consists of 100,000 yen, divided into 2,000 shares of 50 yen each. It is proposed to carry on operations between the months of May and October, during which time the quantity of tea prepared for export is expected to reach 1,000,000 kin, or about 1,330,000 lbs.

On the 7th instant, the shareholders will meet for the election of a president, directors, and other officers.

Twenty-four or twenty-five small steamers have been plying on Lake Biwa between Otsu, Yamada, Yayata, Mayebara, Nagahama, and Utsu. They run very irregularly, however, and passengers consequently experience great inconvenience. Mr. MATSUGAWA, a wealthy resident of Otsu, is desirous of improving the existing facilities of communication, and proposes to establish a company for that purpose, with a capital of 200,000 yen. A number of the shares have already been subscribed, and six strong steamers purchased, which will be run regularly in connection with the railway trains.

We already reported the loss of the s.s. *Thabor* belonging to the Kaikoshu, and have now received some further particulars of the disaster. The vessel left Hiogo for Nagasaki at 11 p.m. on the 22nd ultimo. The night was extremely dark when she approached her destination, and the crew were ignorant of their exact position. A light was seen, which afterwards turned out to be in a house, but at the time the sailors mistook it for a ship's light. The *Thabor's* course was altered, and almost immediately afterwards she ran on a hidden rock, to the great dismay of the master, engineers, crew, and everyone else on board. There was a great deal of heavy cargo in the forepart of the vessel, so that her bows got buried and could not be extricated. All the merchandize was, however, removed to Nagasaki in junks, but the *Thabor* has now become a total loss.

It appears that the foreigners in Kobe are so pleased with the admirable manner in which the Japanese policemen lately engaged by them have performed their duties, that application for more constables has been made to the Kobe police authorities.

On the 31st ultimo, a custom house officer discovered that a Chinese passenger on board the *Tatoo-maru* had in his possession some opium and opium smoking utensils which he was endeavouring to smuggle. The opium &c., was seized and confiscated, while the offender was handed over to the Chinese consul for punishment.

We anticipated that the money market would, as usual, have been very busy at the end of the year, but such was not the case. In September and October last, money was very scarce, the banks ceased making advances, and daily interest reached thirteen mon. Interest has now fallen to seven or eight mon, and the monetary institutions are again lending. While the poorer classes in Tokio and Osaka are suffering great privations owing to high price of all necessities, the labouring population of Kobe have been much better off, as they can easily obtain remunerative employment on the shipping, or in the railway, the different ironworks, &c.

It is rumoured that a garrison will shortly be placed in Hokkaido, with head quarters at Sapporo.

Three officials of the Home Department arrived in Osaka on the 3rd instant. We (*Nippo*) do not know the cause of their visit.

On the 4th instant, the men of the Osaka garrison were exercised in field manoeuvres for the first time this year.

Three residents of Imbgori, Ise, Miye Ken, appealed to the Tokio Joto Saibansho on the 24th ultimo, against the proceedings of Mr. Iwamura, the governor of that Ken. The dispute has arisen out of the collection of the taxes.

The contributions for the relief of the sufferers by the recent great fire in Osaka were up to the 31st ultimo as follows:—money, 7,132,393 yen; cleaned rice, 12 koku 2 to; ordinary rice, 7 koku 5 to; charcoal, 15 bags; small rice cakes, 1 koku 7 to; salted plums, 4 cases; pillows, 132.

We (*Nippo*) have received many reports concerning the Dajima Rice Exchange business, but we do not like to publish such disagreeable matter at this festive season. We will therefore hold over further mention of the subject for the present.

It is reported that many persons have become depositors in the Savings Bank lately established under the auspices of the Chamber of Commerce, and that they have expressed great dissatisfaction with the management of the institution.

Rain ceased in Osaka at about five o'clock on new year's morning and the weather turned out extremely fine. Notwithstanding the troubles arising from the scarcity of money, and in spite of the cold weather, the people seemed to enjoy

themselves very much. The officials—mounted and on foot—and many others, young and old, passed the day in paying and receiving ceremonial visits. The shinto temples were thronged with worshippers, more especially the Sumiyoshi Jinsha.

On the 2nd of January instant, all the shops were reopened for business in Osaka, and the street crowded with people in pursuit of pleasure. We (*Shimpo*) certainly failed to notice any signs of the distress which is, alas, known to be so prevalent.

The late Mr. Mishima, who was secretary of the Imperial Mint, discharged the duties of his office with such satisfaction to his superiors, that the Council of State has presented his family with three hundred yen towards the expense of a religious ceremony in his memory.

Are we to attribute the increasing desire to emigrate to Hokkaido to the scarcity of money? We understand that the Osaka Fuchu received during last month applications from over two hundred persons who are anxious to settle in the north.

River thieves have frequently attacked the junks, &c., near Tempozan lately, and therefore the water-police kept a sharp look-out in that locality during the holidays.

We have learned some interesting particulars about the steamer *Thabor*, recently lost at Nagasaki. The vessel was first bought by the Light house Department from a celebrated French ship-builder, through the French Government. She was in the service of that Department for a considerable time and, being of great strength and speed, was chosen to convey His Majesty the TENNO when he returned to the capital after visiting the provinces of Hokurikudo. Last year the *Thabor* was purchased from the Government by the Kaikoshu, and we are very much grieved that she has been lost.

It is rumoured that His Excellency Shishido, our Minister at Peking, will shortly return to Tokio, and that Mr. Tanabe, the Secretary of Legation, will be *Chargé d'Affaires* during the Minister's absence.

Dr. Yoshida Kenzo, a staff surgeon of the Naval Department, will shortly be appointed director of the Osaka Hospital. He is a native of Hiroshima, Aki, and fought on the side of the Imperialists at Hakodate. In the third year of Meiji Dr. Yoshida went to England, where he studied the medical profession with great assiduity for nine years. After obtaining his diploma he returned to Japan in 1879, and received an appointment in the navy. In the following year he was promoted to his present rank.

The *Rikyu Nichi Nichi Shinbun* states that four persons have been declared elected to represent Tome-gori, Miyagi Ken, in the local assembly, although no vote of the people was taken. The inhabitants are discontented, and inquired whether the Guncho (district) or Kocho (village) officers are responsible for this strange proceeding. The question is a very important one affecting the rights of the people.

On the 6th instant, two large bears, captured at Etorofu, Hokkaido, arrived at the Osaka Museum from Tokio. It is said they are like ponies in size, and devour five kwamme (about forty-two pounds) weight of sweet potatoes each daily.

The Imperial Household Department has requested the kwazoku residing in Kioto, to forward to the Department any ancient books in their possession likely to afford assistance in the preparation of the history of the Empire.

Mails posted in the provinces of Idsumo and Iwaki should reach Osaka in four days, but have recently been seven days on the road. Some people attribute the delay to negligence of the postmen, but we are informed that this year snow has been very deep at Shijamagori and Okoto, and the road has on several occasions proved impassable.

Shikada Sukezo is a most unfortunate man. When he lived at Takeyamachi, Shimanouchi, he was burnt out, and then went to reside in Mumegetsuji, Higashi-Kodso. Another conflagration forced him to Kameyama, Tamba, but here his evil genius followed him, as he was plundered by robbers a few days since.

It was intended to hold an exhibition of porcelain in Ishikawa Ken this year, but as the place is so remote the decision has been arrived at to hold the exhibition in Osaka, immediately after the Hiogo Cattle Show.

On the 6th instant, the *Nagusa-maru*, a new steamer belonging to the Kioriten-sha of Wakayama, made her first trip. The vessel left Wakayama at twenty minutes past nine

in the forenoon, and arrived in Osaka at one o'clock in the afternoon. To celebrate the occasion over three hundred persons were entertained at the Shinuro restaurant, which is situated at the southern end of the Shimmachi-bashi iOsaka. The *Nagusa-maru* was built by Messrs. E. C. Kirby & Co. at their Ono Iron Works, and is eighty-four tons register. She is one hundred and twenty-six feet long, eighteen feet wide, and has a speed of eleven and a half knots an hour.

It is positively asserted that Mr. Makimura, the governor of Kioto Fu, will shortly be appointed a Senator, and that he has warned the officials of the Kencho to be prepared at any moment for a transfer of the business to his successor. On the 4th instant several of the officers were promoted. Is this Mr. Makimura's method of shewing gratitude to his friends before he takes his departure?

Owing to the scarcity of money the timber merchants of Osaka were unable to lay in large stocks, and prices became very high after the recent fire; in fact some of the vacant spots are not even yet fenced. A great quantity of timber has, however, recently arrived from Shingu, in Wakayama Ken, and quotations have fallen to the former figures. It is reported that Mr. Kadota has embarked in the timber trade.

In Kioto the rice merchants have been buying very largely, as they anticipated an increase in prices. The markets, however, show a downward tendency and these merchants are very much disheartened. It is said that the parishioners of the East Honganji who reside in Kaga, Noto, Yetchiu and other provinces, have contributed one hundred thousand koku towards defraying the cost of the new buildings, and that the priests have now this rice for sale. The parishioners at Mino have presented sixty thousand bags of grain for the same purpose.

The reputation of Mr. Saisho, the governor of Sakai Ken, is second only to that of Mr. Makimura, the governor of Kioto Fu. Some time since he forbade the students from attending lecture meetings, and now he has prohibited them from listening to persons who preach the doctrines of Christianity. Orders have also been issued that students in whose possession either the Old or New Testament is found are to be punished. The foregoing is what we have heard, but we cannot vouch for the truth of the report.

In the districts of Kiotosaki and Mikume, which are situated in the northern portion of Tajima, the weather is extremely cold at present. On the 9th ultimo snow and hail fell, and from the 19th to the 24th there was a continuous snowstorm. The road from Kumano, Tamba, was rendered impassable and in some places the snow was five feet deep. We hear that young wheat and peas received some slight injury, but after the 1st instant the weather became fine and mild; the farmers are therefore rejoicing.—*Hiogo News*.

THE JAPANESE PRESS.

ON THE PROPOSAL TO CREATE A DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE & COMMERCE.

(Translated from the *Kinji Hiron*.)

The Government contemplates establishing a Department of Agriculture and Commerce, with the view of encouraging both of these pursuits, and we hear that the rules of these Departments are to be framed on the model of the corresponding departments in France. Now to encourage agriculture, in order to increase the products of the country, and to promote commerce for the purpose of benefiting foreign trade, are both very important steps, instrumental in maintaining the political economy of the realm, and as such should not be postponed for a single day. It was this motive that led to the establishment of the Board of Agriculture under the Home Department, and the Board of Commerce under the Finance Department, but it is now intended to convert these Boards into a Department for the better furtherance of their primary objects. This is, indeed, a praiseworthy scheme, but should the proper execution of it fail, plans proposed for encouragement may actually tend to check, and suggestions meant to maintain public interests may even injure and weaken them. By the expression "should the proper execution of it fail," we refer to such a proceeding as the introduction of some system without weighing

carefully first of all whether it may or may not be suitable to the manners and customs of the country; the framing of rules consistent with the feelings or the position of the people; or, even worse than these, the application of the system of another country directly to our own land, without any consideration. One country differs from another in many ways, and the people of different lands have feelings, manners and customs as divergent as their climates. It is thus self-evident that the peculiarities of one nation do not admit of the hard and fast adoption of the laws of another country, and that such a step must prove prejudicial to the best interests of any nation that takes it.

Such being the case, we have often wondered how it is that our Government so frequently wishes to apply the laws and rules of other countries to Japan. Not so very long ago there was current a rumour to the effect that Government contemplated re-organising our constitutional laws, taking the French as their model. Fortunately nothing appears to have been done in this direction, but we now hear that in establishing the present new Department, the French pattern is to be adopted. Is not this very sad?

Take, for instance, the case of a man who has bought a house from another. The building may in itself be excellent and yet the purchaser may require to make some alterations which he deems requisite to his comfort, or his business. How closely does this apply to laws and regulations which affect the population of a country! Even though the French code of law may be the finest in the world, yet how great a difference is there between our degree of civilization and theirs! The manners and customs of the two races being so distinct, is it likely that French laws would suit our countrymen? We fail to see it ourselves. But if the Constitutional law, which is to cause universal harmony throughout the realm, is to be modelled upon the French Code, it will not be a matter of surprise if the same steps will be taken in the organization of the Agricultural and Commercial Department. As we said before, however, encouraging Agriculture with the view of increasing our produce, and promoting commerce in order to bring our foreign trade to a prosperous condition, are very important factors in maintaining the political economy of the empire, and cannot be treated as trifling matters by the Government. If the system adopted prove suitable to the position of the people, it will increase the wealth of the Empire, and promote the progress of our civilization and the general prosperity of the nation: if not, it must undoubtedly plunge the country into the depths of poverty, the people into ignorance, and retard the development of intellect.

Looking at home, we find that at present financial matters are in a critical condition, that the price of all commodities is enhanced, and that other troubles exist, so that it is difficult for many to earn their daily bread. Abroad, cunning Great Britain looks us in the face, while powerful Russia watches at our back. We have neither capital to compete with Great Britain, nor power to oppose Russia; let us therefore save ourselves from our present state of poverty and weakness, and turn our energies, towards augmenting our wealth and raising our intellectual status, so as to improve the general condition of the country and to place her in the East in a similar position to that of Sweden in the West, lest we should find it difficult to defend our Sovereign rights before they fall to the ground. The Government, though composed of clever men, do not consider this: on many occasions have they tried to govern the country by laws imported from abroad and totally unsuited to the exigencies of the time and country. What is their object in so doing? It may be possibly that they are too much occupied with administrative affairs and having therefore no time to compile such details themselves, have introduced foreign laws into this country, without giving heed as to their fitness or otherwise.

It is to this that is due the wail of unhappiness and dissatisfaction that is heard throughout the length and breadth of the land: do the authorities consider that cry a pleasant song?

We are sure that even if they cared nothing about the feelings of the people they could not like to hear these lamentations; still less, when as is at present the case, the Government is not stern but merciful. The entire question as to whether the new Department is to benefit the country and the people or not, depends entirely upon the scheme upon which it is to be conducted; we cannot

possibly neglect so important a subject, and we urge our responsible officials to give the matter their most serious attention.

PLANTING THE SEEDS OF FREEDOM.

(Translated from the *Dakinei Sodan*).

A philosopher, examining into the history of the past, is said to have asserted that freedom in Europe had its origin in the deep forests of Germany. If this be so, it shews us that even savages appreciate the blessings of freedom, and whether we dwell in gloomy forests, lofty mountains, or secluded valleys, we can easily plant seeds of freedom, which in due course will bear fruit. When Rome was in her most flourishing condition Germany was the home of tribes of savages, and speaking without consideration, we should have expected to find that the Romans increased their freedom more and more, while the German savages remained in their pristine state. Practically, however, the very reverse occurred. Rome gradually became an Empire, under which tyrannical and oppressive laws were enacted and all freedom disappeared, while Germany relinquished her barbarous customs, adopted principles of liberty, and thus laid the foundation of the Constitutional Monarchy of Europe.

Judging from this, it would appear that liberty is not a necessary outcome of civilization or of a general state of prosperity. Looking at the present state of our country, we find that all of our countrymen who are now agitating for freedom, bend their steps towards cities like Tokio or Osaka, and expend their energies in trying to instil a love of liberty into the hearts of the townspeople. Now those who dwell in cities are, when compared with country people, far superior in knowledge and art, but may yet be inferior to them in the matter of loving, and trying to promote, liberty; because they are, as a rule, most thoughtless, and have not very much perseverance. Although they love liberty they give up its pursuit for some other private interests, and shift from one thing to another, as the clouds are driven hither or thither by the autumn wind. This is not the case with those who lead a rural life. They might not, it is true, understand one thoroughly when spoken to on the subject of liberty, but when it was once properly explained, their brain would grasp the idea firmly and they will learn to value it above their very lives, and to face even death for its sake. Oh! you who are now agitating for freedom, cannot you understand this? You contemplate obtaining the support first of townspeople, and afterwards that of dwellers in the country. We consider your policy to be upside down, so to speak. The country folk outnumber those who inhabit our cities, and if you can depend on the support of the former, you need not trouble about the latter. Where could be found a better soil in which to plant the seeds of freedom, than that of our countries and villages? The vast rice fields of Japan can surely yield as fair a harvest of liberty, as ever came from the deep forests of Germany.

LAW REPORTS.

IN H. B. M.'s COURT FOR JAPAN.

Before R. T. RENNIE, Esq., Judge.

(Wednesday, the 12th day of January, 1881)

ALEXANDER CLARK vs. WM. BOURNE.

This was a claim, for \$5 damages, alleged to be due from defendant, in consequence of his having refused to accept the plaintiff's bid at an auction for a stove and fixings, which he (plaintiff) alleges defendant knocked down to another person for a less sum than he bid.

Mr. Hill appeared for the plaintiff and Mr. Lowder for the defendant.

Mr. Hill said that it must be well known that there were occasional instances in which the best intentioned citizens came to disputes, and which it was found necessary to refer to the adjudication of the Court. The present case was one in which the amount claimed was trifling, and but inadequately represented the importance of the subject at issue. The amount of the claim was in fact only \$5, but what the plaintiff complained of was the manner in which he had been treated. The defendant, Mr. Bourne, was an old resident,

well-respected, and influential, (he might almost call him an institution of Yokohama) and was frequently in the habit of presiding over those unfortunate occasions when our household gods were distributed far and wide; in fact, he was an auctioneer. As such, his duties were fixed and defined by law, just as much as those of a common carrier, or similar occupations. He understood the facts of the case to be that Mr. Bourne, at a recent auction, refused a bid made by Mr. Clark, and he considered that in so doing, an auctioneer was liable to any damages which in consequence had accrued, or were liable to accrue.

His Honor:—Have you any authorities on which you make such an assertion, Mr. Hill? I confess I cannot recall one myself. I am far from saying that an auctioneer has an absolute right to refuse any bid, but in the absence of any authority, I really doubt if the case can go on.

Mr. Hill did not agree with His Honor.

His Honor:—Can you shew me any one case in American or English Law in which the plaintiff gained a case against an auctioneer, for not accepting his bid.

Mr. Hill:—No, Your Honor, but I understand that this case is elementary. It involves a breach of contract. An auction sale implies a contract; when the plaintiff made his bid, and the offer was refused, it was a valid contract so far as the plaintiff was concerned as he was willing to complete it when required. The defendant, however, refused to accept the bid thus breaking the contract.

His Honor:—Do I fully understand you, Mr. Hill, to mean, that the auctioneer, being there to receive bids, and refusing that of the plaintiff is in the position of having committed a breach of contract? If so, in the absence of any authorities on the point, I really cannot agree with you.

Mr. Hill:—Certainly I do mean so, and I have no doubt as to the principle, although I am not now in a position to produce any authorities.

Mr. Lowder said he wished to say that he believed that there could be no action for damages in such a case. He had looked over his books, but could find no similar instance of an auctioneer being sued for damages.

His Honor:—Your view coincides with mine, Mr. Lowder. As the summons at present stands, I consider that I must dismiss it, without hearing. This, it must be understood, is quite without prejudice to the plaintiff, who can obtain other remedies. If you, Mr. Hill, are prepared to amend your summons now, I shall be willing to hear it, but I must tell you that I have taken some pains to look up the authorities, and as I cannot possibly see my way to hearing the case as the summons at present stands, I shall have to dismiss it, unless you apply now to be allowed to alter it.

Mr. Hill said that he would have first to consult with his client on the subject.

Mr. Lowder then applied that the case should be dismissed and asked for costs. He considered at least \$25 should be given.

His Honor:—On what calculation do you base your claim.

Mr. Lowder:—The lawyer's charges alone would be at least that. No lawyer would come into Court for less: there are also the witnesses' expenses.

His Honor:—Was it necessary to employ lawyers?

Mr. Lowder:—My client not being familiar with law thought it best, as he learnt that the plaintiff had engaged legal assistance.

Mr. Hill said that though he fully intended to be paid by his client, he must object to costs being granted.

His Honor, dismissed the case and granted the application for costs.

The Court then adjourned.

DOMINION OVER THE FISH.

"A gift-book for Christmas. A poem preferred. Limited text, and profuse illustration. What should it be?"

As if by invocation, the Ancient Mariner rose before me! He stood in the doorway of my office, and held me with his glittering eye. He lifted his skinny hand to his long gray beard, and then gravely tipped his oiled hat. "The reader for Spry, Stromboli, and Smith?"

I had that honour, and handed him a chair. He sat in it after the manner of a floater, concentrated his eye upon me like a star-fish, and produced a roll of manuscript with the fluttering claw of

a lobster. Then he stirred and squirmed, like an elderly eel, looking distrustfully into the vestibule. I closed the door and begged to be informed of his business.

"I have a great work for you," he said mysteriously, proffering his manuscript. As he leaned over to do this, I saw a shining something on the top of his head, but the thick white hair concealed it when he resumed his place. The manuscript smelled as if it had contained mackerel, and looked as if it had come from the bottom of the sea. I found curiously enough, some fish-scales adhering to it, and its title very oddly confirmed these testimonies—"Five Years in the Great Deep."

I glanced at the author with some surprise. He was the quaintest of mariners, and if I had met him leagues under the sea, I should have thought him in his proper element. His looks were like dry sea-weed; his cheeks were so swollen that they might have contained gills, but this was probably tobacco. When he wiped his nose with a handkerchief like a scoop-net, some shells and pebbles fell from his pocket, and his ears flapped like a pair of ventrals. I remarked as he pursued the lost articles over the floor, that he wore a microscope strapped in a leathern case, and a geological hammer belted to his side. He walked as if habituated to swimming, and when he shrugged his shoulders I expected to see a dorsal fin burst out of the back of his jacket. He might have been sixty years of age, but looked much older, and behaved like a well-born person, though, superficially judged, he might have lived in Billingsgate.

"A good title for a fiction," I said encouragingly.

"I never penned a line of fiction in my life," exclaimed my visitor sternly.

Referring to the copy again, I saw that it purported to be the work of "Rudentis Jones, Fellow of the Palaeontologic Society, Entomologist to the Institute for Harmonising the Universe, and Ruler of Subaqueous Creation, excepting the Finny Mammalia."

"Ah! I see," said I; "a capital title for a satire!"

"Life is too grave, and science too sacred," replied my visitor, "for the indulgence of idle banterings. The work is mine; I am its hero; and it is all true." He wore so earnest a face, and looked so directly and intelligently at me, that I forebore to smile. "I have travelled in strange countries," he said; "Nature has been bountiful in her revelations to me; indeed my experiences have been so individual, that I sometimes discredit them myself. I do not complain that others ridicule them."

He spoke in the manner of one devoted to his species; and an easy dignity, which some trace to high birth and consciousness of dominion, became him very naturally. The eldest of the admirals, or old Neptune himself, could not have seemed more kingly; but once or twice he started at a noise from the publishing-house, as if longing to get back to his legitimate brine. I told him to leave the manuscript in my hands for a fortnight, that I might form an opinion as to its claims for publication.

"No!" he said quickly. "It is not a girl's romance, or a boy's poem, or the strollings of a man-errant: it is of such rare value that gold cannot purchase it; it is so priceless that I cannot own it myself; it is like the air, or the water, or the light, or the magnet—the property of all the peoples. It must not leave my sight. I must read it to you now!"

He literally held me with his eye. He stood erect dilating, until he seemed to reach the height of a mainmast, as long and lank and brown as the subject of the veritable *rime*; and his ears, contracted flapped like the pectorals of a flying-fish. I was uncertain whether, he was going to fly or swim, or seize and shake me. I believed him to be either a lunatic or an apparition; but when the frenzy of the moment was over, he became a very harmless, kindly, and grave old gentleman, who begged my pardon for transgressing decorum in the enthusiasm for his "great work." He still smelled abominably of fish, but I could not take it into my heart to be harsh with this most pertinacious of authors.

I had been but a short time in the service of Spry, Stromboli & Smith, and my nerves had not yet been exercised by sensitive and eccentric writers. I had led a vagabond career myself, and had frequent reason, in my incipient literary days, to be grieved with publishers' "readers;" and when promoted to the same exalted place, I resolved to be charitable careful, and obliging—to do as I would be done by—to crush no delicate Keats, to enrage no Johnson, by slight, prejudice, or depreciation. But to suffer the infliction of a crack-brained old naturalist, repeating an interminable manuscript in my own office, went beyond my best resolve! Still there was little to do. It would be a paltry task to select a poem for illustration, and had not this same Ancient Mariner suggested an admirable one?

"I can grant your request in part, Mr. Jones, I said at length; "you may read one hour; and if at the end of that period I do not think favourably of your article, you must promise to read no further."

The old gentleman gave his parole at once, took a pair of great green spectacles from a sea-grass case, and blowing his nose again, rained pebbles and marine shells over the whole office. When he took the manuscript from my hand, I saw the shining something distinctly on the top of his head; and when he sat back to read, he was a perfect copy of a dry old king-fish, looking through a pair of staring, glaring, green eyes. Without more ado, and in a rippling kind of voice, as of the rushing of deep water, the old naturalist read the following introduction to a most wonderful manuscript:—

"At a very early period of my life I manifested an inclination for the study of the sciences. In my eighteenth year I submitted a theory of inter-stellar telegraphing to the Gynnotian Academy. It was my purpose to have placed the papers simultaneously before the scientific bodies of each of the seven planets in our constellation, but having no capital, the design failed, though I was complimented thereupon by the 'Institute for Harmonizing the Universes,' and elected a contributing member of that society. For several years I petitioned annually for outfit and transportation to the

Scilly Islands,* on the Ecliptic Circle, where I purposed to develop my scheme of transferring a portion of our globe to the system of Orion. In this I was opposed by the Palæontologic Society, on the ground that some valuable fossils were presumed to be there; and Parliament, thinking that my protests were subversive of the law of gravity, rejected them. A number of projects, each of which, I firmly believe, would have benefited my kind, and facilitated correspondence between all created beings, terminated unfortunately, and my relatives at length placed it out of my power to continue these philanthropic exertions. For some years I was denied the ear of man, and in the interval my hair grew gray and my body a trifle faint. But the lofty impulses of youth survived. My mind could not be imprisoned, and I held communication with the stars through the grating of my chamber in the still midnight. At last the relief came. I had long prayed for it! My deliverer was Sirius, the brightest of the celestial intelligences. He shone upon my window bars with an intense, concentrated light, and they reddened and melted before daybreak. I fled to Glasgow in the month of April, 184—, and obtained a captain's clerkship on the whaler *Crimson Dragon*.

"We took in water at the Shetland Islands, and sailing north westward, skirted the coast of Greenland, whence, cruising in a southerly direction, we lay off Labrador, and waited for our prey. Our crew was fifty men, all told. Our captain had been a whaler thirty-eight years, and had killed five hundred and six animals or eight more than the renowned Scoresby. We carried seven light-boats for actual service, and twenty-seven thousand feet, or more than five miles, of rope. Three men kept watch, day and night, in the 'crow's-nest,' at the maintop; but though we beat along the whole coast, through Davis' Strait, and among the mighty icebergs of Baffin's Bay, we saw no cetaceous creatures, save twice some floundering porpoises, and thence a solitary grampus. With these beings I endeavoured to open communication, but they made no intelligible responses. The stars also of this latitude failed to comprehend my signals, from which I concluded that they were less intelligent than those of more temperate skies. But with the animalcules of the sea I obtained most gratifying relations. A series of experiments with the *tylosurus* satisfied me that they were not loath to an exchange of information, and finally they followed the ship by myriads, so that all the waves were full of fire, which the sailors remarked; and fearful of being observed, I ceased my experiments for a time.

"On the evening of the fifth Saturday of our cruise, I waited till the changing of the watch; then I stole noiselessly upon deck, and secreted myself behind a life-boat which hung at the side of the vessel. The helmsman was nodding silently upon his tiller; two seamen sat motionless upon the bow, and the lookout party in the crow's-nest talked mutteringly of our ill-luck as they scanned the horizon. The Northern Lights were pulsing like some great radiating heart, and the sea was alternately flame and shadow. The headlands of Labrador lay to the south—bare, boundless, precipitous; and to the east a glittering iceberg floated slowly towards us, like a palace of gold and emerald. The ship rolled calmly upon the long swells, the ripples plashing in low, lulling monotone, and her hull and spars were reflected darkly beneath me. I drew a long gray hair from my temple, and subjected it to a gentle friction between my palm and finger; then I pricked my wrist, and leaning forward, placed it against my heart: five blood-drops—of the five types of organized creation—fell simmering into the depths, and the scintillant hair, floating after them, described a true spiral. In an instant the Aurora grew bright to blindness; there was a rush of infinite stars, and a host of beautiful beings fluttered to the surface of the sea, within the shadow of the ship! A gull darted along the water, and in the far distance I heard the bellows of the huge Greenland whale. All animate nature had acknowledged my message; I had touched the nerve of the universes!

"Blow me if there wasn't a whale, Ben!" said one of the men in the maintop.

"My eyes! but it wor like it," replied the other.

"Fearful of being remarked, I slipped below, a second time disappointed, but with such exultant feelings that I tried in vain to sleep. The intimacy of species and their common language, lost in the degeneracy of the first human beings, were about to be restored by me. Confusion had overcome the counsels of the countless things which had talked and dwelt together in the past, but science was about to win back from sin the great secret of communication. I should translate the scream of eagles and the cooing of doves; I should hear the gossip of my household kittens, and speak familiarly with the mighty hippopotami. The serpent should teach me his traditions, and the multitude of mollusks should develop the mysteries of their sluggish vitality; nay, the plurality of worlds should be demonstrated, with the combined intelligence of all the systems, we should wrest the mysteries of life, matter, and eternity from their Divine repository!

"I lay awake all night revelling in these anticipations, and at dawn was quite weak of body. It was now the Sabbath, and at nine o'clock all hands were summoned to the poop-deck for the customary worship. I lay upon a coil of rope, when the mate commenced to read the service, and a deep drowsiness came over me. The lesson was a part of the first chapter of Genesis—the weird history of creation. He had reached the twenty-eighth verse when I dropped asleep. It could have been only an instant's forgetfulness, for when I awoke he had not finished the reading of the same verse, but in that instant a vision had passed before me.

"A female of marvellous beauty rose from the water. I had seen the long green locks, the eyes of azure, and the glossy neck—it was Tethys, the queen of sea-nymphs. She was begotten of humidity in the remote beginning, and seemed even now cloudy and incorporeal. Euripius, the divinity of whirlpools, lay in the

waves at her feet, projecting a spectrum of spray, in an arch, above her head.

"Man," she said, or rather rippled, for it was like the even voice of waters, 'your love of nature, the boundlessness of your kindness, the daring of your speculation, the profoundness of your introspection, have made you one of us. Awake, and hear our decree!'

"She melted into vapor, and disappeared. I opened my eyes. The crew were grouped about the deck, the mate was reading the lesson, the words which I heard were: 'Have Dominion over the Fish.'

"A fall! a fall!" was shouted from the maintop. The men on watch had discovered the long-expected prey.

"Man the boats!" cried the captain; 'all hands be spry! Where away, look out!'

"Sou-west!" answered the crow's-nest, 'about two leagues. There must be hooceans of 'em! They 'eave like water-spouts, and, lor! how they lottail!'

"The seven boats were arranged in curved shape, so as to form a semicircle around the animals; and the captain's, of which I took the helm, formed the left tip of the crescent. We pulled steadily for a half-hour over a smooth sea, and came at length so close to our victims that we could count them. Truly it was 'a fall'! A few cubes played recklessly around the surface; but there was an enormous bull, whose bulk was much greater than that of the ship's hull, which came once in full view, dived vertically, and beat the water with his terrible tail, making such billows that a storm seemed to be raging. The other animals swam in the froth and foam thus developed, now plunging to the far depths, now shooting their huge bodies into the air, and falling with a splash, as of the emptying of the ocean. The scene was so exciting that even my wonderful discoveries passed out of mind. Our oars dipped noiselessly; the crews were silent; the harpooners stood, each in the bow of his launch, with naked weapons extended, waiting to strike. The first opportunity occurred to the launch on our extreme right. At the distance of twenty yards the executioner hurled his javelin full into the back of the great bull; a roar ensued and a frightful leap. The other creatures repeated the agonised cry, and they swam southward with the velocity of a ship under full sail.

"Now, lad bend your oars!" shouted the captain through his trumpet. The entire length of rope unrolled directly from the reel or 'bollard' of the first launch, and the line of a second boat was attached forthwith; a third and fourth were annexed, but the whale exhibited no signs of exhaustion, and dragged his pursuers like the wind. A fifth and a sixth line spun out. The captain's cheek grew pale, and he opened his clasp-knife with a curse upon his lips. Here remained the line of our boat alone. Unless the monster stopped within ten minutes, we should lose every foot of the ship's cordage, and this last rope would have to be severed. Tremulously a seaman attached it; it was whirled out as if by a locomotive. The oars moved like light, but no human activity could approach that of our victim. He nearly swamped the launch, and the friction of the bollard threatened to set it ablaze.

"What devil of the deep is this?" said the captain, bending forward with his blade. The sailors ceased with hot faces, and stared aghast. I seemed to hear calling voices; I grew faint and blind. The bollard snapped with a dead, dull sound; I was entangled in the stout twine, and tossed into the sea. Some oars were thrown over board, that I might be buoyed up. Three of the launches were turned towards me, and the seamen called aloud that I should keep up courage. But the line pulled me downward; my heart ceased to beat; I beheld with indescribable terror the pale surface receding, and the dark shapes of the vessels above me were finally lost to view. I knew that at the first inhalation the brine would fill my mouth and lungs; I held my breath hard, and tried to pray. Down, down, down into the blue depths—a cycle of protracted years it seemed! My ears were stunned with strange noises; my lips parted, and at length the sea rushed into my throat; for an instant I seemed to strangle, but I did not perish.

"The fluid was mysteriously expelled from me. I breathed as freely of the water as a moment before I had breathed of the air! A weight was lifted from my brain, which had before been crushing in, and my temples grew suddenly cool. A spiracle had developed at the apex of my cranium, and I exhaled water through a cavity or 'blow-hole' on the top of my head, like the octocean around me!"

(The naturalist here paused and ran his hand through his hair. The shining something among his gray locks revealed itself as a plate of silver, circular in shape, covering what had evidently been an opening in the skull. He looked less like a man than ever, and when, consulting a glutinous old chronometer, like a jelly-fish, he found that his hour was passing, he begged so earnestly to be allowed to finish his "Introduction," that I gave him leave. A boy coming in with copy so frightened him, however, that I thought he was going to turn upon his stomach, and swim away through the window.)

"I became sensible directly of three organic changes: my heels clave together, my feet flattened, and my toes turned out, like a caudal fin; my integument grew thick and hard, and my blood thin and chill. But these conditions being novel to me, and my fears only equalled by my wonder as yet, I was paralyzed, and continued to sink. I had descended about one hundred fathoms, and was experiencing a strange oppression, as of the forcing together of my bones, when I heard a sonorous voice close below me say: 'If you go any deeper, you will sustain a pressure of twenty atmospheres, and may not get back at all.'

"I looked beneath, and to my horror a huge whale was coming upwards with extended jaws. His half-human eyes were turned benignantly upon me, but he was evidently in pain, and from a point in his back, where a broken harpoon still remained, gouts of blood curdled upward, colouring the water. His vocal power lay in his spiracle, and he said again:

* This group of Scilly Islands is in the South Pacific; not off Land's End.

"I should have been asphyxiated in five minutes."
 "Who is it that speaks? I faltered. 'Leviathan, king of the sea, be merciful!'"

"I am called *New England Tom* by the creatures of the upper element," answered the whale, "although falsely thought to be of the family of the *Spermatocti*: but though my exploits have recommended me to my species, I am not equal to the high title you have given me. That is possessed by You and our sovereign *Jonah* only!"

"The conviction rushed upon me that I had, indeed, 'Dominion over the Fish!'"

"I have suffered this wound for your majesty's sake," said the whale again; "for I had been deputed to wait in this latitude for your arrival, and convey you to our sovereign. But though I am now in the third century of my age, I can survive a dozen such prickings, and if I chose could shiver the *Crimson Dragon* with a blow of my tail, as in 1804 I store the *Eser*, and made driftwood of her spars."

"In an instant I was seated within the mighty maw of this famous monster. His jaw-bones were forty feet in length; the roof of his mouth was fifteen feet high, and formed of a spacious arch of "ballen," or whalebone. His crescent-shaped tail, thirty-five feet from tip to tip, swept the depths twice or thrice; and when we emerged into the air, the blood spouted from his pores, and he threw cataracts of water through his spiracle. I saw the *Crimson Dragon* some miles away, but there were no traces of her boats. The crews of the launches were fathoms deep in the ocean!"

"I passed the cape of Greenland, rounded the base of Mount Hecla, and was escorted to the abode of the king of the cetacea by a multitude of his subjects. A submarine island, forty fathoms from the surface, had been occupied three thousand years by this venerable person. He came out to meet me upon the back of a mighty 'narqual,' and a body-guard of four hundred picked narwhals swam before him. Eighty white whales surrounded their monarch, and a host of dolphins, grampuses, and porpoises brought up the rear. Banners of dyed seal-skin bore his arms—three gourds, argent, upon a field vert; and with these were carried as trophies the wrecks of ships, including the identical shallop whence he was expelled on the voyage to Tarshish. But marvellous beyond all, the 'great fish' (falsely so translated, since no cetaceous creature can be denominated a fish) into which he was received still lived, and accompanied him. It was now the eldest of the species, but very sprightly, and burdened with dignities. The Seer-King saluted gravely, and gave me a draught of spirits, distilled from the fronds of a rare sea-tangle. His long tenure in the deep had obliterated much of the similitude to man, but his memory of terrestrial matters was extraordinary. The weeds were wrapped about his head after the manner of a crown, and he carried a sceptre of walrus tusk. He told me that his original three day's experience under the sea had so cooled his blood, that the suns of Nineveh parched him, and he had cried for cooling water. I informed him that Nineveh no longer existed, at which he was gratified beyond measure; for his only knowledge of events happening on the earth had been derived from the wrecks which had sunk into his domain. I found that he was badly informed upon matters of science, and he heard my theories of harmonizing the universes with impatience. In his days, he said, no such ideas were broached, and he was indifferent to the intellectual development of his subjects."

"My visit was brief, for, though the Palace of Jonah had a sepulchral grandeur about it—a mighty cavern beneath the waves—yet the glittering stalactites which studded the roof, and the cold columns of ice supporting its halls, nearly froze me, and at length I made ready to depart."

"An escort of 'thrashers,' or grampuses, accompanied me. The Seer-King would have detached a cohort of white whales, but the animosity of my tribes might have provoked combat. I left the cetacea with some foreboding. They were allied in some degree to man; they were capable of some human impressions; their blood was warm like mine; they breathed with lungs; they had double hearts; and nourished kindness for their offspring. But I was now about to be delivered over to the cold, cruel, gluttonous tribes of the fish. The family of sharks received me. They could not be counted for multitude. The terrible regimens of the storm—the cannibal white shark—welcomed me with open jaws; the blue shark flung up his caudal fin for joy; the fox-shark lashed the sea; the northern shark glared through his purblind orbs; the hammer-head dilated his yellow fringes; the purple dog-fish made a low purring hum; and the spotted eyes of the monk-fish glistened with satisfaction. The hound-shark, the beaking-shark, and port-beagle were not less loyal; and these, the most perfectly organized of my cartilaginous tribes, handed me over to the deep-swimming Norwegian 'sea-rat.' Thus I kept steadily southward, the water growing warmer hour by hour, now riding on the serrated snouts of saw-fish now moving in the midst of battalions of sword-fish, now acknowledged by the great pike, now vaulting above the surface on the back of flying-fish, now clinging to the spines of sturgeons, now passing through illimitable shoals of cods, now borne by the swift sea-salmon, now dazzled by the golden scales of the carp, now passing over miles of flat-fish, now hailed by monster conger-eels, now swimming down files of leering hippocampuses, now received by congregations of staid aldermanic lobsters. The torpedo telegraphed my coming to the tribes before, and at last I reached my abode, on the line of the equator, in mid-Atlantic."

"The magnitude and beauty of my court no mind can realize. A truncated cone of granitic rock, whose base extended to the profound depths of the sea—even to the region of perpetual fire—formed with its upper plane a circular lagoon at the surface of the ocean. Geysers or volcanoes of fresh water gurgled up through the center of this palace, and vast submarine groves, intermixed with meadows, extended for leagues along its sides. My household consisted entirely of silver and golden carp, but my guards

were of the loyal and gentle, yet courageous and powerful xiphias (sword-fish). These barred the unlicensed ingress of my subjects, and if the adventurous foot of man should profane my lagoon, I could close its inlet and cover it with floods. The dim aisles of the waters were full of wonderful lights: combinations of colours, unknown above, were here developed in gigantic *fuci*, around whose boles the scarlet tangle climbed, and parasites of purple and emerald played upon their rinds. Some of these forests pointed upward toward the sun: some grew downward, deriving light and heat from the incandescent gulfs. My state apartments were built of coral, in wondrous architecture, and trumpet-weed clothed their battlements. Some cavernous recesses were lit with constellations of shining zoophytes, and there were floors of pearl, studded with diamonds. I could stroll through marvellous arch-ways, gathering jewels at every step or wander in my royal meadows, among the wrecks and spoils of hurricanes, or rising through the mellow depths, sit among the palms of the lagoon, watching the white sails of ships or studying the awfulness of the storm."

"For a time I secluded myself, theorizing upon the policy of my government. My dominions were vast and venerable; they comprehended two thirds of the surface of the globe: no deluges had destroyed them, and they had been peopled ages before the coming of man. Life here inhabited forms, vegetable and animal, to which the greatest terrestrials were puny. But the darkness which of old rested on the face of the deep, now shadowed its depths. There was no mind here. These gigantic beings were shaped without souls. How should I reason with creatures who could not feel, whose heads could not know till to-morrow that their members had been severed to-day—some of whom, in a single moment, passed their whole existences, and fulfilled all the functions of eating, drinking, and generating—who were not only incapable of thoughts, affections, and emotions, but who could not see, smell, hear, taste, or touch? But such subjects are among the afflictions of all wise rulers, and I resolved to conclude upon nothing till I had visited every part of my dominions."

"During three years of travel I classified the fishes anew, all previous enumeration being paltry, and made the notes and queries which form the staple of my manuscript. I found fresh-water creatures to which the sheat-fish would be a morsel and hydras to which the fabled sea-serpent would be a worm. I ascended the rivers with the salmon, and fathomed the motives of the climbing-perch. I heard the narrative of a *silurus* tossed out of a volcano, and talked with a haddock which produced at a birth more young than there are men upon the globe. I have noted the harlequin-angler, which lived three weeks in Amsterdam, hopping about on his fins like a toad; the smoking-fish which adhered to Marc Antony's galley and held it fast; the horned-fish (*Alca* *doe*) which the savages discard from their nets in terror and prayer; and the sprats which rise with vapors into the clouds, and are rained back into the sea. I have collected the traditions of many of these beings, and have translated some of their ballads. There is music under the ocean; but most of the fishes sing with their fins, beating the water to the rude measures. Among the traditions of all the tribes is that of a time when the waters were peaceful and the fishes happy, when none were rapacious, when death was unknown, when no storms lashed the ripples into billows, and when beings of the upper air bathed at the surface, and the fishes rendered them homage. But some foul deed of which the finny folk were guiltless brought confusion into the waters; the ocean covered all the globe, corpses sank into the depths and were devoured, nets were let down from above, strange fires were kindled beneath, and whirlpools, water-spouts, storms, and volcanoes began."

"I devoted a fourth year to perfecting my system of organic communication, and made some advance toward developing life in inorganic matter. From this latter attainment it would be but a step to *perpetuate* life, and I should thus restore immortality to man. But the shark family having threatened to revolt, I left off my investigations for some months, and organized a military force, with which I massacred the malcontents till my subjects swam in blood. Returning victoriously at the head of my legions, a sad incident occurred. A ship was crossing our line of march, and I had an unaccountable curiosity to hear something of terrestrial affairs. Five sawfish, at my bidding, staved in the ship's bottom, and she sank almost instantly. The corpses drowned drifted slowly down, and as I passed among them, turning up the faces, I recognized in one the features of my mother!"

"After a season of remorse I continued my investigations, but a novel and unexpected discovery deranged my plans, and wrought a change in my destiny."

"The subtlest forms of matters, as commonly known, are the imponderables—light, heat, magnetism, and electricity. I had concluded that these were manifestations of some still subtler form, and that this was *life*, beyond which lay the ethereal elements (called *principles*) of mind and soul—soul being ultimate and eternal. To demonstrate this I resolved to descend as far as possible into the depths of the sea, and examine the beings which dwelt in the remotest darkness. The conical shape of my island allowed me to descend within its shelving interior, and yet sustain no great atmospheric pressure. I selected a sturgeon, whose body was so powerfully plated that he could not be crushed, and his long-pointed shape gave him great facility for penetrating dense waters. I attached a phosphorescent light to his caudal, that I might not lose him in the gloom, and he preceded me along the sloping interior. We passed the foundations of my court, bade adieu to the deep-swimming hydras, left the profoundest polypi behind, and came at length to uninhabited regions, three thousand fathoms below the surface. My pioneer here suffered great inconvenience, and only by the most vigorous efforts was able to progress at all. The blackness was literally tangible, and our lantern, at most, only 'darkness visible.' By threat and persuasion I forced him forward, hardly able to make headway myself. He swept the almost solid element with his powerful tail, depressed his sharp

snout, sucked a long breath, and we darted forward simultaneously. There was a cracking as of bones forced together, and my cranium seemed to split. We shot out of the density into lighter water, and the momentum carried us fifty fathoms beyond!

"We had passed out of the limit of solar attraction, and were being drawn toward the centre of the earth!

"Before, we had been descending; now, we were rising. The fluid grew rarer and warmer as we proceeded, the darkness more luminous, and at last we became visible to each other, swimming in a ruby and transparent liquid, unlike any aspect or part of our native domain. The fluid became so rare finally, that the sturgeon was unable to go further, kept down by his superior gravity. Some lights glimmering above us, and some mysterious sounds alarming him, he turned and fled. I was left alone.

"I reached the surface of this peaceful sea. A scene lay before me more beautiful than any wonder of the deep. I knew that I was among immortals, and that this was 'Happy Archipelago'!

"The surface was calm. Some purple islets were sprinkled here and there, and creatures marvellously fair were basking in the rosy waters. They looked like angels half way out of heaven. Their faces were of a silvery hue; their hairs shone on the stream like tremulous beams of light; their eyes were of a tender azure, and their bosoms rose and fell as if they were all dreaming of blessedness. Some strains of ravishing harmony that were floating among the islands ceased when I appeared, and I thought I heard the snapping of a lute-string. All the spirits started at once. They were crescent-shaped, and stood upon their nether tips. A star upon their foreheads shone like a pure diamond. They saw me and vanished!

"All but one! She was the fairest of the spirits, and looked, thus frightened, like the pale new moon. The violet veins faded from her lids, and her blue eyes were full of wonder. I felt as if, for the first time, a sinless being had looked upon me, and my heart grew so black and heavy that I sank a little way. I feared to breathe, for she might vanish. I wished to lie forever with her face shining upon me. What were science, and dominion, and the secret of man's immortality to one pure glance like hers? In the agony of my soul I spoke: "Spirit! Immortal! Woman! O stay! Speak to me!"

"Who are you? Whence do you come? You are not of us, nor of our element."

"The voice was like a disembodied sound, coming from nothing, floating in space eternally.

"I am a creature of a blighted domain—a realm filled with violence: it lies beneath you."

"The pale face grew tender; the star on the forehead grew dim, like a tearful eye. She pitied me.

"There are beings above us," she said, "winged beings, talk with us sometimes; but nothing below. Are they sorrowful as you are? Are their brows all heavy with sadness like yours? Why are they unhappy?"

"I wept and moaned.

"They have not your pure eyes; they cannot hear your voice. They have sinned."

"She glided toward me. I felt my gray hairs dropping one by one; my heavy heart grew light; my groans softened to sighs.

"A shape came suddenly between us.

"I knew the long green locks, and the glossy neck. It was Tethys who spoke. 'Man,' she said, 'you were made one of us, not one of these. Go back to your domain, for you are mortal. Resume dominion over the fish, or, striving to win more, lose all!'

"I turned my face seaward bitterly. I looked back once; the blue eyes were gleaming—oh, so tenderly!—and I could not go. I muttered an execration at my bitter fate. Straightway the sky rooked, the sea rose, the pale star vanished. I had spoken a wicked word.

"I was consigned to Eurypius, the divinity of whirl-pools. In vain I struggled in his watery arms; the swift current bore me circling away, and finally whirled me with frightful velocity. My feet were shaken asunder, my integument softened, my brain reeled. I was passed from eddy to eddy; I became drunken with emotion; I suffered all the tortures of the lost. A waterspout lifted me from the clutch of the sea, and deposited me upon the dry land, close to the home of my infancy.

"I have passed the weary hours of my penance in arranging the memoir which follow. Science has again wooed me with her allurements; the stars continue their correspondence. I have not despaired of the great secret of immortality; and although these hairs are few and white, I shall be rejuvenated in the tranquil depths of the water, and re-assert for ages my rightful dominion over the fish!"

I was in doubt whether to laugh or wonder when the Ancient Mariner concluded; but I was relieved from passing judgment upon his article by the unceremonious entrance of a tall, lithe, gray-eyed person, who wore gold seals and carried a thick walking-stick. The naturalist appeared to be bent on diving through the floor and swimming away through the cellar; but he caught the stern, keen eye of the stranger and cowered. The tall man lifted his cane, and struck the manuscript out of his Highness's hands; he demolished the microscope at a blow, and flung the geological hammer out of the window.

"Come along," he said. "No! drop that trash—every article of it, or else you'll be experimenting again. Come along!"

They went away together, leaving my office littered with broken glass and sea-shells. With some astonishment I followed through the warehouse to the street; they had entered a carriage and were driving rapidly away. The next morning's paper explained the whole occurrence in the following paragraph:—

Much Learning Hath Made Him Mad.—Yesterday noon an elderly lunatic, named Robert Jones, committed suicide by leaping over the parapet of London Bridge. He was in the custody at the time of Dr. Stretvick, the celebrated keeper of the Asylum for mono-

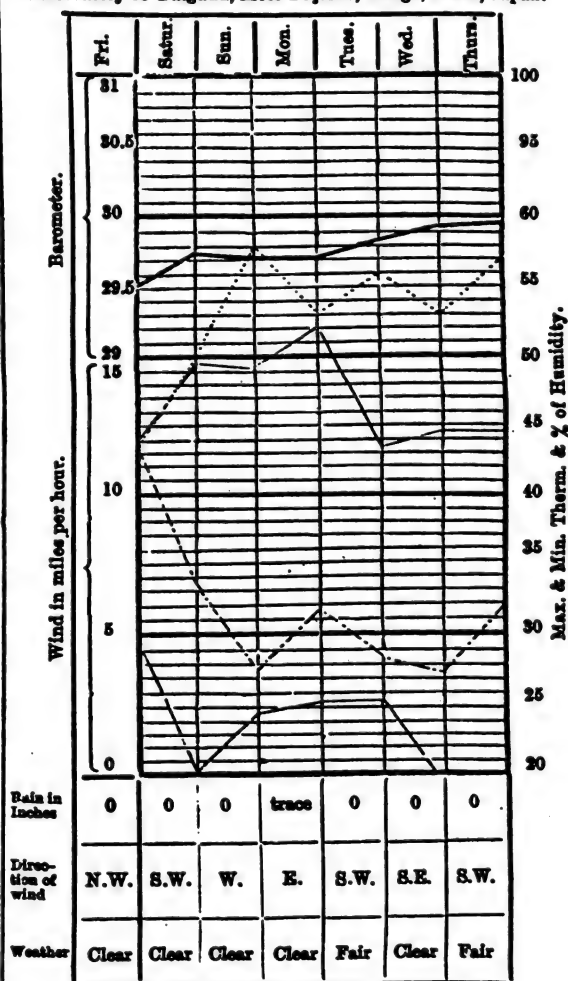
maniacs. He had been at large some days, and was traced to several publishing-houses, whither he had gone to contrive the publication of some insane vagaries. He was finally overhauled at the office of Spry, Stromboli & Co., and placed in a carriage; but seizing a favourable moment when travel was impeded upon the bridge, he burst through the glass door and cleared the parapet at a bound. Jones was an adventurous and dangerous character. Some years ago he set fire to the Shropshire Asylum, where his family had confined him, and went abroad upon a whale-ship; but meeting with an accident, he underwent the process of trepanning and came home more crazy than before. At one time he attempted to drown his mother, in furtherance of some strange experiment; but it was thought at the date of his death that he was recovering his wits. Among his delusions was a strange one—that he had been made viceroy over all the fishes. His body has not been recovered."

I read the last sentence with a thrill. My late visitor might even now be presiding at some finny council; and as I should have occasion to cross the sea some day, an untimely shipwreck might place me in closer relations with him. I determined, therefore, to print the manuscript which remained in my hands. May it appease his Mightiness, the King of the Fishes!—*Chambers's Journal.*

METEOROLOGICAL REPORT

FOR WEEK BEGINNING FRIDAY, JANUARY 7TH, 1881.

Observatory of Daigaku, Moto-Fujicho, Hongō, Tokio, Japan.



REMARKS.

Heavy line represents barometer.

Light continuous line—max. & min. thermometers.

.....represents velocity of wind.

.....percentage of humidity.

Max. velocity of wind 30 miles per hour on Friday at 10 a.m.

The barometer is reduced to the freezing point and to the level of the sea.

The highest reading of the barometer for the week was 30.101 inches on Thursday at 11 p.m. and the lowest was 29.310 inches on Friday at 6 a.m. The barometer has risen steadily during the week and this change has been accompanied by a considerable fall in temperature. The highest temperature during the week was 52.1 on Monday and the lowest point reached was 19.7, which was recorded on both Wednesday and Thursday. This temperature is unusually low, the minimum for the corresponding week of last year being 23.5 and the maximum 48.7. A trace of rain fell on Monday, the amount for the corresponding week of last year being zero.

NEXT MAIL DUE FROM,

AMERICA	P. M. Co.	Jan. 30th 3
AMERICA	O. & O. Co.	Jan. 10th 1
EUROPE, via HONGKONG	M. M. Co.	Jan. 27th
HONGKONG	P. & O. Co.	Jan. 22nd 4
HONGKONG, via KOBE	M. B. Co.	Jan. 17th 2
HONGKONG	P. M. Co.	Jan. 20th 5
HONGKONG	O. & O. Co.	
SHANGHAI, HIOGO & NAGASAKI	M. B. Co.	Jan. 20th

- 1.—Left San Francisco, December 21st, *Belgio*.
- 2.—Left Hongkong, January 7th, *Niigata Maru*.
- 3.—Left San Francisco, January 6th, *City of Peking*.
- 4.—Left Hongkong, January 12th, *Sunda*.
- 5.—Left Hongkong, January 13th, *City of Tokio*.

NEXT MAIL LEAVES FOR,

AMERICA	P. M. Co.	Jan. 23rd
AMERICA	O. & O. Co.	Feb. 11th
EUROPE, via HONGKONG	P. & O. Co.	Jan. 15th
EUROPE, via HONGKONG	M. M. Co.	Jan. 23rd
HAKODATE	M. B. Co.	
HONGKONG, via KOBE	M. B. Co.	Jan. 22nd
HONGKONG	O. & O. Co.	
HONGKONG	P. M. Co.	
SHANGHAI, HIOGO, & NAGASAKI	M. B. Co.	Jan. 19th

The arrival and departure of mails by the "Occidental and Oriental," the "Pacific Mail," and the "Peninsular and Oriental" companies, are approximate only.

VESSELS EXPECTED IN JAPAN.

SAILED.

DATE.	NAME OF VESSEL.	FROM	FOR
Sept. 14	Remonstrant	LONDON	Yoko. & Hiogo
July 23	Furness Abbey	"	Hiogo
Sept. 26	Anna Seiben	ANTWERP	Yokohama
July 17	Ste. Lucie	PHILADELPHIA	"
" 11	Auguste	SWANSEA	Nagasaki
Aug. 7	Philip Nelson	HAMBURG	Yokohama
" 22	Caroline	"	"
Sept. 2	Hoikow (s.s.)	GLASGOW	Hiogo
Nov. 7	Priam (s.s.)	LONDON	Yoko & Hiogo
" 17	Merionethshire (s.s.)	"	Yokohama
" 18	Pakhoi (s.s.)	GLASGOW	Jap. via Manila
" 19	Ordovic	LONDON	Yokohama
" 22	Malacca	Hamburg	Yoko. & Hiogo
" 25	Gleniffer (s.s.)	London	Yokohama
Dec. 8	Flintshire (s.s.)	"	"

LOADING.

DATE.	NAME OF VESSEL.	AT	FOR
Nov. 26	Coldstream	LONDON	Yoko. & Hiogo
" 26	Lord of the Isles (s.s.)	"	" "
" 26	Mora	"	" "
" 26	Oxfordshire (s.s.)	"	" "
" 26	M. L. Stone	"	" "

YOKOHAMA-TOKIO RAILWAY.

DOWN TRAINS LEAVE SHINBASHI.

A.M.	A.M.	A.M.	NOON.	P.M.	P.M.	P.M.	P.M.	P.M.	P.M.
8.0	9.15	10.30	12.0	1.30	2.45	4.0	5.15	6.30	8.0

UP TRAINS LEAVE YOKOHAMA.

A.M.	A.M.	A.M.	NOON.	P.M.	P.M.	P.M.	P.M.	P.M.	P.M.
8.0	9.12	10.30	12.0	1.30	2.45	4.0	5.15	6.30	8.0

CHURCH SERVICES.

CHRIST CHURCH.

Sunday Morning 11 A.M.
 " Evening 5.30 P.M.
 E. CHAMPNETS LEWIS, M.A.,
The Parsonage, 101.

UNION CHURCH, No. 167:

Sunday Morning 11 A.M.
 " Evening 8 P.M.
 REV. LUTHER H. GULICK, M.D.,
Pastor.

LIGHTSHIP SIGNALS.

The following are the signals made from the lightship to denote the approach of vessels:—
 Merchant steamer:—A black ball, with the national flag of the vessel below, at the yard arm.
 Mail steamer:—A black diamond, with the company's flag below, at the peak.
 Man-of-war:—National flag of the vessel at the peak.
 Sailing vessels:—For a ship; flag B. (red); barque, flag C. (red ball on white ground); brig, flag D. (white ball on blue ground); schooner, flag F. (white ball on red ground) all commercial code, with the vessel's national flag below as soon as it can be made out.



Star in the East Lodge,
 NO. 640 S.C.,

AN EMERGENCY MEETING of the above Lodge
 will be held at the

MASONIC HALL,

—OR—

Sunday, the 16th January,

At 2.30 P.M. precisely,

To conduct the Funeral Services of Brother

ALLEN MOORE, Deceased.

Members of other Lodges and M. M. are particularly
 requested to attend.

The procession will leave the Hall at 3.15 p.m.

By command of the R. W. M.

Yokohama, January 14th, 1881.

NOTICE.

THE UNDERSIGNED will tune Pianos from the 1st
 January, 1881, at the following rates:—

IN YOKOHAMA.

Single tuning - - - - - \$ 5.00
 Annual " - - - - - 30.00

IN TOKIO.

Single tuning - - - - - \$ 7.00
 Annual " - - - - - 40.00

Lessons given on the Flute, Violin, English Concertina
 & Guitar at moderate charges.

PIANOS AND HARMONIUMS REPAIRED.

C. WAGNER,

No. 220c Bluff.

Yokohama, December 22nd, 1880.

SHIPPING INTELLIGENCE.

VESSELS IN HARBOUR.

NAME.	CAPTAIN.	FLAG AND RIG.	TONS.	FROM.	ARRIVED.	CONSIGNEES.
STEAMERS.						
Courier	Cooper	Russian steamer	496	Shanghai via Nagasaki	Jan. 10	Walsh, Hall & Co.
Menzaleh	Homery	French steamer	1,273	Hongkong	Jan. 2	M. M. Co.
Nagoya Maru	Wynn	Japanese steamer	1,260	Shanghai & ports	Feb. 5	M. B. Co.
Priam	Butler	British steamer	1,672	London via Hongkong	Jan. 14	Butterfield & Swire
Tanais	Reynier	French steamer	1,735	Hongkong	Jan. 12	M. M. Co.
Tokio Maru	Swain	Japanese steamer	1,146	Shanghai & ports	Jan. 13	M. B. Co.
SAILING SHIPS.						
Athelstan	Bayley	British barque	771	London	Jan. 9	W. J. S. Shand
Alexander	Carson	American schooner	52	Kurile Islands	Nov. 3	J. E. Collyer
Buston Vale	Buckingham	British barque	411	Liverpool	Dec. 17	Hudson & Co.
Black Diamond	Baade	German barque	601	Nagasaki	Dec. 23	P. Bohm
Cilurnum	Beadle	British ship	1,850	Hongkong	Nov. 8	Edward Fischer & Co.
Clan Macleod	Wilson	British barque	646	Antwerp	Jan. 10	C. Illies & Co.
Eller Bank	Parker	British ship	1,145	Middlesborough	Jan. 9	Hudson & Co.
Fontenaye	F. Tribe	British ship	564	Antwerp	Dec. 9	A. Reimers & Co.
Grandee	Winn	American ship	1,295	New York	Jan. 8	Order
George Bewley	Hammond	British barque	1,040	Antwerp	Jan. 9	Order
Goodell	Goodell	American barque	964	New York	Jan. 9	Isaac Bros.
Helena	Ewalt	German schooner	60	Kurile Islands	Oct. 31	Captain
Lottie	Hiltz	German schooner	26	Kurile Islands	Sept. 4	Hohnholz & Co.
Madame Demorest	—	Japanese barque	870	Newcastle, N.S.W.	Apr. 19	Walsh, Hall & Co.
Mary C. Bohm	Petersen	German schooner	55	Kurile Islands	Oct. 24	P. Bohm
Mikado	Lehman	British barque	643	London	Dec. 24	Hudson & Co.
North Star	Johnson	Russian schooner	42	Kurile Islands	Nov. 16	H. W. Hohnholz & Co.
Otsego	Isaacsen	Russian schooner	46	Kurile Islands	Nov. 3	H. Cook
Otome	Hardy	American schooner	72	Kurile Islands	Dec. 13	H. Snow
Pioneer	Maies	Russian schooner	72	Romo, via Hakodate	Jan. 17	Walsh, Hall & Co.
Scottish Fairy	Toozes	British barque	750	Put in dismantled	Oct. 10	Malcolm & Co.
Stella	Werner	American schooner	30	Kurile Islands	Oct. 11	Captain
Victoria Cross	Tweedie	British barque	668	Antwerp	Dec. 3	Boyes & Co.

VESSELS OF WAR IN PORT.

NAME.	GUNS.	TONS.	H. P.	DESCRIPTION.	WHERE FROM.	COMMANDER.
BRITISH—Albatross...	4	894	—	Sloop	Chefoo	Captain Errington
FRENCH—Champlain...	10	1,940	450	Corvette	Nagasaki	Captain Michand
GERMAN—Veneta...	19	2,000	—	Corvette	Kobe	Captain Zirzow
RUSSIAN—Kniaz Pojarsky...	12	4,291	—	Ironclad	Nagasaki	Captain Tirtoff
" Craymer...	—	1,500	—	Corvette	Nagasaki	Captain Nazimoff
" Africa...	14	1,400	—	Cruiser	Nagasaki	Captain Alekoff
" Ermak...	4	375	—	Transport	Hiogo	Captain Kolfchan

VESSELS ON THE BERTH.

DESTINATION.	NAME.	AGENTS.	TO BE DESPATCHED.
New York via Kobe and China...	Bengal	Adamson, Bell & Co.	Quick despatch
Shanghai and way-ports...	Tokio Maru	M. B. Co.	Jan. 19th, at 4 P.M.
Hongkong via Kobe...	Niigata Maru	M. B. Co.	Jan. 22nd, at 4 P.M.
San Francisco...	City of Tokio	P. M. Co.	Jan. 23rd
London via Kobe and China...	Priam	Butterfield & Swire	About Jan. 20th

COMMERCIAL INTELLIGENCE.

IMPORTS.—Business has received a severe check by the renewed fall in Kinsatsen and prices, especially for *Yarn*, must be considered nominal. In *Shirtings* the demand has fallen light, and we quote 9lb. 2½ cents lower. *T. Reds* are still in good request. *Velvet* and other *Cottons* are unchanged. *Lawns* have been enquired for at a slight advance. *Woolens* continue dull and lifeless.

COTTON YARNS:—

Nos. 16 to 24, Common to Medium ...	per picul	\$30.00 to 32.00
" " Good to Best... ..	"	\$32.50 to 34.00
Bombay, No. 20 do.	"	\$30.00 to 31.75
Nos. 28 to 32, Common to Medium ...	"	\$34.50 to 35.50
" " Good to Best... ..	"	\$36.00 to 37.00
" 38 to 42	"	\$40.00 to 41.00

COTTON PIECE GOODS:—

Grey Shirtings:—7 lb. per piece 28½ yds. 39 in.	\$1.50 to 1.90
" " 8½ lb. " 38½ " 39 in.	\$1.75 to 2.25
" " 9 lb. " 38½ " 45 in.	\$2.20 to 2.60
T. Cloths:—7 lb. ... 24 yds. 32 in. per piece	\$1.55 to 1.70
Drills, English:—14-15 lb. 40 " 30 in.	\$2.50 to 2.70
Indigo Shirtings:— ... 12 " 44 in. "	\$1.50 to 1.60
Prints:—Assorted ... 24 " 30 in. "	\$1.40 to 2.60
Cotton Italians & Sateens Black 32 in. "	\$0.09½ to 0.15½
Turkey Reds: 2 to 2½ lb. 24 yds. 30 in. "	\$1.55 to 1.75
Do. 2½ to 2½ lb. 24 " 30 in. "	\$1.70 to 1.85
Do. 3 lb. ... 24 " 30 in. "	\$1.85 to 1.95

COTTON PIECE GOODS:—Continued.

Velvets:—Black ... 35 yds. 22 in. per piece	\$7.00 to 9.00
Victoria Lawns ... 12 " 42/3 " "	\$0.75 to 0.78
Taffachelass:— ... 12 " 43 " "	\$1.70 to 1.90

WOOLLENS:—

Plain Orleans ... 40-42 yds. 32 in. ...	4.50 to 6.00
Figured Orleans ... 29-30 " 31 " ...	3.50 to 4.25
Lastings ... 29-30 " 31 " ...	10.00 to 11.00
Italian Cloth ... 30 " 32 " ...	0.72 to 0.81
Camlet Cords ... 29-30 " 32 " ...	4.50 to 5.75
Mousselines de Laines:—Crape 24 yds. 30 in. ...	0.16½ to 0.17½
do. Itajime 24 " 30 " ...	0.23 to 0.29
do. Yuzen 24 " 30 " ...	0.35 to 0.45
Cloths, all wool plain or fancy... 48 in. to 52 in. ...	0.80 to 1.50
Pilots... 54 " to 56 " ...	0.32½ to 0.47½
Presidents... 54 " to 56 " ...	0.60 to 0.65
Union ... 54 " to 56 " ...	0.22½ to 0.60
Blankets, green, 6 to 8 lbs. ... per lb. ...	0.39 to 0.42

SUGAR.—Small sales at former quotation. Stock virtually unchanged.

SAIGON RICE.—One thousand piculs sold at lower rates. Stock, including small arrivals by steamer, 24,000 piculs.

KEROSENE.—Some 35,000 cases have met with buyers at quotation. Arrivals have increased stock in first hands to 460,000 cases.

Sugar:—Takao in bag... .. per picul	\$4.48	Japan Rice per picul	\$3.00 to 3.35
Taiwanfoo in bag... .. "	\$4.45	Japan Wheat "	\$2.10
Ohing-pak and Ke-pak "	\$7.75 to \$8.75	Saigon Rice [cargo] "	\$1.82
China No. 4-5, Kongfun & Kook-fah... .. "	\$6.50 to \$8.50	Kerosene Oil... .. case	1.98

EXPORTS.

SILK.—The past week has again been an active one for our Silk trade, and about 850 shipping bales have changed hands. Prices are again rather higher for hanks and re-reels and filatures are also advancing. Stock in Yokohama is about 4,400 shipping bales.

	Exchange 3/8½	Exchange 4/76
Hanks:—No. 1 & 2	\$560 to \$565 = 18/ to 18/2 = fcs. 49/20 to fcs. 49.50	
" " 2	\$550 = 17/8 = " = 48.90	
" " 2½	\$530 = 17/2 = " = 47.00	
" " 3 & infra.	\$500 = 16/2 = " = 44.80	
Filatures.—Extra	\$640 to \$650 = 20/11 to 21/3 = " = 57.90 to " = 58.70	
" " 1	\$590 to \$610 = 19/4 to 19/11 = " = 56.10	
" " 2	\$590 = 19/4 = " = 53.50 to " = 55.30	
" " 3	\$540 to \$550 = 17/9 to 18/1 = " = 49.10 to " = 50.00	
Kakodas.—Best	600 to 620 = 19/8 to 20/4 = " = 55.40 to " = 56.60	
Medium & Good	\$570 = 18/8 = " = 51.80	
Re-Reels Medium to Best	\$580 to \$600 = 19/ to 19/8 = " = 52.20 to " = 54.00	

TEA.—The quietude noticed in our last has continued, settlements for the week amounting only to 900 piculs, consisting mainly of the middle grades. Arrivals of fresh leaf have rather exceeded settlements, and our stock is increased to 6,600 piculs.

Common	\$9 to \$12	Fine	\$21 to \$23
Good Common	\$14 to \$15	Finest	\$25 to \$27
Medium	\$16 to \$18	Choice	\$28 to \$29
Good Medium		Choicest	\$32 to \$34

EXCHANGE AND BULLION.

EXCHANGE.—There has been a good business during the past week in franc bills at from 4.74 to 4.71½ for six months' sight bills. Rates have ruled weak, but close somewhat steadier. A fair amount of paper on Hongkong and Shanghai has changed hands, between the Banks, at ½ per cent premium and 72½.

STERLING—Bank 4 months' sight	3/8½	ON SHANGHAI—Bank sight	72½
" Bank Bills on demand	3/7½	" Private 10 days' sight	72½
" Private 4 months' sight	3/8½	ON NEW YORK—Bank Bills on demand	89
ON " " 6 " " "	3/8½	" Private 30 days' sight	90
ON " " " " " "	4.62	ON SAN FRANCISCO—Bank Bills on demand	89½
" Private 6 months' sight	4.72	" Private 30 days' sight	90½
ON HONGKONG—Bank sight	½ prm.	KINSATZ	66½ dis.
" Private 10 days' sight	½ disc.	GOLD YEN	390 nom.

SHIPPING.

SHIPPING.—A good number of sailing craft have come in during the week, but most of them chartered, prior to arrival, for Pacific ports loading. The s.s. *Pram* is on the London berth.

MISCELLANEOUS.

IMPORTANT

—FOR—

W	A	T	C	H	M	A	K	E	R	S	!
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IMPORTANT

FOR

EVERYBODY!

THE Rodanow Manufacturing Company (Limited—Capital \$2,000,000), Boston (America), will forward, hereafter, even one single Watch to any part of the world at wholesale prices, i.e., 35 per cent cheaper than any watchmaker, as none of them is manufacturing Watches himself, but only buying them from here. We call the particular attention of every one intending to purchase a first-class reliable Watch to our following price list:—

Key-winding Watches.

SILVER WATCH.		£	s.
Crystal glass, seconds hand.....		0	10
Hunting case, engraved, highly finished..		0	14
Skeleton movement, extra jewelled, stout double cover.....		1	00

GOLD WATCH.		£	s.
Jewelled, maintaining power, crystal glass.		1	10
Half hunter, enamel or gold dial, lever escapement		1	16
Hunting case, superior nickel movement, best quality with all the latest improvements, two gold covers		2	03

Keyless Watches
(Stem-Winders.)

The keyless mechanism to a watch is one of the great modern improvements in Watch work, it does away with the old-fashioned key, with which so many persons have ruined their Watches. The Watch is wound by turning a knurled knob, placed on the handle or bow, instead of by the ordinary means; the hands are set in the same way. The advantages of these improvements are obvious, the case, which never need be opened in winding, is made airtight and dust-tight, thus preserving much longer the fluidity of the oil, and greatly prolonging the intervals between the necessary cleaning of the Watch.

SILVER KEYLESS WATCH.

SILVER KEYLESS WATCH.		£	s.
Lever movement, flat, jewelled, crystal glass		0	17
Double cover, enamel or ornamented silver dial		1	05
Superior skeleton movement, extra jewelled, stout double cover		1	15

GOLD KEYLESS WATCH.

GOLD KEYLESS WATCH.		£	s.
Open face, lever escapement, ten jewels...		2	05
Half hunter, best movement, all latest improvements, fifteen jewels.....		3	00
Two stout gold covers, chronometer movement with centre seconds hands, a splendid Watch for presentation		3	15

MISCELLANEOUS.

GOLD KEYLESS CHRONOMETER.

Three gold covers, movement of finest workmanship, centre seconds hands, repeating hours and quarters..... 8 10
Imperial Chronometer, showing days, date, weeks, and month on dial, repeating hours, quarters, and eighths, three heavy gold covers, warranted for five years, and without doubt the best and handsomest Watch in existence..... 15 00

OBSERVATIONS.

- 1.—All the above Watches can be had in smaller size to suit for ladies' wear at the same price. Monograms, initials, armes, etc., engraved on the back of the Watch free of charge.
 - 2.—All our Watches are thoroughly finished and ready for immediate use, and will be sent securely packed in morocco case, *post free*, to any part of the world, together with spare mainsprings, glasses, and keys, these being a great convenience, as in many out-of-the-way places, it is almost a matter of impossibility to replace one of those articles.
 - 3.—Every watch is accompanied by a written warranty, guaranteeing the regularity and superiority of its workmanship for three years, during which time no charge will be made for repairing if the watch is returned *post free*.
 - 4.—All our gold cases are eighteen carat gold; the silver cases are of the best sterling silver.
 - 5.—Six per cent discount will be allowed on orders for six and more Watches.
 - 6.—All our Watches have compensation balance, which renders them equally accurate in either hot or cold climate.
 - 7.—All Watches may be ordered without seconds hand, with engraved, plain polished, or engine-turned cases, without difference of price.
 - 8.—No orders from abroad filled unless accompanied by a remittance to cover the amount, or a reference on a Boston house.
- Persons residing in any part of the world need not hesitate to forward their orders to this establishment as they may rely upon receiving the exact Watch ordered by them, which if not approved, will be exchanged free and safe by post, or money refunded. The best means of sending money is by draft on New York, Paris, or London, which can be procured at any banker and everywhere,—or enclose the amount in bank-notes, gold coins, or postage stamps of any country of the world. All orders, the smallest as well as the most important, will receive the same particular attention and will be forwarded without delay. We respectfully ask for a trial order.

THE

Rodanow Manufacturing
Company,

5 and 7, Portland Street, Boston, U. S. of America.

SUN FIRE OFFICE,
LONDON.

ESTABLISHED 1710.

INSURANCES effected upon almost all descriptions of Property at the current rates of premium.
 Total Sum insured in 1879, £262,492,461.
 Claims arranged by the Local Agents, and paid with promptitude and liberality.

WILKIN & ROBISON,
 Agents,
 Yokohama and Kobe.

Yokohama, 10th June, 1880.

MISCELLANEOUS.

NOTICE TO MARINERS.

No. 127.

CHINA SEA.

SWATOW DISTRICT.

BREAKER POINT LIGHT-HOUSE.

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that the Light on Breaker Point was exhibited for the first time at sunset on the 8th December, 1880.

The illuminating apparatus is a First Order Dioptric Occulting Light alternately showing for *eight seconds* and suddenly disappearing for *two seconds*. It shows *white* from S. 55° W. round by W. to N. 53° E., and *red* in shore of both these bearings as far as the land. The bearings are magnetic and taken from seawards.

The light is elevated 152½ feet above the level of the sea, and in clear weather it should be visible at a distance of 19 nautical miles.

The tower is round, of iron, 91 feet high, with a total height from its base to the lantern vane of 120 feet.

The tower is painted in black and white horizontal bands, and the dwellings and boundary wall white.

Approximate position—Latitude.....N. 22° 56' 30".
Longitude....E. 116° 28' 10".

By order of the Inspector General of Customs.

DAVID M. HENDERSON,
Engineer-in-Chief.

Imperial Maritime Customs,
Engineer's Office,
Shanghai, 9th December, 1880.

THE GREATEST

WONDER OF MODERN TIMES

HOLLOWAY'S PILLS.

Persons suffering from weak or debilitated constitutions will discover that by the use of this wonderful medicine there is "Health for all." The blood is the fountain of life, and its purity can be maintained by the use of these Pills.

SIR SAMUEL BAKER, in his work entitled "The Nile Tributaries in Abyssinia," says, "I ordered the dragoman Mahomet to inform the Fakay that I was a Doctor, and that I had the best medicines at the service of the sick, with advice gratis. In a short time I had many applicants, to whom I served out a quantity of Holloway's Pills. These are most useful to an explorer, as possessing unmistakable purgative properties they create an undeniable effect upon the patient, which satisfies him of their value."

SIMPLE, SAFE AND CERTAIN!

HOLLOWAY'S OINTMENT.

Is a certain remedy for bad legs, bad breasts, and ulcerations of all kinds. It acts miraculously in healing ulcerations, curing skin diseases, and in arresting and subduing all inflammations.

MR. J. T. COOPER,

in his account of his extraordinary travels in China, published in 1871, says—"I had with me a quantity of Holloway's Ointment. I gave some to the people, and nothing could exceed their gratitude, and, in consequence, milk, fowls, butter, and horse-feed poured in upon us, until at last a tea-spoonful of Ointment was worth a fowl and any quantity of peas, and the demand became so great that I was obliged to lock up the small remaining stock"

Sold by all Chemists and Medicine Vendors throughout the World May 17th, 1873.

(f)

MISCELLANEOUS.

"HIGHEST AWARD & PRIZE MEDAL PHILADELPHIA
EXHIBITION, 1876."

OAKEY'S

WELLINGTON KNIFE POLISH

PREPARED EXPRESSLY FOR THE PATENT KNIFE-CLEANING MACHINES, INDIA RUBBER AND BUFF LEATHER KNIFE BOARDS. KNIVES CONSTANTLY CLEANED WITH IT HAVE A BRILLIANT POLISH EQUAL TO NEW CUTLERY. PACKETS 5D. EACH; AND TINS, 6D., 1S., 2S. 6D. AND 4S. EACH.

OAKEY'S

INDIA RUBBER KNIFE BOARDS

PREVENT FRICTION IN CLEANING AND INJURY TO THE KNIFE. OAKEY'S WELLINGTON KNIFE POLISH SHOULD BE USED WITH HIS BOARDS.

OAKEY'S

SILVERSMITHS SOAP

[NON-MERCURIAL],
FOR CLEANING AND POLISHING SILVER, ELECTROPLATE, PLATE GLASS, &c. TABLETS 6D. EACH.

OAKEY'S

WELLINGTON BLACK LEAD

IN SOLID BLOCKS—1D., 2D. & 4D. EACH, & 1S. BOXES.

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MANUFACTURERS OF
EMERY, EMERY CLOTH, BLACK LEAD, CARBIDE, & GRASS PAPER
WESTMINSTER BRIDGE ROAD, LONDON, ENGLAND.
July, 1879.

THE SPECIAL NUTRIMENT FOR
CONSUMPTION, WASTING, &c.
PANCREATIC EMULSION
RESTORES DIGESTIVE POWER, STRENGTH, WEIGHT, &c.
HAVERY & MOORE, NEW BOND STREET, LONDON,
And of all Chemists and Storekeepers throughout the world.
December 1880.

VAN LISSA BROTHERS,
No. 10, Bund.

Yokohama, January 4th, 1880.

MISCELLANEOUS.

**CROSSE & BLACKWELL'S
CELEBRATED OILMEN'S STORES.***Five Prize Medals, Paris, Vienna and Philadelphia.*

PICKLES AND SAUCES,
JAMS AND JELLIES,
ORANGE MARMALADE,
TART FRUITS, DESSERT FRUITS,
PURE SALAD OIL,
MUSTARD, VINEGAR,
POTTED MEATS AND FISH,
FRESH SALMON AND HERRINGS,
HERRINGS A LA SARDINE,
TARMOUTH BLOATERS,
BLACKWALL WHITEBAIT,
PREPARED SOUPS, IN TINS,
PRESERVED VEGETABLES,
HAMS AND BACON, IN TINS,
PRESERVED CHEESE,
OXFORD AND CAMBRIDGE SAUSAGES,
BOLOGNA SAUSAGES,
YORKSHIRE GAME AND PORK PIES,
TONGUES, GAME, POULTRY,
PLUM PUDDINGS,
LEA AND PERRINS' WORCESTERSHIRE
SAUCE.

*Fresh supplies of the above, and numerous other table
delicacies, may be had from most Storekeepers.***CAUTION.***To prevent the fraud of refilling the bottles or jars
they should invariably be destroyed when empty.**Goods should always be examined upon delivery, to
detect any attempt at substitution of articles of inferior
brands.**All genuine goods bear the names of Crosse & Blackwell
on the Labels, Corks and Capsules of the Bottles,
Jars and Tins.*

CROSSE & BLACKWELL,
PURVEYORS TO THE QUEEN,
SOHO SQUARE, LONDON.

July, 1878.

ADOLPHUS SINGTON & CO.,

5, ST. PETER'S SQUARE,

MANCHESTER,
ENGLAND.**CONTRACTORS, CIVIL ENGINEERS, AND
EXPORTERS**

OF ALL DESCRIPTIONS OF

MACHINERY.

May 4, 1878.

MISCELLANEOUS.

**J. & E. ATKINSON'S
PERFUMERY,***celebrated for nearly a century past, is of the very best English
manufacture. For its purity and great excellence it has
obtained the following*

EXHIBITION PRIZE MEDALS,
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GOLD MEDAL, PARIS, 1878.

**ATKINSON'S CHOICE PERFUMES FOR
THE HANDKERCHIEF.**

White Rose, Frangipanne, Ylangylang, Stephanotis,
Opopanax, Jockey Club, Ess Bouquet, Trevel,
Magnolia, Jasmin, Wood Violet, Gold Medal Bouquet,
and all other odours, of the finest quality only.

**ATKINSON'S
GOLD MEDAL EAU DE COLOGNE***is strongly recommended, being more lasting and fragrant than
the German kinds.***ATKINSON'S
OLD BROWN WINDSOR SOAP,***celebrated for so many years, continues to be made as hereto-
fore. It is strongly Perfumed, and will be found very durable
in use.***ATKINSON'S WHITE ROSE TOILET VINEGAR,***a new and indispensable Toilet accompaniment, and most
refreshing Perfume for the Handkerchief.**ATKINSON'S WHITE ROSE TOOTH PASTE,
and other Specialties and general articles of Perfumery may be
obtained of all dealers throughout the World, and of the
manufacturers.*

J. & E. ATKINSON,
24, OLD BOND STREET, LONDON, W.

PRICE LIST FREE ON APPLICATION.

*CAUTION.—Messrs. J. & E. ATKINSON manufacture
their articles of one and the best quality only. Purchasers are
cautioned to avoid counterfeits by observing that each article
is labelled with the Firm's Trade Mark, a "White Rose" on a
"Golden Lyre."*

ESTABLISHED 1799.

**SCOTTISH IMPERIAL
INSURANCE COMPANY,
For Fire & Life.****TRANSATLANTIC
Fire Insurance Company
OF HAMBURG.**C. ILLIES & CO.,
Agents.

Yokohama, 9th October, 1880.

THE BEST REMEDY FOR INDIGESTION.

TRADE

NORTON'S

MARK.

*CANOMILE PILLS are confidently recommended as a simple Remedy for Indigestion, which is
the cause of nearly all the diseases to which we are subject, being a medicine so uniformly grateful
and beneficial, that it is with justice called the "Natural Strengtheners of the Human Stomach."
"Norton's Pills" act as a powerful tonic and gentle aperient; are mild in their operation, safe
under any circumstances, and thousands of persons can now bear testimony to the benefits to be
derived from their use, as they have been a never-failing Family Friend for upwards of 45 years.
Sold in Bottles at 1s. 1½d., 2s. 9d., and 11s. each, by all Medicine Vendors throughout the World.*

CAUTION.*Be sure and ask for "NORTON'S PILLS," and do not be persuaded to purchase an imitation.*

November 11th, 1878.

MISCELLANEOUS.

ANDW. HANDYSIDE & Co.

Limited.

32, Walbrook, London,

BRITANNIA IRON WORKS, DERBY.

Manufacture all kinds of

IRONWORK,

Structural & Ornamental.

BRIDGES of every description. Girder Bridges. Arch Bridges. Suspension Bridges.

A. H. & Co. make every year for Foreign Countries some thousands of Tons of Bridges.

LANDING-PIERS AND JETTIES.

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See Large New Illustrated Catalogues (B. & C.) with 1,300 designs.

Railings. Balcony Panels.

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SMITH'S HEARTHS & PORTABLE FORGES

12 Shapes and Sizes.

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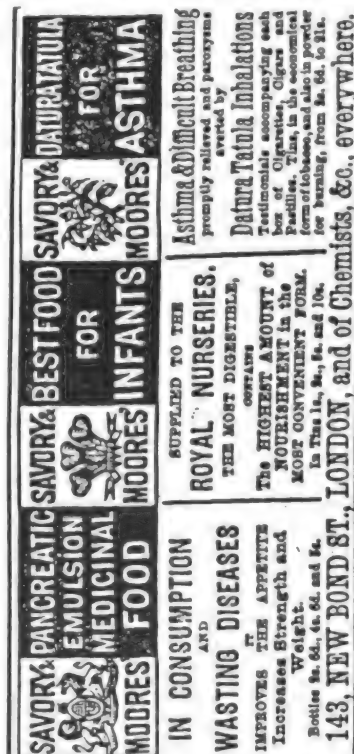
Andw. Handyside & Co., Limited,
LONDON.

26 ins.

JOSEPH GILLOTT'S STEEL PENS. Gold.**JOSEPH GILLOTT'S STEEL PENS.** Medal.**JOSEPH GILLOTT'S STEEL PENS.** Paris.**JOSEPH GILLOTT'S STEEL PENS.** 1878.

April, 1880.

MISCELLANEOUS.



SAVORY PANCREATIC EMULSION MEDICINAL MOORE'S FOOD

FOR INFANTS

SAVORY & DUTTA TATULA FOR ASTHMA

ASTHMA & Difficult Breathing

ROYAL NURSERIES.

IN CONSUMPTION AND WASTING DISEASES

IMPROVES THE APPETITE

Increases Strength and Weight.

143, NEW BOND ST., LONDON, and of Chemists, &c., everywhere.

August 2, 1879.

26780

TRADE



MARK.

ELLWOOD'S

PATENT AIR CHAMBER

HATS AND HELMETSTHE ONLY EFFECTUAL PROTECTION
AGAINST SUN STROKE.To be obtained of all respectable Hatters and Outfitters
and Wholesale only of**J. ELLWOOD & SONS,**
LONDON.

Beware of Useless Imitations.

DINNEFORD'STHE BEST REMEDY FOR ACIDITY
OF THE STOMACH, HEARTBURN,
HEADACHE, GOUT AND INDIGESTION.**DINNEFORD & Co., Chemists**
London,

N.B. ASK FOR DINNEFORD'S MAGNESIA.

April 10, 1880.

**FLUID
MAGNESIA.**And of Druggists and Storekeepers throughout
the World.

17.

MISCELLANEOUS.

BUGS, FLEAS, MOTHS, BEETLES,

and all other insects are destroyed by

KEATING'S INSECT POWDER,

which is quite harmless to Domestic Animals.

In exterminating Beetles the success of this Powder is extraordinary, and no one need be troubled by those pests. It is perfectly clean in application.

Ask for and be sure to obtain "KEATING'S POWDER," as Imitations are Noxious, and fail in giving satisfaction.

SOLD BY ALL CHEMISTS IN BOTTLES, 1/- & 2/6 each.

KEATING'S WORM TABLETS,

A PURELY VEGETABLE SWEETMEAT, both in appearance and taste, furnishing a most agreeable method of administering the only certain remedy for **INTESTINAL** or **THREAD WORMS**. It is a perfectly safe and mild preparation, and is especially adapted for Children.

TESTIMONIAL.

Medical Hall, Gildersome, Nov. 28th, 1876.

MR. KEATING,

Dear Sir,—I think it nothing but my duty to inform you of the immense sale I have for your Worm Tablets, which I may justly say is enormous, and in every case gives the greatest satisfaction. I have now in stock two bottles containing the Round Worms brought me during the last few days by customers, one Worm 40 yards long. I dare not be without the remedy.—Yours respectfully,

M. A. WALKER.

SOLD IN BOTTLES, BY ALL CHEMISTS AND DRUGGISTS.

Proprietor—**THOMAS KEATING, London.**

REWARD AND CAUTION.—Whereas fraudulent imitations of this unsurpassed remedy have been sold, I hereby request anyone knowing of the vendor of the same to communicate with me, on conviction of the offender a liberal reward will be paid.

April, 1880.

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WILDEN WORKS.**

STOURPORT ENGLAND.

SHEET IRON,

BRANDED

"BALDWIN—WILDEN," AND "SEVERN."

TIN PLATES,

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Stamping Sheets, Button Iron, Sheet Iron, Pickled, Cold Rolled,
and Close Annealed.

Export Agents—

Brooker, Dore & Co., 2, Rood Lane, London, E.C.
April, 1880.

SCOTTISH IMPERIAL INSURANCE COMPANY.

FIRE Insurance granted, upon desirable buildings and
their contents, in **TOKIO**.
Apply to

C. ILLIES & CO.,
Agents.

Yokohama, 7th September, 1880.

MISCELLANEOUS.

HONGKONG AND SHANGHAI BANKING CORPORATION.

PAID-UP CAPITAL \$5,000,000.
RESERVE FUND... .. \$1,600,000.

Head Office: HONGKONG.

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YOKOHAMA BRANCH.

Interest allowed on Current Accounts at 2 o/o on Daily balances.
On Fixed Deposits, for 12 months, at 5 o/o
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Credits granted on approved Securities, and every description
of Banking and Exchange business transacted.

Drafts granted on the Chief Commercial places in Europe,
India, Australia, America, China and Japan, and Circular Notes
issued for the use of Travellers.

JOHN WALTER, Manager.

Yokohama, 25th August, 1880.

The "Japan Mail,"

A Daily, Weekly, and Fortnightly Journal,

ESTABLISHED, 1865.

TERMS OF SUBSCRIPTION.

WEEKLY EDITION. The "Japan Weekly Mail," a Weekly Review
of Japanese Commerce, Politics, Literature and Art—Per
annum, \$24: Six months, \$13: Three months, \$7.

FORTNIGHTLY EDITION, being a Summary of the foregoing, is pub-
lished for transmission by the American Mail Steamers via
San Francisco. Per annum, \$12; Six months, \$7; Three
months, \$4.

THE JAPAN DAILY MAIL is published every morning (Sundays ex-
cepted) and contains the Arrivals and Departures of all
Shipping, Passenger lists, Cargoes, Vessels on the Berth and
in Harbour &c., &c. Also the latest Telegrams, Japanese
news, Reports of Trials in the Courts of Law, Meetings of
public bodies, and all matters of interest to the Community.
Special attention is called to this Journal as a medium for
circulating local advertisements. It has a large and con-
stantly increasing circulation, its low price bringing it within
the means of all classes of the community. It therefore
affords exceptional advertising advantages, and secures to all
announcements the utmost publicity, the object aimed at by
advertisers.

SUBSCRIPTION PER MONTH—ONE DOLLAR.

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LONDON..... G. Street, 80, Cornhill.
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HONGKONG..... Kelly & Co.
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Who are authorized to receive Subscriptions and Advertisements
for these papers.

Printed and published for the Proprietors by the Manager
A. HERBERT BLACKWELL, at the "Japan Mail" Office, 16 Bund
Yokohama.

THE Japan Weekly Mail,

A WEEKLY REVIEW OF
JAPANESE COMMERCE, POLITICS, LITERATURE, AND ART

VOL. V. No. 3.]

Yokohama, January, 22nd 1881.

[\$24 PER ANNUM.

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The Japan Weekly Mail.

'FAIS CE QUE DOIS; ADVIENNE QUE POURRA.'

NOTICE TO CORRESPONDENTS.

No notice will be taken of anonymous correspondence. Whatever is intended for insertion in the JAPAN WEEKLY MAIL must be authenticated by the name and address of the writer, not for publication but as a guarantee of good faith.

It is particularly requested that all letters on business, relating to Advertisements, Job-printing, or Accounts, be addressed to the MANAGER.

And that literary contributions of every description be addressed to the EDITOR.

YOKOHAMA: SATURDAY, JANUARY 22ND 1881.

JAPANESE ERA 2541, MEIJI 14TH YEAR, 1ST MONTH, 22ND DAY,
DO-YO-SI.

In the early days of Japan's intercourse with the outer world Foreign Representatives had to deal with a Government which, though well advised of its inability to maintain a policy of seclusion, could not fail to foresee that each fresh concession was another step towards its own downfall. It is easy to conceive that under such circumstances smooth progress was not the most salient feature of diplomatic relations. Neither did the subsequent change of administration seem to promise much improvement, for it brought into power a party which had made the expulsion of the Barbarians its battle cry. Nevertheless we are here to-day on a friendly footing; we have leisure to think more about the price of silks and shirtings than the danger of riots or Ronins, and we have wellnigh forgotten the patience and skill that grappled with these embarrassments, as well as the forbearance and discrimination that rendered their solution possible.

It is perhaps best on the whole that it should be so. At any rate those who were the chief actors in this drama could scarcely desire any phase more favorable to present peace than complete oblivion of the past. If they had once no choice but to prefer force to reason; if they were compelled sometimes to employ arguments so intolerant that the justice of their cause was seemingly obscured, to keep these records always open can certainly advance them little in the more moderate path now fortunately practicable; nay, it is even conceivable that the impossibility of dissociating themselves

from the action to which they were once constrained, may have subsequently proved a serious impediment to their useful achievements.

Is it then neither politic or kind to persist in irritating these half-healed wounds; to keep perpetually telling the Japanese that the men they now have to deal with are polite and plastic, but that those they shall presently have, are the same stern penetrating politicians whose uncongenial duty it once was to win concessions from the nation well-nigh fatal to its existence, and who are now watching to gain fresh advantages even at a like cost? We ask the Yokohama public to consider for a moment whether such language, even if it were true, is calculated either to advance British interests or to aid those whom it professes to laud.

It is decidedly to be regretted that the evidence in the case of *Clark vs. Bourne*, reported in our columns to-day, does not suffice clearly to establish or refute the charges made by Mr. Bourne against the plaintiff. There can be no question that the auctioneer was honestly convinced of Mr. Clark's 'knocker-out' habits, but whether his conviction was justified or not, we are unfortunately unable to say. At any rate the matter is one that concerns all the auctioneers of Yokohama, and we strongly counsel their most determined exertions to stamp out so fraudulent a practice, if it really does exist. It is very conceivable that in a small community like ours, collusions fatal to the interests of sellers and agents alike might easily become common, and the time to attack them is before they have developed into profitable habits.

Such combinations are not of course peculiar to Yokohama; they exist at home as well, and everybody knows how completely the success of a sale is sometimes marred by the action of the furniture-dealers. In England, however, the evil is of comparatively small moment. Competition deprives it of its worst features, and though men may contrive, by 'knock-out' and other cognate devices, to prevent an article from finding a profitable market, they cannot succeed in purchasing it for a merely nominal value. But in Japan the conditions are very different. We have no room in our small circle of business for such wheels within wheels. Already a not unnatural aversion to bidding a friend up, makes a very appreciable difference in the total proceeds of an auction, and if these deferential considerations are to be supplemented by others of a more cogent character, we had better at once take steps to provide a monster lumber-room, where homeward-bounds may shoot their unsaleable rubbish, and then set a subscription on foot to compensate our auctioneers for their ruined prospects. Meanwhile, we cannot but think that Mr. Bourne might devise some more clever expedient for nullifying the action of these 'knocker-outs.' It will never do to be taken into court at the suit of Dick, Tom or Harry, and have one's time squandered in disputing frivolous claims. Clearly the plaintiff's bid was illegally refused in the present case, and

though we sympathize with the spirit that dictated the refusal, and rejoice at the point of law which averted inconvenient consequences, we should like to see such risks provided against in the future. The matter is worthy of reflection and we commend it to the consideration of those concerned.

Last Tuesday evening the Governor of Tokiyo and Mrs. Matsuda gave a banquet followed by a soiree to celebrate the New Year. There were present at the banquet their Imperial Highnesses the Princes Arisugawa, Fushimi, Higashi-Fushimi, and Kita Shirazawa; their Excellencies Sanjo, Iwakura, Okuma, Kuroda, Yamagata, Kawamura, Saigo, Oki, Terashima, Inouye and Yamada, Messrs. Uyeno, Yoshikawa and Shioda; the Foreign Representatives and many ladies. The numbers invited to the soiree were six hundred and ninety-five Japanese, and one hundred and sixteen Foreigners, so that including the ladies—who were exceptionally numerous—there cannot have been less than nine hundred people present.

The noble suite of apartments at the Yenriyokwan proved, however, thoroughly equal to the occasion, for except in the supper rooms and during the theatrical performance, there were no evidences of inconvenient crowding. Probably there were not a few present who have seldom the good fortune to visit Corinth, for surely, if it were not an 'unsavoury simile,' we should be inclined to say that the spirit of Falstaff was abroad, and that the old knight's, 'mad wag,' had he been there, could not have chosen but exclaim, 'O monstrous, but one half-pennyworth of bread to this intolerable deal of sack!' Meanwhile, it is always pleasant to see people enjoying themselves and none are greater adepts in the art than the Japanese. They seem to have a happy knack of forgetting everything that is irksome to remember and giving themselves up body and soul to the influence of the pleasures provided for them. Our own capabilities in this direction are, we fear, by no means equally well developed. It is conceivable indeed that some men should be willing to exchange portions of their garments for fragments of excretion, when the vista of a well-stocked supper-table lies beyond the throng they struggle through, but that gentle dames and diminutive elderly gentlemen should cheerfully consent to become permanent wedges in a crowd of the highest possible specific gravity, merely for the sake of determining whether intense gazing can render a stratum of human bodies sufficiently diaphanous to transmit the image of Danjuro's dancing and Kodanji's mummery, is a very incomprehensible phase of sentiment. As for the foreign guests—or rather those of them who were sufficiently fortunate to get within sight of the stage—they did not find much to interest them in the theatricals. There was no sustained plot in any of the pieces performed. Very gorgeous dresses and very accomplished dancing—of its kind—constituted the whole representation, and we did not observe any delirious excitement among the European spectators at all commensurate with that displayed by a Japanese gentleman, who clambered up a superb lacquered screen, and sat on the top rapping out an accompaniment with his heels to the paces and poses his post of vantage made visible.

For the first time on any similar occasion we observed that Japanese ladies were present in considerably greater numbers than Foreign, and we also observed—not without thanksgiving—that there was even less disposition than usual to ape the European style of dressing. Apart from the fact that her country's fashions become a Japanese woman much better than ours, we heartily hope for her own sake as well as her husband's that she may long be a stranger to the expensive and unnatural modes of western millinery.

At the conclusion of the theatricals dancing was commenced and kept up till about one o'clock, when a special train carried off the Yokohama guests. We append a copy of the programme which was handed to each guest on his arrival:—

ACT I.

THE PULLING OF THE PINE SAPPLINGS.

Temp. A.D. 1667-69.

DRAMATIS PERSONÆ.

THE REGENT, Yoshimasa NAKAMURA SOZO.
FUJI NO KATA, the Regent's favorite
wife IWAI HANSHIRO.
UMETZ KAMON Vassals of ONOYE KIKUGORO.
KASHIWAGI YEMON Yoshimasa ICHIKAWA SADANJI.

ARGUMENT.

The Pine tree (Mats no ki) from its evergreen foliage and sturdy nature has long been regarded by the Japanese as a type of longevity and perennial good-fortune. It is consequently always used for decorative purposes on occasions of congratulation, and especially at the New Year, when large quantities are brought from the country and exposed for sale in each village and city. A fresh sapling pulled up with one's own hand is, however, deemed more worthy of presentation to the Gods of Felicity, than branches which have been thus contaminated by exposure in the marts; and on this account a visit to the moors or hill-sides in search of such saplings is often included amongst the ceremonies of the New Year.

SCENE.

The country residence of Yoshimasa (eighth of the Ashikaga Regents, one of Japan's most renowned dilettanti and in his later years an enthusiastic patron of the Cha-no-yu or Tea Ceremonials). In company with his favorite wife, Fuji no kata, and his pages, Umetz and Kashiwagi, the Regent performs the ceremony of pulling up pine saplings and offering them to the Gods at the New Year with congratulatory music, and dancing, and other details after the fashion of those practiced at the Imperial Palace on similar occasions.

ACT II.

THE NEW YEAR'S PINE DECORATIONS AND THE WAITS.

Temp. A.D. 1624-44.

DRAMATIS PERSONÆ.

FUKUTOMI CHOJA, the impersonification
of good fortune (fuku) and wealth
(tomi) NAKAMURA NAKAHO.
MANZAI TAYU, Chief of the Waits BANDO KAKITE.
SAIZO, Buffoon ICHIKAWA KODANJI.

ARGUMENT.

Among the New Year's festivities in former days was a performance by strolling Mummerys or Waits called Manzai. They were two in number, the Taiyu, or Chief, and the Saizo, or Buffoon, and were originally natives of Mikawa or Owari, but subsequently of Yedo also. Going from door to door, they first recited certain formulae of felicitation to the accompaniment of a small drum carried by the Taiyu, and afterwards indulged in various drolleries of a practical as well as a verbal character. This performance is now forbidden by law.

SCENE.

The residence of Fukutomi Choja, showing the New Year decorations &c. Two Manzai from the province of Mikawa arrive and go through their performance.

ACT III.

THE ANCIENT PINE OF THE MOUNTAIN PATH.

Temp. A.D. 1633-1704.

DRAMATIS PERSONÆ.

KINOKUNIYA BUNZAYEMON, a mer-
chant of Yedo ICHIKAWA DANJURO.
KIKAKU, a poet ONOYE KIKUGORO.
BUNZAN, a painter ICHIKAWA SADANJI.

ARGUMENT.

In the latter half of the seventeenth century there lived in Yedo a timber merchant of great wealth called Kinokuniya Bunzayemon. His private residence, warehouses, godowns &c. occupied the whole of the third ward (60 houses) at Honkatchobori; a large number of mat-makers were constantly employed upon his premises for the purpose of renewing the tatami in the reception rooms so that a virgin floor should always be in readiness for each new visitor, and instead of the beams usually strewn at the New Year to drive out evil spirits, he is said to have scattered gold pieces broadcast among the people. These and other traditions have conspired to make him a popular Cæsar, and to this day the name of the timber-merchant Aibus is a synonym for prosperity and prodigality. Bunzayemon passed the closing years of his life in a state of penury, and died (1735) in a hotel near the gate of the temple of Hachiman at Fuku-gawa. Amongst his most intimate friends in the days of his prosperity were the poet Kikaku and the renowned painter Bunzan.

SCENE.

A New Year's Banquet at the house of Kinokuniya Bunzayemon. The merchant with his friends, Kikaku and Bunzan, amuse themselves by acting the story of Shikwo (She Huang), Emperor of China (B.C. 250), who being overtaken by a furious storm of wind and

rain when crossing a mountain, found shelter under an old Pine by the way-side, and in his gratitude conferred upon the Pine the first rank amongst trees.

Ichikawa Danjuro, who performed the rôle of Kibun, the wealthy timber-merchant, in the private theatricals at the Yenriyokwan on Tuesday last, is without doubt the most popular actor that has ever appeared on the Japanese stage. Something of his exceptional success is perhaps due to the improved social status his class has attained since the overthrow of the feudal system brought the ancient aristocracy into such sudden contact with the much despised rabble-roust of farmers, tradespeople and mechanics. Now that Princes of the Blood count themselves happy to witness his performance, and the leading journals of his country gladly devote columns to the discussion of his capabilities, the actor's life is very different from what it was in the days when Pariahs were his comrades, and none but a prolétaire might endure the contamination of visiting a theatre. Still under any circumstances Danjuro could not have failed to win unwonted repute. He stands head and shoulders above any of his fellows, though amongst them are men of no mean histrionic skill. To a foreigner the chief charms of his style are a quiet force, an intensity of passion that never seems to be simulated but rather to chafe against the restraints opposed to its display by a disposition naturally self-contained and undemonstrative, and a pathos resembling the natural outcome of recorded sorrows rather than a mask of passing pain.

Danjuro's career has not indeed been one of the happiest so far at least as pecuniary success is concerned. For nine generations his family has made the stage its career, and each generation bequeathed an increased weight of debt to its successor. Moreover Danjuro himself was persuaded in an evil moment to become the lessee of a theatre at Kanasugi in Tokijo, and his period of management resulted so disastrously that he has been obliged ever since to mortgage his talents, and now receives only a paltry pittance each month, the chief part of his legitimate gains going to the lessee of the Shintomiza theatre, who in return has taken upon himself the actor's liabilities. These gains would not however under any circumstances bear comparison with those of Western celebrities. In Japan a first-class actor receives about five hundred yen for each piece put upon the stage, and also a small percentage of the daily profits, but the money accruing from this latter source barely suffices to defray incidental expenses. Exceptional success of course give a claim to a corresponding gratuity, but the number of yearly performances being only four—one at each season—the actor's annual emoluments do not much exceed two thousand yen. In addition to this, however, he receives presents in kind and coin from his admirers, and this largess sometimes exceeds the amount of his regular gains. On the other hand his wardrobe absorbs sums far larger in proportion than those similarly expended by his European confrères, for though the theatre itself is not backward in such matters, it is almost a point of honor with the greater stars to dazzle their audience from time to time by some exceptional display of finery. This habit may save the lessee's pocket and tickle the spectators' fancies, but it certainly leads at times to curious historical anomalies, as for example when the rôle of a prince, contemporary with William Rufus, is performed by an actor dressed in spangled velvet, while a Chinese Emperor, who flourished about the time of the first Punic War, comes upon the stage in a surcoat of resplendent brocade. Indeed the matter of dress is carried to an extent strangely inconsistent with the scenery and other stage accessories of a Japanese theatre. This is no doubt partly because the audience never for a moment expects to be deluded into a belief in the reality of the spectacle. It is not averse to anything that stirs emotions and is

ready to sympathize most thoroughly with all the mirth or pathos of what it sees—so thoroughly in truth that we once saw five policemen on duty at Shintomiza, sobbing in concert as some Brutus of Yoritomo's time stabbed his child to save its honor—but it demands no entirety of delusion. It will not complain if the invisibility of attendants who shift scenes, help decapitated corpses to disappear and perform sundry other simulative functions, depends on nothing more than the black veils they wear, neither will it cavil at cotton waves and a tin moon, but it does expect the nearest possible approach to reality in each several unit of the cast, and neither in dress nor demeanour will it endure anything unbecoming the ideals tradition has sanctioned. This, we say, is one reason, but another and more potent one is, that while the scenery and stage furniture are the property of the theatre and receive little attention, the wardrobe belongs to men who make a very comfortable livelihood by hiring it out to managers at each representation. No sooner is a piece fixed upon, than those who possess the requisite costumes determine among themselves not to lend them at less than a certain price, and the lessees of theatres lead such a hand-to-mouth existence that they have no power to resist this extortion. The result is that these wardrobe farmers realize sixty or seventy per cent on their outlay each year, and a popular actor generally plays into their hands by refusing to appear in any but the most magnificent costume their magazines can provide.

Altogether the system of theatrical management in Japan is deplorably defective. The capitalist and the lessee are invariably distinct persons. The latter has a license granted to his ancestors one or perhaps two centuries ago—a license which is now so much waste paper since the Government will confer a like privilege on any applicant—while the former has a schedule of debts against the theatre; debts contracted, some in the present, some in a past generation, but amounting in the aggregate to a sum the lessee can never hope to liquidate. At each representation the capitalist provides money sufficient to defray the actors' honoraria and the current expenses. This amount, together with fifty per cent interest, he deducts from the takings, and his claim is given precedence over all others. To check false returns, he employs one or two agents, who are present during the performance and make a rough estimate of the door money by counting the number of occupied stalls, boxes, &c. Each evening the accounts are balanced and the capitalist receives his proportion. Should it happen—as it often does—that the sum advanced is paid off before the end of a 'run,' there still remains the long catalogue of hereditary liabilities, and these too have to be defrayed in similar fashion. Anything like success under such conditions is plainly impossible, for, the unhappy lessees can never afford to be enterprising, seeing that they can get no remedy against this consumption of the purse, which 'borrowing only lingers and lingers out, but the disease is incurable.'

The actors also in the main are miserably poor. Many of them, like Danjuro, are dragged down by a bequeathed incubus, but few lead a life of such quiet economy as he does. They are idolized by the female portion of their audience, especially by the Geisha, and one of these latter merry little lasses, spends her savings in providing a feast for Sadanji or Toshio more gladly than she receives a present worth twice as much from a blue-blooded aristocrat. Like begets like, or in the words of the much more expressive Japanese proverb, 'midz-gokoro areba uwo-gokoro ari.' Men who could be deterred from reciprocating such attentions by any paltry pecuniary considerations, were more than mortal, and it is not at all surprising that the agents of the wardrobe farmers, when recovering their employers' property each evening as is their wont, should

sometimes be obliged to rob shivering tragedians of wadded frippery they would fain apply to purposes more homely than histrionic.

There is a certain pride of caste too in the Japanese actor. He cannot be mean for mere money's sake, and he is often lavish from motives even more than romantic. Here is an example. A short time ago Danjuro's house was broken into, and a quantity of wearing apparel, household utensils, &c. stolen. The burglars were subsequently arrested, some in Tokiyo, some in Yokohama, and the greater portion of the lost property was traced. But according to the actor's creed such things were no longer serviceable. A coat that had covered a thief's back, or a pipe-case that had been hanging at his girdle, might not be used by an honest man, so poor proud Danjuro sold his recovered garments and chattels, and presented the sixty yen realized by the sale to the almshouse at Uyeno. He will probably find more admirers than imitators amongst the shrewd folk of these enlightened times.

"The *Dagblad* has reproduced a leading article from the *Japan Herald* defending the conduct of the Dutch Minister, Chevalier Witawaal van Stootwegen, who had communicated to that journal the treaty proposals which had been entrusted to him by the Japanese Government. We should have preferred not to allude to this delicate matter, but since a Dutch paper has, without protest, reproduced an article in which the act of our Minister-Resident is represented as commendable and worthy of imitation, it becomes our duty to give our own views in the matter. The *Japan Herald* (to whom the documents had been communicated) alone defended the diplomat; the other newspapers condemned his action. The Chevalier van Stootwegen was not an employé of an English newspaper at Yokohama, but the servant of the Dutch Government, and as such he was entrusted by the Japanese Government with the documents in question, and as such it behoved him to maintain their secrecy. Art. 3 of the Royal Decree of the 12th of April, 1877, regulating the diplomatic service, prescribes to the diplomatic agents that they shall not publish any documents which have been entrusted to them, or which belong to their archives, without the express authority of the King."—*New Rotterdam Gazette*.

We can most heartily sympathize with Mr. de Stootwegen in this affair. If ever a client's interests were compromised by his advocate's giddiness, the unfortunate Chevalier's case is an instance, and it is probable that hereafter the mere vision of a printed column will suggest to him this bitter reflection, 'non Moria, sed Pallas.'

A report has been lately current in this settlement—and indeed amongst the Japanese in Tokiyo also—to the effect that the Japanese Foreign office has requested Admiral Leassofsky to move the proper authorities, with a view to the reddition of the land held by Russia at Inasa-ura, on the opposite side of the bay from Nagasaki. We need scarcely say that this rumour is entirely untrue. No official communication whatever has taken place on this subject since the Admiral's arrival in Japan, nor is it at all probable that if the Foreign Office desired to take action in the affair, it would ignore the presence of the Russian Minister, and address its communication to a naval officer whose functions are confined to the management of his fleet, and who is in possession of no authority to discuss such questions.

As for the land under consideration, its occupation by Russia was sanctioned under the Bakufu administration without any definite limit of time, indeed, but not of course as a permanency. It is without the boundary of the Foreign Concession, but the circumstances of its occupation bring it

within the range of the same considerations as those that obtain in the case of Legation or Consular sites. So long therefore as Russia has need of it for peaceful purposes, we cannot see why Japan should require its reddition, and we may also suggest that in the event of war between Russia and China, the former power would scarcely be likely to compromise Japan by a witting abuse of privileges conceded in a season of mutual good faith.

A meeting of the Nippon Race Club was held on Wednesday last at H. B. M. Legation. M. de Roquette and Dr. Wheeler were appointed to the permanent Committee in the places of M. de Balloy and Mr. de Stootwegen, so that the Committee will consist of the two former gentlemen with Messrs. Walter, Kirkwood, Middleton and probably Messrs. Saigo, Matsumura, Okoshi, Katsu Inouye and Oyama. Mr. Kingdon remains Clerk of the Course, and Mr. J. Walter undertakes the duties of Treasurer and Secretary pro tem.

His Excellency the Minister for Foreign Affairs started for Atami in the *Africa* on the morning of the 21st. He was accompanied by Madame and Miss Inouye, Mr. Mayeda, and several other Japanese gentlemen. Their Excellencies Ito and Okuma are already at Atami, so that this Ministerial 'outing' does not seem to be entirely a matter of pleasure.

It is in contemplation to erect at Yama-no-shita, Tokiyo, on the site of the present Museum of Antiquities (Hakabutsukwan), a suite of apartments which will take the place of the Yenriyokwan on occasions of public entertainments. The building will be called the 'Reception Hall' (Shotaijo) and the funds for its construction—fifty to sixty thousand dollars—have been subscribed by the various Departments. Brick will be the material employed, and it is proposed to commence the work at once, so that it may be finished during the current year.

Probably the Reception Hall, when not otherwise employed, may be made to serve the purposes of a club for Government officials. If so it will confer no small benefit on Tokiyo, for the city at present possesses nothing that can properly be termed a club, and the sooner the Japanese are provided with this most convenient of all institutions, the better.

Mr. Ho-ü Chang, Minister for China, whose term of office has just expired, is, we understand, to be replaced by Mr. Ho-ü Ching Cheng, a Compiler of the Imperial Treasury.

The news from home grows daily more disquieting. Those who had any intimate knowledge of Ireland's true condition, or who had taken any pains to decipher the signs furnished by her recent history, must have understood that the old sore had begun to fester hopelessly, and that its successful treatment was no longer within the reach of temporary palliatives. Yet none the less astounding is the reality now that it has become unmistakably apparent. We were prepared for turbulence, rioting, assassination, and perhaps a partial repetition of ninety-eight's horrors, but we were not prepared to see the Government quietly superseded and its place taken by a lawless mob, displaying at the same time a most anomalous appreciation of legal forms. In the presence of such a mischief all are agreed that something must be done, but what shape that something should assume, is still a vexed question; and it does certainly seem an evil inseparable from our political system that a great crisis like the present, instead of reconciling party schisms, serves rather as an occasion for their more intensified display. While Conservatives are

counselling coercion and Liberals clemency, Irish society is falling to pieces, and confusion may ultimately result not less difficult of adjustment than *Psyche's* inextricable grain heaps. For our own part we are fully persuaded that under whatever aspect this Hydra-headed Hibernianism displays itself, whether as a Fenian, a Land-leaguer, a Whiteboy, a Home-ruler or a Ribbonman, the spirit inspiring it is unvariable. Commercial adventurers or ambitious politicians may mould it into seemingly dissimilar forms to suit their several aims, but the root from which all this disaffection really springs, is the incompatibility that exists between the social condition of Ireland and the system of land tenure established by English law.

At the same time we cannot endorse Colonel Gordon's verdict that a gulf of antipathy exists between the people of Connaught and their landlords. Nobody has ever pretended that an Irishman is utterly beyond the influences of sympathy and benevolence. On the contrary the blindest and most unwavering affection ever begotten by gratitude has always been a conspicuous element of his character, and it can scarcely be that he so bitterly hates the men to whom he only renders a tithe of their dues, and who yet leave him undisturbed year after year rather than resort to anything harsher than remonstrance. Such cases are by no means the exception. We could easily name more than one landed proprietor within a comparatively small area, and that in this very Connaught, whose income is now reduced to a mere fraction of its original dimensions, while not a single eviction or distress has taken place upon his estate during the present century. Evil, however, has an unfortunate faculty of making itself more prominent than good, and it is not unnatural that a stranger, visiting Ireland, should busy himself rather with the people's grievances than their landlords' losses.

On the whole this agitation is not without consolatory features. It must have come sooner or later, and it might have come in a very different guise; a guise that would necessarily have evoked the bullet and the bayonet, leaving to the vanquished a fresh inheritance of hatred and to the victors an added reason for intolerance. Now, on the contrary, it appears at last to have been borne in upon the English nation that Ireland has something to complain of, however intemperate her mode of remonstrance, and if there be any wisdom in our law-givers, we may reasonably hope for some more healing device than those perfunctory measures which have hitherto seemed to check the growth of agrarianism, while in reality pruning it into fresh vigour.

It may be very true that the number of British troops now stationed in Ireland exceeds the force which held its ground for six hours at the old fort of Inkermann against the attack of forty thousand Russians, but how this circumstance betrays any 'state of alarm,' on the part of Her Majesty's Government, we are quite unable to understand. If the truth were known it would probably be found that the late reinforcements were the result of applications from officers commanding garrisons, and were not on any single occasion despatched at the instance of Mr. Gladstone or his colleagues. This may sound strange, but as a matter of fact the duties devolving upon troops under conditions such as those that now obtain in Ireland, require for their efficient performance a force out of all proportion to that needed for actual fighting purposes. During the Fenian agitation of 1865-6 for example, a Battery of Horse Artillery stationed at Portobello Barracks, Dublin, received orders to hold three guns in readiness to turn out at a moment's notice. This was a simple measure of precaution. That field guns would be really required was in the last degree improbable, and assuredly there was no reason

then to dread the issue of an outbreak, but only a desire to deter the people from such an act of futile madness. Yet to carry out these directions, it was necessary for three subdivisions of the battery to be on picquet every second night, the men in uniform and the horses in complete harness, while the other three were not in much easier plight, for though the gunners might take off their tunics, they were forbidden to remove their boots, and the horses were only relieved by the exchange of head-stalls for bridles. The best troops in the world cannot stand this sort of thing long. Probably in sending additional regiments to Ireland the Government has only yielded to the repeated representations of commanding officers, and we have no hesitation in saying that if a rebellion really broke out, and if the area of action were thus to a certain extent defined, the forces would suffer far less than they do at present, and their strength might even be reduced without risk.

Dr. Willis' many friends will be glad to hear that he is expected to arrive in Japan about July next. During the interval between his arrival and Dr. Manning's departure, Dr. Baels has, we understand, undertaken to discharge the duties of medical adviser to H. B. M. Legation.

Two veins of crystal, one colorless and the other purple, are said to have been lately discovered, the first at the hill Uchickabuto near the village of Chiyoda in Kai, and the second at Numadz-no-uye in the prefecture of Miyagi. The quality of the mineral is very highly spoken of in both cases and a specimen, some six inches in diameter, has been submitted for inspection.

Japanese crystal, though by no means inferior to Chinese, has never been a favorite material with the native lapidary. Those beautiful vases, delicately chiselled Libation Cups and bottles with characters carved as if by magic on their inner surfaces, are *tours de force* which the Japanese thoroughly appreciate but do not care to imitate. Indeed the fashion of their works in this class very aptly illustrates the divergency of the two nations' art instincts. The Chinese, patient and laborious, courting technical difficulties merely for the sake of overcoming them, is content to borrow his inspirations from his material, and will set to work on a piece of jade or agate with only the rudest preliminary conception of the lines he proposes to follow. As he proceeds, however, some vein of colour, or it may be, some blemish in the mineral, suggests a leaf or an insect, and he is sufficiently happy, if in the issue, he has made the most of his object's capabilities even at the total sacrifice of originality. The Japanese artist on the contrary will never if possible suffer his ideas to become subservient to his material. Many of his apparently quaintest conceptions may be nothing more than modified conventionalities, and like his celestial confrère, much of his seeming genius may be only versatile dexterity, but in every case he has from the first a fancy to be developed, and keeping this always in sight, he happily avoids the laboured effect which some of the most careful Chinese productions exhibit. It is not probable that in these days of depreciated currency and high prices men can afford to follow a trade so unproductive as crystal cutting, and for the rest the material is not capable of large results, yet hearing of these newly discovered veins, we are involuntarily reminded of an art that flourished in times of limitless patronage and of exquisite objects this sordid struggle for civilized existence forbids us to reproduce.

We regret to learn that H. I. M. S. *Fusokawa* has been attacked by that most fatal foe to ironclads—galvanic action. The mischief is not, however, very formidable. It is as

yet confined to the forepart of the ship, and this immunity of the regions generally most vulnerable justifies a hope that prompt measures may avert any grave results.

A telegram received from Yezo on the 21st inst., reports a snow-fall of about five feet on the level and from ten to twenty feet drifts. Some of the cuttings on the Sapporo and Otaru Railway are completely filled, and the trains have only been kept running by the most strenuous exertions. Considering the nature of the track and the rolling stock, it seems very creditable that no interruption has taken place, but we fancy the officials in charge must bitterly regret their want of foresight in refusing to carry out their chief engineer's suggestions as to fencing and shedding. It is too late to prevent the mischief now, but it is none the less imperative to keep faith with the public, for the pack-horses and other means of transit that formerly existed between Otaru and Sapporo have almost entirely disappeared since the opening of the railway, and any lengthy stoppage of traffic on the latter would no doubt prove a serious inconvenience.

Perhaps one of the clearest evidences of the increasing interest taken by Russia in her relations with Japan may be found in the erection, after so many years have elapsed, of a fitting Consulate, on the ground allotted for the purpose, next the English Consulate. The building comprises the necessary Consular offices &c., and a dwelling house. Barring an inevitably new appearance, which time and our climate will soon remedy, there is a happy combination of elegance and strength about it which reflects much credit on the architect, who, we understand, was formerly a well-known Yokohama resident, Mr. Smedley. A number of Russian men-of-war sailors were hard at work yesterday, raising a most substantial flagstaff, from which we may soon expect to see the Imperial flag floating, as the building is ready for occupation.

The National Agricultural and Industrial Exhibition in the Park at Ueno, will be opened on the 1st March. The building was commenced the year before last and is now nearly completed, some details of internal arrangement, such as the fitting of specimen cases, &c., only remaining to be executed.

The object of the Exhibition—which is under the patronage of H. I. H. Prince Kita Shirakawa—is to promote agricultural and manufacturing industries, as well as to extend commercial intercourse. The exhibits will be restricted to articles of native manufacture and produce, such as silk, tea, porcelain, lacquer-ware, manufactured stuffs, machinery, furniture, &c.; and as the spirit of competition called forth by the prospect has induced artisans and producers to put forth their utmost skill, we may predict a result well worthy the attention of all those commercially connected with Japan. The exhibits will be themselves saleable, or will serve as specimens for those desiring to order similar goods, and for the greater convenience of visitors, it is proposed to label every article distinctly in Japanese and English, while a number of competent interpreters will also be in attendance. The Exhibition may therefore be justly described as a market for bringing native produce within reach of those who are prevented from visiting the interior of the country themselves.

The grounds are to be laid out with care, abundantly planted and provided with two fountains after models purely Japanese. They are divided into two portions by a handsome clock tower. In the first part stand four buildings, two on either side, those on the right being destined for exhibits

from the Eastern provinces, and those on the left for exhibits from the West. Beyond the clock-tower are four similar structures, two on the right for horticultural and agricultural specimens, and two on the left for machinery. In the middle at the far end stands a brick building with stone facades, graceful balconies and other attractive features, while behind it is a Zoological museum. The brick building will be employed for fine art exhibits, but its ultimate purpose is to receive the antiquities now contained in the museum at Yama-no-shita. The water for the fountains and also for an artificial pond which stands in the middle of the pleasure grounds, is conducted in wooden pipes from the river Chika, some miles distant. Arrangements have been made for lighting the buildings and grounds at night with gas, so that the place cannot fail to prove a most attractive resort in the cool summer evenings.

The removal of articles purchased at the Exhibition will not, of course, be permitted before the closing ceremony, but for the convenience of intending purchasers, bazaars will be established outside, where specimens will be immediately procurable.

We have to acknowledge the receipt of a copy of *The Japan Directory* for the current year, published by the proprietors of the *Japan Gazette*. The present volume is infinitely superior to any of its predecessors, and too much praise can hardly be awarded to it for the amount of useful information it contains, no less than the evident care bestowed upon its compilation. This, combined with the capital style in which the Directory is printed and bound, will doubtless recommend it as a most invaluable book of reference both for mercantile firms and private residences. A well-executed and minutely detailed map of the Settlement and Bluff is not one of the least useful items in this excellent work.

According to the latest accounts from Nagasaki, Admiral Lessouffsky's recovery is nearly complete. His arrival in Yokohama may be looked for about the middle of next month.

The number of steamers plying between Ozaka and the provinces on the western coast is said to have increased within the last few months from thirty eight to seventy six, so although the facilities for passage and freight are no doubt largely improved, we may anticipate a proportionate addition to the tale of disasters we are so often called on to record.

We learn with much pleasure that the latest news from China is of a decidedly pacific character.

We notice that by an Imperial decree of the 19th instant, Kitagaki Kunimichi, lately Governor of the Kochi prefecture, has been appointed Governor of Kiyoto in lieu of Mr. Masaura, who becomes Senator of the first grade.

JAPANESE COURTS.

IN the present interval between the communication of the Japanese proposals for revision of the Treaties and the negotiations to that end, it is not inopportune, with reference to the question of jurisdiction, to notice a paper bearing closely on the subject from the pen of so learned a writer as Sir Travers Twiss. A paper under the title of 'Consular Jurisdiction in the Levant, and the Status of Foreigners in the Ottoman Law Courts,' was read by the eminent Jurist above-named before the Conference, held last autumn at Berne, of the 'Association for the Reform and Codification of the Law of Nations.'

It suggests some reflections of considerable interest to those among us in Japan who have given any thought to this subject; and our views may be sensibly enlarged by regarding the aspect in which the same questions that agitate us here present themselves elsewhere.

The reading of the paper at Berne gave rise to a discussion, in the course of which the case of Japan received a large share of attention, being adequately treated by gentlemen whose opportunities enabled them to speak with authority. It is not however intended to repeat here what was said on that occasion, but to draw attention to some of those points of comparison—or rather (to borrow an expression from one of the speakers) points of contrast—which a perusal of Sir Travers Twiss' paper suggests between the aspect of the case in Turkey and in Japan.

Before entering upon the more practical of these points, there is one difference meeting us at the outset in the origin of Consular Jurisdiction here and in the Levant which must not pass unnoticed. Its origin in the Mediterranean was historical: we need not enter into that: those of our readers who are curious in such matters have before now had abundant opportunity of informing themselves as to the not uninteresting history of the growth of the system. We only wish now to point to an observation made in connection with the fact in the paper before us, to the effect that it should not be forgotten in dealing with the question of the Turkish 'Capitulations,' as they are termed, that "they ought never to be spoken of nor regarded as badges of inferiority on the part of the Oriental nations. They were, on the contrary, rather favours or concessions on their part to the nations of the West."

The origin of the jurisdiction assumed by the Western nations in Japan was very different: it had no historical growth; it sprang into existence full-grown, not as the result of favour or willing concession on the one side, but under the tacit dictation of superior power on the other. This consideration might naturally be expected to afford an explanation of the restlessness exhibited by the Japanese under conditions similar to those which in Turkey and elsewhere are submitted to with the resignation due to the inevitable. And there would no doubt be truth in this. But a fuller explanation is to be found lying deeper down: apart from the obvious contrast between the apathy of the Turk or the Chinese and the restlessness and progressive ambition of the Japanese character—though this too is an element of importance—apart from all this and more potent is the consciousness of the Japanese people of their own feelings, of their own mental attitude towards the outside world. At the time the country was opened and the first Treaties made, the rulers and people of Japan viewed foreigners no doubt just as Turks and Chinese view them now; but the secret lies in this, that the mind and spirit of Japan has passed under a revolution: and the rulers and people alike are conscious of the prodigious subjective change they have undergone, conscious of having buried those feelings and conditions of mind the existence of which once justified the restraints put upon them: and they claim to have this mighty transformation recognized and acted upon—and the result is the irksomeness with which we see the continued existence of those restraints to be borne.

This difference of disposition towards the outside world is fundamental: all the more important points of contrast grow out of it. The difference itself may be accounted for in a variety of ways; but the principal key to the question as regards Turkey and Japan lies where the key to many another national problem is to be looked for—in the

character of the religions of the two peoples. This most fruitful distinction is suggested, and in this case explicitly suggested by the writer himself, in the paper before us. Buddhism, he points out, is a tolerant religion, not essentially hostile to Christianity, nor raising any insuperable barrier against a community of law with the Christian nations of the West. 'The religion of Mahomet, on the other hand,' he says, 'is exceptional; for the Koran is not only a code of morality but a code of International law which prohibits all relations of equality and reciprocity between the House of Islam and the nations of the Unbelievers, and allows the state of war between the Faithful and those who do not acknowledge the Divine Mission of Mahomet to be suspended indeed by Treaty engagements, but never to be converted, into a normal state of permanent peace.' He adds that 'This is a speciality of the Oriental question which is not to be overlooked in our examination of the different groups of nations with whom the Christian States of Europe have treaties on the subject of Consular Jurisdiction.' But, his present purpose being confined to dealing with certain incidents of the jurisdiction of the Ottoman empire, and the present working of the judicial institutions of that empire itself, he does not touch on the other side of the picture—the result of the absence of Mahomedan intolerance—but directs attention to some of the consequences of its presence. It will not be difficult for us to draw the moral.

In the front must be placed the general attitude of hostility towards aliens in faith which is the explicit teaching of the Koran. The *axioms* is inveterate and all-pervading: there is nothing to compare to it here in Japan—the spirit of Jōi itself is feeble and half-hearted by comparison. But, to look at the effect upon the matter we have in hand—the administration of justice. What shall we think of the cavilling at justice in Japanese Courts—and they are very far from being without reproach—when we are reminded of a state of things where, in the Courts to which Christian suitors must bring their complaints, the oath of a Christian weighs not a feather? We are all familiar with this as with a far-off matter of history: but let us try for one moment to bring it home to ourselves. Our fellow-subjects in the Ottoman dominions are living under that state of things. Let any one try to picture the consternation that would follow the news that a British subject had been refused a hearing in a Japanese Court because his word could not be heard to contradict that of a native subject! And it is no story of bygone times that our writer brings back to our minds: this preposterous condition of things exists to-day. Imperial Rescripts, we know, have, under pressure, been issued by Turkish Sultans, removing nominally the disabilities of Christian witnesses; but the reform has scarcely any reality. Indeed it only applies at all to certain special tribunals: it is not the law of the land commanding general assent; for, being an innovation on the law of the Koran, it required the express sanction of the Sheik-ul-Islam, and that as we have seen, has been only partially given. And even in the tribunals where Christian evidence is admissible, its reception is of little practical value owing to the trifling weight assigned to it as against that of a 'true believer.'

Instances might be multiplied indefinitely of the utter perversion of justice resulting more or less directly from the same deep-seated causes; but enough has been said on this head. There are other elements in the case to be found in Turkey independent of these causes—elements peculiar to no race or religious system—such as incompetency, partiality, corruption, in the judiciary.

Now that there is not only room but urgent need for very substantial improvement in the judicial staff in Japan on the side of learning and legal experience, few will be found to deny. But those who have had the best opportunities of judging and have been able to judge with a mind uninfluenced by passing waves of passion or the prejudice inseparable from the presence of personal interests, are convinced that there exists on the part of the judicial body a general desire to do their duty uprightly and honestly according to their lights: and that wilful partiality, and still more emphatically actual corruption (though he would be a bold man who should absolutely deny the possibility of their existence) are of such rare and exceptional occurrence that it would be a cruel injustice to the judicial staff of Japan even to suggest a comparison on these heads between them and the Ottoman judges. The High Commissioner of Cyprus, Major-General Biddulph, in a report to the English Government (Blue Book, *Cyprus*, No. 2, 1880, cited in the paper before us) speaking of the Turkish judges there says:—'Their corruption was a matter of open complaint on all sides.' And a Consular Report, speaks of 'open bribery and corruption' and 'the invariable and unjust favour shown to Mussulmans in all questions between Turks and Christians,' as distinguishing the administration of justice by Turkish tribunals generally. It may be safely assumed that Her Majesty's Consular and other officers in Japan are neither more blind than those elsewhere to the defects of judicial institutions, nor more inclined to extenuate those defects in what may in both cases be called the alternative or rival system. But would any Consular officer here to-day venture to bring charges such as those? Want of a proper system of laws and legal procedure, deficiencies of experience and knowledge of law in the *personnel*, unreasonable delays ('the law's delays' is a phrase not altogether strange to our countrymen's ears even at home) and other like complaints—these are made, and not without reason: but how wide the gulf between these charges and those others!

It is not our province to attempt the defence of the judicial institutions of this country against the complaints, and they are many, which can be fairly preferred against them. The point we wish to make is that the defects are on the surface and of a nature admitting of remedy; which for reasons above pointed out is not the case with the Ottoman Courts. We wish to induce our readers to look at the matter fairly and dispassionately, and with a somewhat wider range of vision: and to this end we have deemed it not inapposite to call to mind the very different kind of justification which exists for the constant complaints and the continued retention of the old restrictions elsewhere. There is no Koran, here, no 'flagrant judicial corruption.' In place of the first we have the spectacle of a people and their rulers vying with each other to assimilate themselves, their laws and institutions to the Western type, and animated by no hostile feelings against alien nations or individual aliens—a condition, be it remarked in passing, which distinguishes Japan not only from the Mussulman races, but from the other and nearer people of China, where other causes produce the same results which are observable in the Mussulman races. Reforms, large and vital reforms, are necessary here: but here they are also possible. There is no fundamental antipathy raising an insuperable barrier. The will being present, the way will be found out. A code of laws founded upon one of the most universal among the codes of Christendom is in course of laborious and patient construction; and changes in the *personnel* of those entrusted with the administration of justice are known to be in contemplation.

These things are not done in a day; and those whose high function it is to shape the policy of their country in its relations with foreign powers have given evidence of their appreciation both of the need of reform and of the length and difficulty of the task, in refraining, until such time as they shall feel able morally to command compliance with their demands, from seeking to assert at once complete independence of foreign laws: for it is an open secret that the proposals of Japan for the revision of the Treaties on the side of jurisdiction contemplate only the resumption of powers, unimportant for the most part as regards individuals affected by them, though having such an intimate and most practical relation with the daily conduct of Government as to make their unfettered exercise an indispensable condition of its effective administration.

Such powers as these even Turkey has, and so have the lesser Mahommedan States; whilst countries such as the Spanish American Republics—whose judicial institutions, whose systems of government, whose political integrity are not worthy to be named in the same breath with Japan—exercise a jurisdiction as unfettered as that of the greatest and most advanced of the European nations.* Although complete reorganization of the judicial institutions of the country is only arduously and distantly possible, such changes as might be found necessary upon the resumption of so much additional jurisdiction as may be now demanded are not only possible but readily and immediately possible: not only is the will to make them undoubtedly present, but the means lie ready to hand.

We ask our readers to consider these things. If any of us upon calm and dispassionate consideration, actuated not by unreasoning prejudice but by conviction formed honestly and upon sufficient grounds, conscientiously believe that our true interests, that our liberty or the safety of our persons or property would be more jeopardized here than elsewhere out of one's own country by the exercise by Japanese authorities of certain administrative and judicial functions before alluded to, let us by all means act upon our convictions in the opinions we express whether publicly or privately for the information of those who are in a position to give effect to our wishes. But let us be honest about it: do not let us incur the moral opprobrium of raising or joining in exaggerated, prejudiced, irresponsible clamour.

THE JAPANESE CIVIL SERVICE.

AFTER the example set by the four great fiefs in 1869 had been universally followed, and more especially when the principle then partially recognized, had ripened into the complete abolition of the feudal system in 1871, the Central Government of Japan, though considerably strengthened in theory, found itself confronted in practice by certain embarrassments that threatened at any moment to become overwhelming. Perhaps the chief of these was its attitude towards the vassals of the late feudatories. A revised assessment of the nobles' revenues had been made on the

* Since writing the above we were struck with the following observations in an article on 'Greece and the Greeks,' in the *Fortnightly Review* for November last, from the pen of a writer of 20 years experience of men and cities on the Mediterranean seaboard. The passage is so apposite that we cannot refrain from quoting from it. 'The question of administration of justice' says this writer, who, it should be said, writes evidently and avowedly with a disposition generally friendly to the Greeks, 'is one I do not like to consider abstractedly. My own opinion is that it is very corrupt, and that a foreigner has no chance of justice against a native, or a poor man against a rich man. . . . Most of my friends, Greek and foreign, tell me that the tribunals are corrupt and subservient, but not so much so as the Italian—much less so than the Russian:—If I were to pronounce an opinion, I should say about equal to the Austrian.'

assumption that their executive functions were entirely abolished, and that they were only entitled to such pensions as might suffice hereafter to support them in a fashion not unbecoming their rank. The main body of their retainers, military and civil functionaries alike, had consequently been deprived of pay, and retained only a small fraction of their hereditary annuities. It is true that under the ancient system subordinate officials and liegemen of inferior rank had been compelled to supplement their incomes by some such expedient as domestic manufacture, but whereas they had then been able to live in comparative affluence, they now found themselves reduced to almost complete indigence. For a time the more disastrous consequences of this change were averted by the charitable action of the nobles themselves, many of whom devoted whatever accumulations they found in their treasuries to the relief of their distressed vassals. But this could only be a temporary alleviation at best. Absolute need of the necessities of life soon began to be felt. Some commuted their yearly pittances for a lump sum which was speedily dissipated by rash speculations, or appropriated by crafty harpies; a few laid aside their swords and had stout recourse to the labour of their hands, while the majority grew truculent in adversity, and began to ask each other by what right the prosperity they once enjoyed had thus suddenly been transformed into penury and privation. Of course such an enquiry could not fail sometimes to result in turbulence or rebellion, but with the less vehement it assumed a complexion not immediately so fractious though ultimately even more embarrassing. The Central Government, by assuming the executive functions of the whole kingdom, had virtually taken the place of the various local administrations existing under the feudal system. But were the duties performed by those administrations rendered immaterial by the transfer? Surely not. The provinces remained to be ruled whether as fiefs or prefectures, and who so fit to rule them as those that had done so from generation to generation? Even the obtuseness of self-interest did not probably prevent these men from comprehending that a concentration of effort is equivalent to a diminution of labour, and that a centralized government requires a much less numerous staff than a multitude of separate administrations, though performing their various functions with equal care. It cannot be supposed, however, that they thoroughly appreciated this difference, and under any circumstances these two facts remained—the government had to be carried on, and whatever emoluments were associated with its exercise justly belonged to those who had inherited a title to official employment, and were now well nigh penniless for lack of it. The reddition of the fiefs too had not been the act of their feudatories but of their vassals, or, to speak more accurately, of the leading spirits among the latter, and in all probability the main body of the Samurai had anticipated nothing less than the uncomfortable change of condition that reddition presently brought about. Under every aspect therefore, whether as a hereditary right, or as an item of tacit engagement, or a duty to humanity, the Samurai's title to public employment seemed incontrovertible, and it was said that at one time the number of applicants for each office exceeded the number of cash in its monthly emoluments!

In what a cruel dilemma the members of the cabinet were placed by this excessive candidature we can readily fancy, when we remember that in the main they themselves possessed no better right to the privilege of holding office than those clamouring for like advantages, and that these

were in many instances either their own relatives and intimate friends, or men whom they had pledged themselves to assist when in power.

The result could not well have been other than it was. Every Department of State swarmed with useless officials, and when additional appointments would have been palpably ludicrous, numerous and costly sinecures were created. It resulted that in those days a stranger, visiting one of the public offices, was astonished to find the place so crowded with functionaries that they not only obstructed each other when they did essay to be busy, but in their normal condition could not even find space to idle comfortably. Of course there was much talk then about corruption, nepotism, iniquitous alienation of the state funds and what not, for few people understood, or took the trouble to consider, the circumstances of the case. As a matter of fact, however, the most Draconian legislators could not have afforded to ignore so much distress or refused altogether to entertain such urgent appeals. The mischief was inevitable, yet none the less it seemed at times that the Government must inevitably be dragged down by the weight of these predatory parasites, who did not merely absorb a moiety of the revenue, but, what was still more pernicious, rendered anything like administrative efficiency absolutely impossible.

Year by year, however, the encumbrances were shaken off, slowly and painfully, but yet appreciably. Conditions inseparable from the new order of things did indeed impede the process much. Thus large sums of public money being necessarily devoted to provide instruction in western arts and sciences, students educated by the state naturally looked for future preferment to the same sources that had rendered past stagnation insupportable. Industry too needed a new impulse to fit it for competition in foreign fields, and men who considered facts alone, not principles, found a precedent for importunity in every appropriation of the state funds to industrial purposes. These and other minor causes helped the parasites to retain their hold, so that even in this fourteenth year of Meiji, the civil functions of the Government are performed by no less than eleven thousand officials receiving an aggregate yearly salary of about four millions of yen.

Many of the evils consequent upon such a plethoric establishment are too palpable to need comment, but there are some which though less evident are, if possible, more pernicious. It is of course imperative that the Government should free itself with what celerity it may from these debilitating appendages; but at the same time its moral well-being is seriously impaired by the operation. At the approach of each financial period every department is visited by an unexpected convulsion, which has indeed the salutary effect of shaking off a considerable cluster of parasites, but produces as well in those that remain a universal consciousness of perpetual insecurity. In such circumstances men are apt to reason rather from results than causes, and since it is inevitable that some favoritism, some exercise of party spirit, should accompany these convulsions, the most deserving officials are not always least liable to vicissitude. Now if there be one thing more capable than another of paralyzing effort and promoting perfunctory service it is the consciousness of instability. Honest application is not within the compass of human powers when interruption is momentarily imminent. What for example has been the effect of similar conditions—induced, however, by different causes—upon the foreign employes of the Government? Will anybody pretend for a moment that they exhibit the same enthusiasm, the same readiness to be useful in

season and out of season, now when their tenure of office is virtually limited to the number of months on the face of their agreements, as they did when they had faith in the future and its somewhat lavish promises? Because conscientious service is synonymous with perennial employment; because nothing human is more certain than that death alone shall interrupt the discharge of honestly performed duties or the receipt of a well earned provision, the British Government possesses a staff second to no other in probity, zeal and efficiency. This is not said by way of comparison but merely for the sake of illustrating our argument; an argument for the rest incontrovertible, and not less recognized in Japan than in Europe.

Why then, it may be asked, do we write, since the evil we describe may not be remedied and the necessity of a cure is admitted? Because we believe that the mischief is suffered to be more than necessarily noxious, and that at least one possible palliative is neglected.

For the Government has been so harassed by this never ending candidature, so persecuted by this unceasing rehearsal of obligations it is assumed to have incurred towards every individual in the nation, that it has hitherto been deterred from introducing essential reforms into its own Civil Service, through fear of rendering that service even more awkwardly attractive than it is. The most prominent of these reforms, and at the same time the one best calculated to remove the present feeling of insecurity, is a revision of the pension regulations. According to those now in force, pensions, properly so called, do not exist at all, but only a system of gratuities calculated on a most illiberal scale. Half the amount of an official's monthly salary is multiplied by the number of years he has served, and the product represents his gratuity. Thus for example an appointment of two hundred yen per month would, on the completion of twenty years service, entitle its holder to a lump sum of two thousand yen. Now a monthly stipend of two hundred yen represents the pay of a very high official grade in Japan. Those that can hope to reach anything better constitute the smallest minority, while those that after twenty years of official life have either the will or the ability to follow a new path, are equally scarce. It is not a light matter that men who have served their country well should be cast off like worn-out garments when occasion is convenient or age begins to impair their usefulness, neither can a country where such a prospect is imminent hope to be well served. To feel a reasonable confidence that merit will have meet reward; to be assured that exclusive absorption in the functions of one's office will not ultimately disqualify one for the race of life, but rather place one beyond the reach of its cares and crosses; to know that every year of completed duty is another step towards permanent ease;—these are the essential conditions of efficiency, and the service that lacks them can never be anything but incompetent.

In England an officer retiring from the army or navy has the option of commuting his pension, while under certain exceptional circumstances a gratuity alone is granted, but in either case the amount represents the present value of an annuity equivalent to the pension. As a matter of fact indeed the money is found, not by the Government, but by an Insurance Office, which receives in return a promise of certain annual payments from the Treasury. A rough calculation shows that the sum so advanced is approximately equal to a year's average pay multiplied by two thirds the length of service in years, which formula gives a result very different indeed from that obtaining in Japan. Ob-

viously however the system is not one of gratuities, nor could any such ever be held advisable especially in the case of civil servants, for did these know that on retirement they would only be in possession of funds sufficient to furnish capital for a small business but totally inadequate to provide a competence, they would assuredly devote themselves beforehand either to the pursuit of some such business, or to establishing a connection with it by processes not always irreproachable. That the service would suffer in consequence is self evident, and it is for this reason that the plan now pursued in this country seems to us so pernicious.

We do not of course venture to prescribe any particular system. Knowledge sufficiently intimate to justify such counsel is not possessed by any outsider, and Japan has already been sufficiently mortified by ill-considered adoption of methods that suit foreign conditions alone. But we do emphatically say, that the fear of rendering the service too attractive is no longer a sufficient reason for postponing the consideration of this question. A first step towards the attainment of complete political independence is the establishment of trustworthy machinery for carrying out the laws, and this can never be achieved until men learn to regard the discharge of their official duties as the main business of their lives, and to feel assured that an adequate provision for the future will be the inevitable consequence of such service.

[COMMUNICATED.]

"He was but as the Cuckoo is in June
Heard, not regarded."

"Under which King, Bezonian?"

That's what I want to know,

Train you with us, or with the motley crew,"

Who've given up subscribing to the Cuckoo?

Behold me where I stand, armed cap-a-pie,

My right doth grasp the ready shears,

While in my left the pot of paste presages prompt perdition;

Behind me Jim, the pirate bold,

Hath blood of battle in his eye, likewise interrogation,

He wants to know your little game,

Wherefore he humped himself and found me the quotation.

I. D. S.

PLUM-BLOSSOMS.

(A PARAPHRASE.)

From the Japanese.

The opening flowers of the Plum-tree,
Are white as the white sea-foam,
Ay they are as fair as the blossoms rare
On the moon-trees bright in the upper air,
And their breath so sweet that the traveller's feet
Can but tarry afar from home,—
But what is it leaning
So near, so near?
And what is it shining
So clear, so clear?
'Tis the moon forgetting awhile to roam—
Unmindful of flowers in her Heavenly bowers,
She stoops to Earth with her trembling light,
To drink the air of the perfumed night.

F. B. H.

Tokio, January 21st, 1881.

ASIATIC SOCIETY OF JAPAN.

A General Meeting of the Asiatic Society was held at the Shôbeikuwan, Seidô, Tokiyo, on Tuesday, January 11th; Dr. Divers, President, in the Chair.

After the usual formal business,

Mr. J. M. Dixon exhibited a large piece of painted faience in the form of a plate, and gave the following version of the story represented by the painting:—

"In the 25th year of the reign of Keiko, twelfth emperor of Japan, the Kumaso, a tribe in Kiushiu, had rebelled. Two brothers, men of prowess, commanded the rebel forces. Now the emperor had a son called Kousu, who though only 16 years of age, was very valiant and fierce. Him he sent from his palace at Yamato to subdue the rebels. Kousu borrowed a complete set of woman's clothes from his aunt, and when he arrived before the rebel castle, he donned them and took his place among the women. With them he was admitted as a matter of course, and being as handsome a girl as there was in the company he was given a seat between the two chieftains. In the huddle of the feast, seizing one of the brothers Takeru-kawa-kami by the collar, he ran him through the breast. This is the incident represented on the porcelain. The other brother fled but was overtaken. Before receiving the final death blow from his fierce young conqueror he spoke to him and said: 'Surely you ought to be called Yamato-take-no-mikoto (the bold one of Yamato).' By this name is Kousu known in Japanese history."

A paper by Dr. A. J. C. Geerts, containing analyses of ten Japanese mineral spring waters, was laid on the table.

A paper by Mr. W. A. Woolley, entitled "Historical Notes on Nagasaki," was read by the corresponding secretary in the absence of the author. The notes were derived from certain manuscripts preserved in the archives of the Government at Nagasaki. The most interesting episodes mentioned were those connected with intercourse with foreigners and the treatment of the Christians in the 16th and 17th centuries. The relations of the Dutch traders to the Japanese were fully detailed. A part of the paper was taken up with an account of the revolt in Amakusa and Shimabara in 1637, which was to be traced to the exactions of the feudal lords and to the official prohibition of Christianity. Pretended miraculous manifestations were made use of to incite the people to revolt, and they flocked round banners which were inscribed with the figure of God. The rebels at one time numbered over 40,000. When the revolt was stamped out many of them suffered most cruel deaths rather than recant. In 1687 there was hardly a person in Nagasaki who was not a Christian. In 1629 most of the Nagasaki Christians had recanted. In that year the practice of trampling on the image of Christ as a sign of recantation was introduced. This ceremony was performed annually. Recusants were expelled from their houses and driven to the woods. When arrested, if still contumacious, they were taken to the hot springs of Shimabara, sprinkled with the hot water, and then thrown in.

After a short discussion, in which Mr. Wright mentioned that amongst the descendants of the Shimabara martyrs, traces were still to be found of the use of the Paternoster, the Ave Maria, and the Creed,

A paper entitled "Hideyoshi's Invasion of Korea, Chapter II, The Retreat," by Mr. W. G. Aston, was also (in the absence of the author) read by the corresponding secretary. The paper was in continuation of a previous communication by the same author, which was printed in Vol. VI. of the Society's Transactions. The narrative was now taken up at the point at which it was then dropped, namely at the beginning of the year 1593 A.D., when the Chinese army advanced against Pinalang. The Japanese, after making a gallant defence against superior numbers, had an opportunity given them of withdrawing and crossing the river on the ice, which they took advantage of, and made their way southward. In spite of the demoralised condition of the Japanese, the Koreans could not summon up courage to attack the retreating invaders. The fall of Pinalang was the turning point in the invasion. It involved a general evacuation of the northern garrisons by the Japanese, and this in the dead of winter, and in a country desolated by war. The

capital was selected as the rendezvous for the troops from the north. The Korean levies, encouraged by success, besieged many of the strongholds held by the Japanese. An incident which occurred in one of their sieges showed that bomb-shells were then used by the Koreans with disastrous effect on their opponents, who were ignorant of their destructive properties and ran towards them out of curiosity when they fell. The Koreans with their Chinese allies gradually made their way southward towards the capital. The Japanese concentrated there, resolved to give battle to the approaching enemy; and fearing that there might be an outbreak of the native population within the city while they were engaged outside, they resorted to the barbarous expedient of massacring the townspeople and destroying the city by fire. The Japanese gained a decided advantage in the engagement which followed, the allies fell back, and the Korean general was so disheartened that he resigned his command. The country was now in a pitiable condition. The burden of supporting two foreign armies, of which the ally was scarcely less oppressive than the enemy, reduced the inhabitants to the direst want, and many thousands died of famine. An effort was made to come to terms, but neither party had any confidence in the good faith of the other, and the negotiations fell through; the Japanese, however, accepting the stipulation that they should evacuate the capital, which they would probably have soon been compelled to do in any case. Chinese ambassadors were then sent to Nagosa and received by Hideyoshi in the most magnificent manner. It appears that no definite terms of peace were made on the occasion, although both parties exchanged very friendly assurances and agreed to throw all the blame for what had happened on the Koreans, who as usual were kept in the dark as to what passed. Hideyoshi consented to release the captive Korean princes and grandees. Nevertheless the Japanese immediately recommenced hostilities, and succeeded in routing a large force of Koreans with a loss of nearly 60,000 men.

This was the last fighting of what has been called the first invasion. The Japanese then retired to Fusan, where they awaited the result of the negotiation with China.

The meeting was then adjourned.

REUTER'S TELEGRAMS.

LONDON, 17th January, 1881.

The detached squadron has been ordered to land a Naval Brigade at the Cape.

The Basutos have been completely defeated.

LONDON, 20th January, 1881.

There has been a furious gale on the Coast of England, and many vessels have been wrecked. The Thames overflowed its banks, causing immense damage.

PARIS LETTER.

The second of December is the anniversary of the battle of Austerlitz in 1805, and of the Coup d'Etat in 1851. France forgets the first, but retains the most lively remembrance of the second. In 1805 Bonapartism was at the acme of its glory, to-day it exists only in name. Yet it is this anniversary of the Coup d'Etat, that an imperialist organ, which superfluously lags on the stage, has employed to charge the Republican leaders with breaking as many oaths as lovers or dicers. Napoleon III. committed 'tis true but one perjury, and that was sufficient. He expiated it at Sedan. It appears the Prince Imperial though but in his teens, played at statesmanship; he resembled it is well known the great uncle in the particular of having learned to pace up and down a room, hands behind back. The first time the Prince appeared in print, was in a pamphlet published after his death, by his tutor, relating a certain number of conversations on things in general, and in which one readily recognised the stamp of youthfulness, with all the dreamy tendencies of his father, and the superstitious sentiments of his mother. The present testament has the air of having been retouched by a Nestor, and is said to have been written in 1877. The production is worth reading, if for nothing but curiosity. The Prince examines the causes of

the fall of the second Empire, and attributes it to a neglect of popular education and of the administrative bodies—all was subordinate to political interests—to making good elections. Other causes; the increase of the urban populations and the great wealth of the middle classes, suddenly enriched by commercial freedom—bringing in their trains immorality and reckless extravagance; also, the extension of the press and of international exhibitions. It is odd for the Prince to include among his series of reasonings for the wreck of the Empire in 1870, the want of the power of initiation in the masses, and of dependence on a catholicism, which commands them to believe, and a Government that orders them to act. But all this will not reconstitute Imperialism—for France is no longer in want of an expedient. Louis XIV. said, "the State, it is *moi*:" the people, by the Republic proclaim, "the State, it is *now*."

A work of a different stamp, and one that foes as well as friends will not hesitate to read, is the first of the eight volumes of Gambetta's Speeches and Pleadings, which are really a series of Memoir of our Times, of new France. The editor of the work is M. Reinach—the right man in the right place, and already known as an exact, perspicacious, and accomplished writer, with a speciality for dealing with contemporary history, and so fully fitted to classify the orations, of a statesman, in possession of power, and who despite his high fortune may be considered as still only at the commencement of his career. The work will be the history of France during the last ten years, a period as dramatic as it has been agitated, that Frenchmen of to-day have lived, and who can therein find the emotions the hopes, but not the fears of their youth, and the deceptions. France, passionate for liberty, proud and rich and ambitious, suddenly seized by the throat by the German, and for a time uncertain whether she would be even allowed to guard her independence or even retain her name. The other picture is the underful resurrection of France. Gambetta is the embodiment of two principles; resistance to home oppression and foreign invasion. The volume opens with Gambetta's celebrated speech in November, 1868, for Delescluze and the Baudin Subscription, and on wakening next morning he found himself famous. He was then thirty years of age, and that oration was the death-knell of the Empire: it converted, as is well known, the judge, and Berryer, who was on his death-bed, sent his subscription for the monument to "his colleague Baudin, who died for the Law." Gambetta was at once returned deputy for Paris and Marseilles, and displayed in the Corps Legislatif that he was a statesman as well as pleader. In January, 1870, he informed the partisans of the Empire, "you are only a bridge between the Republic of 1848 and the Republic which is to come, and that bridge we will pass!" Many original documents and valuable explanatory notes are intercalated in the work, the last volume will end with Gambetta's latest speech—that in favor of the amnesty.

And still another book, by that black republican sheep Jules Simon, professing to relate the history of the Sixteenth of May, when he was unceremoniously kicked from the premiership by Macmahon. One paper gives a series of elegant extracts from the work, while another asserts the book is not published at all—both statements are reconcilable. The work professes only one aim—to run down Gambetta, for whom Simon has the most mortal of hates and the profoundest of jealousies, and to prove that Gambetta ardently desires, despite all his platitudes about peace, a war with Germany.

Belonging, as Jules Simon now does, to the clerico-monarchists, it is painful to see its members prepared to injure their country rather than accept the definite defeat to which they are so meritoriously condemned. Happily the Germans no more than the French believe them. In the recent debate on the foreign policy of France, the opposition endeavoured to prove the Republic courted glorious wars, and that France ought to have nothing to do with European concerns; she ought, it seems to remain at home, minding the pot and spinning, like Lucrece. Oh shades of Guizot and Berrér! in your days a debate on foreign affairs was a tragical event, and Frenchmen shivered with indignation and panted for war. Now the cold fit is on; peace at any price—Don Quixote, his lean steed, and

chivalry; followed by Sancho Panza, his fat ass, and ridicule. No one desires France to indulge in adventures, or make war for an idea, but no one wishes to see her shirk her part of the duty of collective policeman of Europe.

Attention is drawn to the attitude of Russia, who is more and more desirous of adopting the rest and be thankful policy. She has many financial breaches to repair, and in devoting her energies to the development of her immense natural resources, she will obtain more fruitful victories than hastening the demise of the unspeakable Turk. In the interim she merely looks on at Austria taking up position as the universal legatee of Ottoman Europe. As for Greece, while the majority would like to see her progressing Constantinople-wards, and extend much sympathy to her delicate, if not perilous position, yet it is felt that a leap in the dark just now, would not be in her interest; the philo-Hellenes do not think thus, as they have just founded a journal here to induce Frenchmen to go in for Greece—the last thing they are now inclined to do. Alsace in any case has prior claims to Pallas.

Universal suffrage has made another stride: up to the present only a select number of traders were eligible as voters to elect Consular judges, to preside at the Commercial Tribunals: henceforth all traders of five years standing will have a vote; the change will not materially affect the result. As for the ordinary jurymen in this country it is not clear how they are selected, and Frenchmen seem to have no great wish for an office that brings with it no remuneration; then it is a principle of democracy, that all persons exercising public functions, ought to be paid.

The Government has not yet come to a decision as to indicting the Père Monsabré for his pulpit attack recently on ministers and against the Republic: here too, as in the case of the Decrees, the Cabinet is determined to put the law in force, and the penalties are very severe for the clergy who forsake theology in the pulpit for party politics. I do believe the great mass of the French clergy are at heart opposed to dragging the Church into the arena of politics: one thing is certain, that line of conduct neither makes converts nor Christians.

Britany has the reputation of being a kind of French Ireland; both have families called the Korrigan. M. Coppée deals with those of his own country, and by his ballet, just brought out a Grand Opera, and with success, tells us they are fairies, about two feet high, aerial and diaphanous; they have no other clothing but a white veil, which they wrap round their body, and are visible chiefly at night; in the daylight they have white hair, many wrinkles, and red eyes. They are excellent singers, but unlike the fairies of Vaterland, they do not dance: they can change themselves into the form of any animal they please. Legend says, they were once native princes, but declining to embrace Christianity, they were thus transformed as effectually as was Lot's wife in another fashion. Yoonnette is a peasant girl, beloved by Liles; she is too poor to win his heart; the Queen of the Korrigan appears, offers her all the riches she desires, but on condition, that if she does not make the conquest before six o'clock, the hour of vespers, she will become a Korrigan. Then a troupe of fairies come forth from the wells, like Truth, only unlike that virtue, dressed, and deposit wardrobe glories at the feet of Yoonnette. As it has been observed, wherever there is a church, the Devil is not far away, so in the present instance; the bell ringer, a kind of Quasimodo, loves Yoonnette, and divines the bargain: he advances the hands of the village clock by an hour, so Vespers are rung out prematurely, and Yoonnette is carried off before she had closed her bargain with Liles. Now as the Virgin according to Byron, is the best judge of a body's case, Yoonnette receives a scapular, which undoes the trick of Quasimodo, she wins and weds and Liles. The dances are very pretty and the music graceful and delicate, but deficient in melody. The composer is M. Widor, an organist.

The Duchesse de Choiseul has been condemned to pay a fine of 200 francs for resisting the authorities in connection with the expulsion of the monks of Solesmes from their monastery. It has produced this effect, the duchess instead of remaining cloistered in her country seat, will come to Paris, expend her vast wealth, and open a political salon. They are not

Salons the royalists require, but people to frequent them. The courts have also been employed dealing out further equality: some communists, of both sexes, and monarchists on tramp, have been also fined for disrespect to the "Bobbies," and not noticing the efficacy of a "move on" request.

The *Evénement*, a republican journal of much standing, states: "Parnell the Irish agitator has not yet arrived in this city: he is the leader of the Irish ultramontanes."

A bank solicits subscriptions for the Panama loan, and instead of charging, as is usually the case, a small fee for their trouble, give a commemorative silver medal to their clients.

The government will soon have the right to change all the political judges in France: one of the latter, certain to disappear, has just rendered a political sentence, thus beginning: "Whereas, and while there are still independent judges" &c.

Stoves, guaranteed not to suffocate purchasers," are announced.

JAPANESE ITEMS.

[The following Notes on various Japanese matters are chiefly derived from the native papers, occasionally supplemented from original sources of information, and are carefully collated and edited, so as make them readable and intelligible.]

COURT, POLITICAL AND OFFICIAL.

His Excellency Yanagisawa Sakimitsu, Envoy Extraordinary at the Court of St. Petersburg, who also represents Japan for Sweden, was, we notice in a native paper, presented in audience with His Majesty the King of Sweden, accompanied by his Secretary Mr. Ozaki, on the 28th of last October, on which occasion he presented his credentials to His Majesty.

The *Nichi Nichi Shinbun* says that on the 16th instant His Majesty the Emperor, accompanied by Their Imperial Highnesses Princes Fushimi, Higashi-Fushimi and Kita-Shirakawa and the Imperial Chamberlains rode on horseback to the Park, where a number of rabbits were turned loose. A battalion of infantry of the Imperial Guard was stationed in attendance, and His Majesty witnessed some rabbit hunting, after which all who took part in it received refreshment.

The *Choya Shinbun* states that the Senate was re-opened on the 15th instant, in the following manner:—His Majesty the Emperor left the palace at 9 a.m., with His Excellency Tokudaiji Minister of the Household, in the same carriage, and escorted by Their Imperial Highnesses Prince Kita-Shirakawa, and Prince Fushimi, His Ex. General Yamagata, Privy Councillor, His Ex. Sugi Assistant Minister, and a number of Secretaries of the Imperial Household and arrived at 10.15 a.m. at the Senate, where he was received by the Secretaries and other officials, outside the gate, by the Senators, inside it, and by Their Excellencies Junior Prime Minister Iwakura, Foreign Minister Inouye, Privy Councillors Okuma, and Terashima, War Minister General Oyama, Naval Minister Admiral Enomoto, and Assistant Foreign Minister Wooyano &c. who waited at the entrance of the building. His Majesty was conducted to the anteroom by His Ex. President Oki, where he rested for a while and then proceeded to the Assembly Hall. The officials of the three first ranks were all drawn up in line and made salutations. His Majesty then addressed the President and Senators in the following words:—

"We now re-open the Senate in person, and hope you and all the Senators, taking our will in mind, will toil more and more."

After the opening ceremony had thus been performed, His Majesty retired to the ante-room, and returned to the Palace at 10.50 a.m.

Commenting on the stay of Their Excellencies Privy Councillors Okuma, General Kuroda, and Ito at the hot springs of Atami, and the forthcoming departure to the same place of His Excellency Privy Councillor Inouye, Minister for Foreign Affairs, the *Nichi Nichi Shinbun* says, "some garrulous person has remarked that when the Privy Councillors meet at Atami they not only restore their own health but that of politics also, always introducing some reform on their return to the Capital. We do not vouch for the correctness of this remark, but it is true that two or three translators have been sent there from Finance Department."

His Excellency Inouye, Minister of Foreign Affairs, accompanied by his wife and daughter, left Tokio by the 10 a.m. train on last Saturday, and visited the Russian man-of-war *Africa*. The Russian Minister also visited the vessel at the same time, and a banquet was given on board, after which the two ministers left at 3 p.m., receiving the usual salute.

The *Mainichi Shinbun* publishes a report that His Majesty the Emperor will shortly visit some of the Eastern provinces, the names of which are not yet notified.

We note in another paper that the Ministers of all Departments frequently hold meetings in the Cabinet, when the subject of retrenchment in the various offices is seriously discussed. Their deliberations are always reported to the higher authorities.

We read in a local native paper that a merchant of Melbourne has made observations on the tea trade of Japan, to the following effect:—"Over 20,000,000 pounds of tea are consumed annually in Australia and New Zealand, so that if a fair quality and price can be assured, there is a capital opening for Japanese teas."

The *Nichi Nichi Shinbun* contradicts the report that the new criminal code, and the code for the administration of justice, will be put in force about February or March next. The new civil code, it says, has not been published yet, nor are the treaty revisions completed.

His Excellency Inouye, Minister for Foreign Affairs, left for the hot springs of Atami on Monday last.

The son of the murdered Judge Ichinose Naoshisa has been appointed an attaché of the Tokio Superior Court.

The *Mainichi Shinbun* states that Mr. Secretary Inouye has reported to the authorities that the Loochoo question, so long pending between Japan and China, has been almost brought to a settlement.

The *Mainichi Shinbun* says that Mr. Kitagaki Kunimichi, Governor of the Kochi prefecture, has been transferred to the Governorship of Kioto.

His Excellency Prime Minister Sanjo gave an entertainment the day before yesterday at the Enriokwan, to which all the sentatives were invited.

The *Choya Shinbun* states that a telegram has been received to the effect that H. I. H. Sub-Lieutenant Prince Arisugawa Takehito (the younger) arrived at Hongkong on the afternoon of the 16th instant.

NAVAL AND MILITARY.

The *Nichi Nichi Shinbun* says that the new Naval Code having been completed, the committee appointed for its compilation has been discharged.

Port Admiral Nakamuta commence no inspecting the various men-of-war in harbour and Yokosuka since Monday last.

The *Adama Kan*, belonging to the Eastern Admiralty Office, has gone to Yokosuka, to undergo a thorough overhauling.

The *Iwaki Kan* returned to Yokohama from Yokosuka on the afternoon of the 12th instant, and will sail for Corea about the 22nd instant.

A correspondent writes to the *Nichi Nichi Shinbun* from Nagasaki as follows:—"The Russian fleet in Nagasaki has not changed for a long time. On the night of the 3rd instant experiments were made with the electric light on board all the men-of-war with the greatest success, as not only was the shiping illuminated but the whole town also; the sight gave great pleasure to both foreigners and natives. On the 6th instant, the Russian Christmas Day, all the ships were dressed and salutes were fired. The *St. Petersburg* completed her repairs and left the dock on the 7th instant and the *Europa* took her place on the following day. The *Naidesnick*, the *Plastoon*, the *Strelack* and the *Vostock* are all lying at Kobe, and the *Djigit* and *Rajbornick* at Shanghai."

Lieutenant General Shijo, Commandant of the Sendai garrison, arrived in Tokio on Saturday last to attend the meeting of commanding officers, which was opened in the War Department on and after the 20th instant.

A number of horses is to be sent to the Nagoya, Osaka, and Hiroshima garrisons from the Remount Office.

During the past year, a hundred thousand stand of the Mu-

rata rifles have been manufactured at the Koishikawa arsenal, and ten thousand more stand are to be manufactured there before the month of March next.

A native paper publishes a report that fortifications are to be constructed on the coast of Matsushima, which is about forty ri distant from Iki, in a N.E. direction, and is a very important position in the North. A branch of the Western Admiralty station is also to be stationed there.

We learn that the *Rinjo Ken* is to leave for Australia on the 2nd proximo.

A number of officers is to be despatched, according to a native paper, from the Pilot Bureau of the Navy Department, to Nagasaki, at the end of the present month, to survey the coast. All instruments connected with surveying are hereafter to be manufactured at the said Bureau instead of being imported, as hitherto, from abroad.

We notice in a native journal that the military officers intend giving an entertainment in the Kaikoeha at Kudan, Tokio, this afternoon to the commanding officers of the different garrisons, who have recently arrived in Tokio.

Port Admiral Nakamura inspected the *Isaki Kan* at Yokohama on Tuesday last.

His Imperial Highness General Prince Higashi Fushimi, Commander of the Imperial Guard, has notified that he will review all the forces of the Imperial Guard at the end of this month.

The *Isaki Kuan* left Yokohama at 3 p.m., on Thursday last for Corea, to replace the *Amaki Kuan* at Fusan. This vessel will immediately return to Japan.

The *Second Teiko Kuan* left Yokohama for Yokosuka on the 16th instant.

The *Nichi Nichi Shinbun* says that some Police Sergeants and Assistant Sergeants, in all about two hundred, were transferred to the War Department on Wednesday last, to be appointed officers for the new force of gendarmes.

INDUSTRIES, TRADE AND FINANCE.

The *Mainichi Shinbun* writes as follows on the subject of the tea trade:—"Tea has been very dull in Yokohama since the beginning of the year and there is no sign of any approaching recovery. Buyers are offering low rates and sellers consequently will not do business. Owing to such a state of affairs, no fresh supplies are being sent from the interior and the stock in town is very small. This stagnation is due to the fact that enormous quantities of tea were shipped to America both from China and Japan last year: there are now some eleven or twelve hundred thousand chests of tea in that country already, and the arrival of several thousands more, at the close of the year, tended to depress prices still more.

A native journal notes that a Mr. Watanabe Tetsuzo, a resident of Nagasaki, has applied to the government to be allowed to make researches for discovering the whereabouts of silver in mount Takuro, at Takachiho in the province of Hingra, Kagoshima prefecture. This mountain was once celebrated for its silver, and some years ago, Mr. Sumitomo one of the wealthier merchants of Osaka, made experimental cuttings, but water was struck and the work consequently abandoned.

The *shizoku* of Kamamoto prefecture have determined to commence silk-worm breeding, and Mr. Yamada came to Tokio as their representative last December, to apply to the Government for a loan of 30,000 yen as the capital for their proposed industry. The application was granted, and their ex-Lord Hosokawa is about to lend them 50,000 yen more towards their scheme.

One of the correspondents of local native journal, writing from Shizuoka, says that a farmer of great experience tells him that the present cold weather is expected to kill all the insects that usually injure the rice crops, and that he feels confident that there will be no plague of locusts this year. In consequence of this generally maintained opinion the price of rice is falling daily at Numadsu and the neighbourhood.

A local vernacular paper publishes the following news from Fukuoka:—"Mr. Hoashi, a *shizoku* of Tokio, with two friends, recently obtained a license to work coal mines at Kagetsu Mura in the prefecture of Fukuoka, and set about the work without delay, employing several hundreds of coolies in opening up two

mines, and building carriages for transport. The work is nearly completed and already large quantities of coal are obtained, as it is so abundant that as much can be procured as men can be found to dig it out.

The *Choya Shinbun* says that about a hundred vessels with cargoes of rice lately arrived at Kobe, from Kiushiu and the northern provinces, but owing to the fall of the price of rice no sales are reported.

The *Hochi Shinbun* says that the Mitsu Bishi Company bought the steamer *Courier* from Messrs. Walsh Hall & Co., on Monday last, for \$90,000 (Mexican), and have rechristened her the *Chishima Maru*. She will be employed in the coast trade of Yesso.

The *Nichi Nichi Shinbun* writes as follows:—"A competitive exhibition of horses and cattle is to be held in Hiogo this year, the exhibitors being people of the Hiogo, Okayama and Shimane prefectures. A large plain near the Ikuta-gawa, at the foot of the Nunobiki-yama, has been appointed for the place of exhibition. And at the same time the Industrial Congress for the central provinces will be held in the same prefecture."

The *shizoku* of the former Toyama clan, in the province of Yetchin, are, we learn from a native paper, about to undertake the cultivation of the waste land on the Osawa plains. These are a continuation of the Okubo plains, and it is proposed to convert them into rice fields, for which purpose they mean to raise 10,000 yen among themselves and to borrow 20,000 yen from the Government.

The following remarks on the tea trade of Kioto are taken from one of the vernacular papers:—"Tea is the principal product of Kioto and heads the list of exports from that place, but the price has gradually declined owing to sales to foreigners, and the manner in which Japanese merchants seek for immediate though trifling profits. The irregularity of business transactions, want of proper care in manufacturing, and, above all, the careless way in which different qualities are mixed together, have also tended to the same depreciation. This has been a subject of much regret to the merchants of that city and Messrs. Miki Sayemon, and Ikeda Sashichi, have invited their friends to form a Company, under the title of the Shojunsha, with the view of discarding all previous irregularities and establishing very stringent rules in order to manufacture good tea and restore prices to their former level. Application has been made to the authorities for permission to establish the society."

We take the following extract from the *Hochi Shinbun*:—"The Kwannogisha (a private Agricultural Society) established at Kakigara-cho Tokio has gradually obtained the confidence of the public and is announced to be now in a flourishing condition. On receipt of this intelligence Mr. Otake of Tamura, Nakabegori, and Mr. Kojima of Kimishima-mura, Chikuhagori, in the prefecture of Ibaraki, at once hastened to Tokio where they called at the offices of the society, and made enquiries as to its constitution, etc., etc. The information they received proving satisfactory, as soon as they returned home they collected their relations and friends, and after explaining the matter to them, they obtained fifteen associates at Makabe, Niiharu, and Chikuba, and no less than one hundred and sixty others in the surrounding counties. A capital of 30,000 yen has been subscribed, of which Mr. Otake himself gave 5,000 yen. It is proposed to establish at Hojo-mura, Makabe-gori, an agricultural society on the model of the Tokio Kwannogisha, the object being to bring under cultivation all the waste lands in the prefecture within ten years from now, thus providing work for many who are at present without employment, a purpose for which the above named two gentlemen cannot be praised too highly."

According to a native paper, small coinage is so scarce at Wakamatsu-cho, Kita-aizu-gori, in the prefecture of Fukushima, that great difficulty was found in obtaining it even for such necessities as bath money; a scheme was therefore proposed to the authorities that *satsu* should be made out of pine slips and put in circulation within the town limits only. The proposition was granted and these tokens can be used until the end of April next. By this ingenious plan, the stress consequent on the scarcity of change has been removed.

The following item from another native journal is of some

interest:—"At the time when the various native Banks deposited public loan bonds with the Finance Department as security for issuing notes, the price of a hundred yen bond was about eighty yen, but it has now declined to about sixty yen. On account of this great increase of discount it is rumored that the Finance Department will shortly order the Banks to increase their margins, and in consequence all these institutions are about to buy up bonds. Again, with the view of accumulating money as a precaution against famine, the general public throughout the country are purchasing these documents, so that their price is rising. We therefore advise holders not to sell at present."

The recent fall of snow has, so says a native contemporary, been attended by a similar fall in the price of rice. Seed oil is very dull, and 800 casks have arrived from Sakamizu and 300 from Ise. A meeting of buyers and sellers was held on the 17th instant but no business was transacted, owing to excessive stocks and the bad state of exchange. Kerosene oil is steadily advancing. Salted fish is dull, owing to large arrivals of fresh fish from the north. Imported cotton yarn has declined slightly in Yokohama, but remains steady in Tokio. Raw cotton is cheap and many sales are reported. Sugar is unchanged.

We read in the *Hochi Shinbun* that Mr. Oka Denbei, a resident of Kobiki-cho, Tokio, intends to establish an Industrial Insurance Company, and with this view has sent in a suggestion to the Home Department in the following terms:—"In order to facilitate the employment of capital for the encouragement of industries, all the holders of title deeds throughout the country, no matter where they reside, shall deposit a certain amount of money with the Industrial Insurance Company, proportionate to the value of the land they possess, to insure their land against all damage. The said Company will then transfer these deposits to the Finance Department, and upon the security of half the amount, Industrial Public Loan Bonds shall be issued, to be withdrawn in ten years." The paper we quote considers the scheme good, but says it has not yet received official sanction.

The Forest Bureau of the Home Department has planted a number of trees of good quality at the experimental grounds at Nishigahara. When these have grown to a certain height, they are to be distributed among all the cities and prefectures, to be planted in the forests and woods.

Beer is now brewed everywhere in Japan, says a local journal, but that brewed by the Hakko-sha, at Sakurada, Hongomachi, and known as the "Sakurada Beer," is of excellent quality, and in no way inferior to imported beer. It is well liked by both Japanese and the foreigners, and it will therefore doubtless before long become one of our export articles.

A native paper writes:—"Silk is becoming more and more prosperous, and the market price is going up in Yokohama. On the other hand, cotton yarn has been dull for two or three days, prices having declined \$3. No transactions, except on a small scale, are reported."

MISCELLANEOUS.

The *Hochi Shinbun* writes as follows:—"The Italian man-of-war *Vettor Pisani* left Yokohama for Shanghai on the forenoon of the 13th instant, but she anchored at Atami, as His Royal Highness the Duke of Genoa, and his officers, all wished to go out shooting in that neighborhood for a short time."

A vernacular journal gives the following statistics of Births, Marriages, and Deaths in Tokio during the month of September last:—Births, 1,013 males, 943 females; Marriages 567; Deaths 954 males and 830 females.

According to the same paper Mr. Kawaguchi, Mayor of Nishiku-kita, Osaka, in company with Mr. Toyoshima Kayemon and several other wealthier merchants, intends building a dockyard at Shirinashi-gawa.

The *Mainichi Shinbun* states that a disease has broken out among the cattle of between six or seven years of age in the village of Taku, in the province of Izu. Between the 27th November and the 20th December six cows died from the effects of the disease, some of them in half-a-day from its making its appearance. Precautionary measures were at once taken and the disease is abating in violence.

The same paper states that the authorities having made inquiries as to the number of mines in the whole country, it has been found that mines exist in every province with the exception of the following four:—Awa, Kazusa, and Shimosa in the prefecture of Chiba, and Iki in the prefecture of Shimane.

We read in another native paper that a well-known priest named Sata Kniseki, who is a political economist, of some repute, is delivering a course of sermons at the Asakusa Kwanon temple. He commenced on the 15th, and will continue until the 19th instant. His subjects are the excess of imports over exports, the constant drain of specie, and the most feasible remedies for these evils. He proposes also to form a society, the members of which shall pledge themselves never to use any articles of foreign make.

The *Nichi Nichi Shinbun* has received the following from a correspondent:—"Fever has made its appearance in the district of Minami Kunoye in the province of Rikuchiu, and the Mayor and other ward officials of the district have been attacked almost without exception, and Mr. Iwaidzumi, one of the committee of the Board of Health, has died from this disease. Consequently all affairs connected with the ward offices are at a standstill, to the great inconvenience of the public, especially in the case of educational and industrial affairs. The disease being infectious, precautionary measures must be taken as soon as possible. It is said that as the people of these localities live upon millet and similar things instead of rice, such diseases are due to the poverty of their blood, but nothing certain is known on this point."

The *Mainichi Shinbun* publishes following from a correspondent in Fusan, Corea:—"Minister Hanabusa, with his staff, left Fusan in the *Amaki Ken* on Tuesday, the 7th of December last. On the following day there was a very severe north-west gale and the ship was thrown out of her course and arrived at one of the islands on the coast of Koryu-ken, in Zenrando, where she sheltered for three and a half days. She eventually arrived at the port of Nimsen sometime after 1 p.m. on the 13th ultimo. The party then divided, one intending to start overland for the capital and the other to sail for the same place in Corean vessels. The latter party expected to reach their destination first, and to take over the Legation buildings and await the arrival of the Minister. They therefore engaged four vessels and left on the 14th, 15th and 16th ultimo. The Minister, who went on horseback, however, reached the capital first, as the party who went by sea found their passage impeded by ice. The Minister and his staff were put to the greatest inconvenience by the non-arrival of the rest of their party, and had to ask the Corean Government to furnish them with provisions &c. The passengers that went by sea in three of the vessels landed at Tsutaku, ten ri from Nimsen; the other vessel managed to break through the ice and the crew landed at Kinpo, sixteen ri from Nimsen. The local authorities rendered them every assistance in their power, but owing to bad roads and imperfect transport, great delay took place in the carrying of the cargo, some of which was even stolen en route by robbers."

"In Fusan it is now bitterly cold, though snow falls but seldom; the rivers, however, are all frozen, so much so as to prevent any traffic. On the 28th more than thirty persons rode on horseback on ice for distance of over ten cho, a thing hitherto quite unheard of."

The *Hochi Shinbun* states that an International Telegraph Congress will be held in Paris, from 1st August until 13th November next.

The *Akebono Shinbun* says that the Osaka Mint commenced the coining of copper money for the 14th fiscal year on the 17th instant. The Soda manufactory will be opened on and after the 1st of February next.

The same paper says that at the request of the public, all the police stations in Tokio are to be connected with telephones, so as to provide means for the immediate despatch of police whenever their presence is required, such as in cases of robbery or other accidents. The instruments are now being manufactured at the Civil Engineering Establishment at Akabane.

The *Kioto Nichi Nichi Shinbun*, the publication of which had been stopped, will re-appear on the 25th of this month.

A new journal will be published in the town of Mito, in the prefecture of Ibaraki, on and after the 1st of next month, under the name of *Ibaraki Nichi Nichi Shinbun*.

The *Hochi Shinbun* informs us that the road leading from the town of Sendai to the port of Nobiru, in the prefecture of Miyagi, is very irregular, and presents great obstacles to traffic. This road is a very important one as the above named port is daily becoming more prosperous, and the wealthier merchants of the place are therefore going to improve its condition, extending it on both sides so as to facilitate the means of transport. About thirty thousand yen will be required for the expense, of which amount Government will advance ten thousand yen.

The *Hochi Shinbun* contains a paragraph to the effect that it has frequently pointed out the bad habits of jinrickisha coolies and the annoyance they give to respectable people. It appears however, that "the latest idea is for one coolie to bet another five sen that he cannot induce some woman whom they see approaching to take his jinrickisha. The man goes off and tries every persuasion in his power, while the other, in order to save his bet, shouts out all the filthy and obscene language he can think of, so as to put her to shame. Thus these vehicles, intended to be a public convenience, have now become a public nuisance."

IMPERIAL GOVERNMENT RAILWAYS.

TOKIO AND YOKOHAMA SECTION.

Statement of traffic receipts for the week ending Sunday, 16th January, 1880.

Passengers, parcels, &c.	Yen. 8,940.49
Merchandise, &c.	" 957.44

Total.....Yen 9,897.93

Miles open 18.

Corresponding week last year.

Passengers, parcels, &c.	Yen 7,544.68
Merchandise, &c.	" 907.57

Total.....Yen 8,452.25

Miles open 18.

KOBE AND OOTSU SECTION.

Statement of traffic receipts for the week ending Sunday, 16th January, 1881.

Passengers, parcels, &c.	\$ 17,097.55
Merchandise, &c.	" 3,103.35

Total \$ 20,200.90

Miles open, 58.

Corresponding week last year.

Passengers, parcels, &c.	\$ 13,509.54
Merchandise, &c.	" 2,007.64

Total..... \$ 15,517.18

Miles open, 55.

INQUIRY.

An inquiry was held yesterday at H. B. M.'s Consulate into the death of Samuel Cowles, apprentice on board the British barque *Ethelstan*, who disappeared during the passage on the evening of the 12th of September last, and was supposed to have jumped overboard.

Mr. G. J. L. Hodges read an extract to the above effect from the official log.

Captain Bayley, master of the *Ethelstan*, testified to the correctness of the entry in the log. He said that the boy was particularly civil and polite and he had no fault whatever to find with him. He believed that he had been on a voyage before to New York, as under-steward in a steamer. He heard of the boy's disappearance very shortly after it had happened, and consulted with the officers and crew as to whether it was any use to lower a boat.

The chief officer of the ship confirmed the accuracy of the ship's log and the captain's evidence, adding:—"It was about eight o'clock that I heard the boy was missing. I went forward at once and had a search made, but we could not find him."

Alfred Coombes, A.B., stated:—"The last time I saw the deceased I was on the fore-castle; that was about 7.30 p.m.

The order was then given to take in staysails and I went aloft. It only took about ten minutes to take in sail and I came down, but then I missed him. When the small bell aft struck eight bells, the bell forward did not answer, so I struck it myself, and noticed the absence of the boy, whose duty it was to strike it. I thought his absence strange and went and searched for him; not finding him I reported it to the chief officer. The captain consulted us about lowering a boat, but we thought it would be useless to do so, as the boy could not swim a stroke, and must have gone down at once.

A seaman who had charge of the wheel during the watch in which the occurrence took place testified to seeing Cowles on the fore-castle at six o'clock. He had heard that he had talked, before, about jumping overboard.

John James Lacey, ordinary seaman, stated:—"On the night in question the deceased came into the fore-castle to light his pipe. He then came aft and told me that he meant to jump overboard some of these dark nights, and asked me to do so also. He then went forward again to look out, and I went below. That was the last I saw of him.

Decision reserved.

FINDING.

I find that Samuel Cowles, apprentice of the British Barque *Ethelstan* of Liverpool, official number 74,522 lost his life by drowning from that vessel in Lat. 24°2' S, Long. 80° W. on Sunday the 12th September 1880, between the hours of 6.30 and 8 p.m. and that there is no evidence to show whether such death was accidental or caused by his own act.

GEO. J. L. HODGES,
British Pro-Consul.

LAW REPORTS.

IN H. B. M.'s COURT FOR JAPAN.

Before R. T. RENNIE, Esq., Judge.

(Friday, 21st day of January, 1881)

ALEXANDER CLARK vs. WM. BOURNE.

This was a case in which the plaintiff claims \$5 from the defendant as damages for failing and refusing to deliver to the plaintiff, upon demand duly made upon the defendant, certain articles, to wit a stove and two stove stands, offered for sale at auction to the highest bidder, at a certain sale at auction, without reserve, held by defendant at Yokohama on the 7th January, plaintiff being the highest bidder and having tendered the amount of his said bid and offer for said articles, and having complied with all the conditions of said auction sale.

Mr. Hill appeared for the plaintiff, and Mr. Lowder for the defendant.

Mr. Hill addressing the Court said that he had worded the summons in a way which he trusted would meet with approval. His doctrine was that there was a personal contract and he charged the defendant with having made such a contract.

His Honor:—"An auctioneer is only an Agent, you must remember; before you can render him personally liable you must bring something more to prove it.

Mr. Hill:—"That I trust to do by the evidence and I will now call the defendant.

William Bourne, sworn, stated:—"I am an auctioneer and the defendant in this suit. There is no license required for an auctioneer in Yokohama. I recognize the catalogue handed in [Marked A] as that of a sale held on the 7th of January, at No. 94. There were conditions of sale, not specified in the catalogue, hung up in my office, and also at the place of auction. This is our usual plan.

Mr. Hill:—"Can you produce them?"

Mr. Lowder objected, but His Honor said he must have them.

Defendant:—"They were the usual conditions.

Mr. Lowder said that, to save time, he would produce them himself. [Copy handed in].

Defendant:—"Mr. Clark was at the auction in the afternoon. I spoke to him and said I would rather he did not attend my auctions, but stop away. After this, however, he persisted in bidding, and I told him I should trouble him for 50 per cent on his bid. He appealed, I believe, to the

gentlemen present to witness that I had refused his bid. It was in the afternoon. I don't remember seeing him in the forenoon, or taking bids of his. When I told Mr. Clark that I required 50 per cent deposit it was the first notice I had given him. I made the usual reserve of not selling a \$100 article for \$20; I forget my actual words. Delivery was to be between 9 and 12 next day. I refused Mr. Clark's bid once or twice. The last time was lot 238, one stove and two stands. I think I also refused for a pin-fire-gun. He bid \$4.00 for the stove, but I refused it, and sold it to the previous bidder for \$3.75. Mr. Clark had been a frequent purchaser at my auctions. He has never been a defaulter in payment.

Cross-examined by Mr. Lowder: I refused Mr. Clark's bid because I am led to believe that he is in combination with Japanese and others to prevent a proper price being obtained for goods sold at public auction. He does this by offering and receiving different sums, varying from \$50 to \$100, not to bid at such and such a sale. In other words, I mean that he buys off probable purchasers and is himself bought off. I can say that at the sale of the salvage of the late fire, held at No. 104, the China and Japan Trading Co.'s, a sale conducted by Mr. F. A. Cope and myself, I heard that Mr. Clark had offered Mr. Jan de Boer \$50 not to bid.

His Honor:—Will you call Mr. Jan de Boer?

Mr. Lowder:—If necessary, but I reserve the right of calling no witnesses if I like.

Cross-examination continued:—At first there were only a few bidders but afterwards many. An auctioneer can tell, with a little practice, whether there is a combination or not. Mr. Jan de Boer was bidding. I was selling, among other things, several lots of clocks. Japanese were bidding, but I think he was the principal buyer. All through the auction he and the Japanese were competing together.

His Honor:—I understand the matter to be then, that had Mr. Jan de Boer been persuaded to remain away, the auction would have been attended by considerable loss.

Mr. Lowder:—Exactly, Your Honor.

Continued:—The plaintiff's general reputation is that of a "knocker-out" especially among the auctioneers, and for that reason, I refused his bid on this occasion. He did not offer me 50 per cent on any bid that he made. In answer to my demand he said "I'll give you a cheque for \$100—or even \$1,000 if you like." I refused him. He has never offered to pay me for lot 238.

Re-examined by Mr. Hill:—Mr. Jan de Boer told me after the sale was over that plaintiff had offered him \$50 not to bid. I said just now that the auction would have suffered had he accepted the bid. Mr. Becker and Mr. Cope have both described Mr. Clark as a "knocker-out." Japanese have told me too that the plaintiff is in the habit of giving and receiving bribes. I can name one man, called Tanabiya. Manzo is another. I have heard the same from foreigners, but don't at present remember names. I speak only of plaintiff's reputation among my fellow-auctioneers and the Japanese who attend auctions. When I told plaintiff I wanted a 50 per cent deposit, he did not tender me the money. I have previously taken cheques from him.

Mr. Lowder objected to this as not rising from the cross-examination.

His Honour overruled the objection.

Continued:—I cannot recollect all the cheques I receive in my business. I do not think I ever refused plaintiff's cheques before. He asked me at the office for my account the day after the sale and I referred him to the clerk.

To the Court:—I do not think he ever asked me personally for delivery. He never offered to pay me 25 per cent. on his bids.

Alexander Clark, sworn, stated:—I am the plaintiff in this case. I know the defendant and attended his auction at No. 94 on the 7th instant. I went there some time before 10 a.m. The sale commenced in a small office to the left of the gate where the conditions of sale were posted. I think the conditions handed in are the same. Mr. Bourne began a few minutes after ten, saying "Gentlemen, the conditions are hung up on the wall." I bid for a Hepburn's Dictionary; defendant took my bid, and then bought it in himself. Afterwards I made several bids for household furniture, in the forenoon, and they were all accepted. The sale stopped shortly after twelve and recommenced at 2 p.m. in the godown. I attended again. My first bid was for lot

237, a pin fire gun. After the first two or three bids defendant seemed to skip my bids and take others. He refused my last bid: I said "Mr. Bourne, do not you take my bid?" he replied "No." I asked his reason, and he said angrily "I shall require 50 per cent. from you." I took out a Japanese ten yen note, and my cheque book: I offered to pay 25 per cent. according to his conditions, or to give him a cheque on the Oriental Bank. During this the gun was knocked down to somebody else. The next article was lot 238. I bid \$4.00 for the lot, but defendant ignored my bid entirely and knocked it down to a Japanese for \$3.75. I said "Mr. Bourne do you mean to say you won't take my bid?" He replied "I don't want your bid, I won't have your bid, and I won't have you here." These were his exact words. There were several foreigners to whom I called to take notice of it. Amongst them were Mr. Green and Mr. Moss. It is part of my business to attend auctions. The stove in question was an English coal-burning stove, in fair order. When new a fair price would be \$35, I should think. The stands were wooden, tinned over. It would be worth second-hand \$10 to \$15 to me. The last purchase I made from the defendant at auction was in November last. They were new damaged goods ex *Cilrnum*. The total was \$2,625.34. I paid in cheques and cash. Since then I have bought at Mr. Cope's without his asking me for a deposit. If I could have bought the stove I might have sold it for \$10 profit. There were other articles I might have bought and made profit on, if my bids had not been refused. Next morning I went to Mr. Bourne's office: he was standing inside. I asked him to give me my bill for the price of the stove and I would pay him and take delivery. He said "I can't go there myself as I have other business, but my man is there and will deliver any goods you may have bought." I went to No. 94 at once and asked defendant's clerk for the bill for the stove. He said he knew nothing about it, a Japanese had bought it. What defendant states about my offering Mr. Jan de Boer any money to induce him not to bid, or about my receiving money myself for similar purposes is utterly untrue.

His Honor here interposed to the effect that the evidence was irrelevant. The claim was for \$5 only and plaintiff had shown already that he might have made \$10 if he had obtained the stove. Any question as to further damage was unnecessary. He used Mr. Hill's own words in speaking of \$5 damages.

Mr. Hill bowed to the ruling of the Court: he had nothing further to ask.

Mr. Lowder suggested an adjournment until 1.30 p.m., as his cross-examination might take a little time.

The Court adjourned accordingly.

On the Court reopening, Mr. Lowder commenced his cross-examination.

Witness:—I think I have stated everything that took place between defendant, defendant's clerk and myself the day after the sale. I did not produce any coin and offer it to Mr. Bourne or his clerk. I had no dollars, but only notes.

Mr. Lowder said that he thought there was no need to take up the time of the Court as he could shew, he believed, that the case ought to be dismissed. The plaintiff himself had admitted that he never offered payment, which was one of his points.

His Honour, however, considered it premature. Counsel had elicited a "Yes or No" answer, but the re-examination might explain that away.

Cross-examination continued:—I remember an auction by defendant of damaged rice ex *Cilrnum*. I made no compact with Tanabiya Shimbei or any other person not to bid at the auction. I did not receive any money from him or any one else with respect to that auction, to cause me to refrain from bidding. I am not in the habit of accepting sums for that purpose. I am not in the habit, and have never offered any money to any one; never to Mr. Jan de Boer. I deny that on the 22nd December, at No. 104, I offered him \$50 to refrain from bidding. I did not receive any money from Japanese not to bid at a kerosene auction, held by Mr. Cope, at Ishikawa. I have not been forbidden to enter Mr. Becker's auction room on account of malpractices at auctions, and bad character.

Re-examined by Mr. Hill:—When I saw Mr. Bourne the morning after the auction, I told him I had come to pay him, and I had in my hand a Hongkong Bank \$5 note

with which I proposed to make payment. The auction at Ishikawa was about the middle of last year. I have bought goods of Mr. Cope since and never been asked for a deposit. Mr. Becker on one occasion told me he would not take my bids. I told him I should comply with the conditions of the sale, should bid and hold him responsible for refusing them. He then accepted my offers both at that auction and subsequently.

To the Court:—I am well informed of the conditions of the sale. I did not know that to offer a note and expect change is not a legal tender, as I am not well acquainted with law. I said to Mr. Bourne's clerk "Mr. Walker, I want the bill for the stove, and here's the money to pay for it." He said "A Japanese has the stove, I know nothing about it." I said nothing more but left. I have made no subsequent demand for the stove. I knew at the time that the goods were being sold by the order of Mr. Barlow, Agent for Shaw & Co., in liquidation.

E. J. Moss, sworn, stated:—I am a shopkeeper and am well acquainted with the parties in this case. I attend auctions and buy on commission. I was at the auction at No. 94. I remember a slight altercation between the parties. I saw Mr. Clark at the auction in the morning. He bid for some things. I don't remember any thing special. I heard no disputes between him and the auctioneer as to his bids, in the forenoon. I remember plaintiff bidding for lot 237. There was something said about defendant not accepting the bid, but Mr. Green overbid and the gun was knocked down to him. When Mr. Bourne refused the bid, plaintiff said he could give him a cheque for \$100 or \$1,000. I forget his actual words.

Mr. Lowder had no questions to ask.

Tanabiya, a Japanese witness, was next called, but owing to the absence of the interpreter, it was agreed to strike out what had been said on evidence about this man, and dispense with him as not being necessary.

Mr. Lowder asked to have defendant re-called as he has wished to ask him one question.

William Bourne, recalled, said:—No bank note was shown me by the plaintiff when he came to my rooms the day after the sale. He never said he had any money, or offered to pay any. He merely asked for his account, and I am sure he never said he wanted to pay it.

Mr. Lowder:—I will now apply that the summons be dismissed on the following grounds. 1st. No contract has been proved between plaintiff and defendant. 2nd. Even assuming that a contract had been proved it is plain that the certain conditions necessary as precedent to enable plaintiff to sue upon that contract were not observed by him. With reference to the first point; it is a proposition in law that an offer in an auction on one side is not binding until accepted by the other, which is shown by the lot being knocked down. There is always a *locus penitentiae*, the bidder can withdraw his bid and the seller his offer before the fall of the hammer. (Counsel here made lengthy quotations from Kent's Commentaries and Story on the Law of Sales in support of his argument).

His Honour that the cases quoted supported the argument as to contract, but he wanted some case to support an auctioneer in changing the conditions of sale, after the sale began.

Mr. Lowder said it was difficult to find a case exactly like it; but the case of *Spenser v Harding* was almost similar. This was not an auction but an advertisement for tenders. In all cases where the property is not sold without reserve the auctioneer can buy in lots, if going too cheap, so that he does not actually sell to the highest bidder.

His Honour:—This does not apply to the present case, as the lot was not bought in, but sold to another bidder. Before a sale the auctioneer can make any conditions he likes to protect himself or principals.

Mr. Lowder:—I would mention too that the contract, if any existed, was not between the plaintiff and defendant, but between plaintiff and defendant's principal. And plaintiff acted properly he would have gone to defendant's principals.

His Honour:—But if the agent had exceeded his powers, I do not think the principal would be liable.

Mr. Lowder:—Another point is, that even assuming that there was a contract, the plaintiff never paid the contract money. Next, he did not tender the actual price. Even if he did have a \$5 note in his hand, which we deny, that was not a proper tender. The conditions of sale say that

the goods must be absolutely paid for before being taken away. Plaintiff knew these conditions; he knew there had been a dispute and that most likely there would be some difficulty, so he should have gone prepared to pay the proper amount. That is really the point on which I wish the summons dismissed (Counsel quoted *Leake on Contracts*).

Mr. Hill:—As your Honor says, this is a question of contract. As to tender, a legal tender depends something on custom, and to ascertain the usual custom I asked defendant his former method of taking payments. He says he did not notice the plaintiff offering \$5. I don't know that the exact amount \$4 must be tendered. I should say a bank note of more than that would be a legal tender, without authority to the contrary.

His Honour:—But strictly speaking the money must be put down on the table, must quit your hand, and must be the exact sum. I can confirm this from my own experience in a dispute with an auctioneer some years ago.

Mr. Hill:—It is a fact that Mr. Bourne had this dispute, and that the stove was disposed of. Plaintiff said "here is the money," but defendant referred him to another agent, to whom defendant went.

His Honour:—Unquestionably plaintiff made two offers, but were they legal tenders?

Mr. Hill:—That is for your Honor to decide. It remains that plaintiff went and offered to pay and that defendant did not actually refuse to accept the money, but referred him to some one else. I should like your Honour to look up some authorities whose names I will give you, as I have not the books.

His Honour referred to the cases in question, but said he failed to see where they applied.

Mr. Hill:—My doctrine is that here there was actually no need for a tender, and also that the defendant, by delivering the stove to another man, had effectually precluded himself from carrying out the contract.

His Honour:—In this case the conditions of sale seems to me particularly to demand that tender of payment should be made. I think it useless to go further. I think it ought to have been made, and that you yourself have said you made a tender, but have failed to prove it. The summons is therefore dismissed, with costs.

The Court then adjourned.

DRAW-POKER.

Ever since Gen. Schenck's admirable treatise brought it prominently into notice, savants have been endeavoring to prove that draw-poker is justly entitled to consideration as one of the exact sciences, beautifully governed by strictest mathematical law, instead of being merely one of the eccentric and ruleless recreations incident to American leisure. Their efforts, however, seem to be attended by many complex difficulties.

In a recent paper upon the "Correlation of Blind and Straddle," Prof. Dana, the eminent geologist, submitted to the Royal Society the following, which he modestly claimed as his own discovery:

In experimenting upon the effects of age upon diversely stratified hands before the draw, I found, when the senior hand consisted of one Azoic stratum of deuces, and one Paleozoic stratum of kings, with an intermediary and unprofitable sub-stratum of detritus composed of an old club or so,—that, first, the tendency to create an upheaval in the metallic deposit at stake, and thereby cause a second influx of fossil ivory towards the common centre, was greater than when said hand was irregular in formation; and that second, said hand subsequently usually segregated said fossil accretions, and gathered them about itself.

Having been appointed a committee to investigate the above, Profs. Huxley, Darwin, and Tyndall pursued their researches from 7:30 p.m. one Saturday until 11:15 a.m. Sunday, and Prof. Huxley, the Chairman, reported as follows:

Your Committee, after arduous labor and great expense find that, while the Dana theory of Elevation of Straddles, as contained in his paper, is correct in the premise, it is sometimes disastrously fallacious in the conclusion. One of the experiments tried by your Committee proved this, as follows: The senior hand, governed by myself, consisted before the draw of one stratum of ensanguined jacks, one stratum of sable queens, and one accidental but worthless diamond,—almost as valuable a formation as that instanced by Prof. Dana. The sub-senior hand, engineered by Prof. Tyndall, was nearly homogeneous with small spades, the beautiful continuity being only bobbled at one end by a healthy but inefficient heart. The junior hand, under the management of Prof. Darwin, consisted before the draw, as he states, of one thin stratum of deuces, with three substrata of detritus,—an eight, a four, and a six of assorted suits. Profs. Tyndall and Darwin having duly entered, I generously uplifted the revenue to the extent of the limit, which in our case was £10. To this Prof. Tyndall readily acceded. Prof. Darwin demurred for several minutes, arranged and rearranged his strata in an uncertain and, as we thought, nervous manner, but finally

concluded his meditation and contributed quite a handsome fossil collection towards the general centre. To me he then dealt one sub-stratum; to Prof. Darwin one; and to himself three. Applying myself to the taxidermist's art, I soon discovered that my formation of jacks had been wonderfully enriched, the triple strata of which even now, resting upon my stratum of queens, quite filled my hand. Prof. Tyndall then, after examining his newly-acquired stratum with evidences of suppressed emotion, advanced one fossil, to the value of £2. Prof. Darwin took a panoramic view of his strata, and neatly covered that, and, to my great delight, added a smaller fossil, to the value of 10 shillings. I promptly covered both deposits, and then proceeded to hoist Prof. Darwin to the extent of £10. Still further to my delight Prof. Tyndall elevated me in like ratio. I naturally feared that now Prof. Darwin would retire. So did Prof. Tyndall, who half regretted having put on so aggressive a front to his usually timid friend. But to our immense satisfaction, Prof. Darwin, after again reviewing his strata to see if they were all there, not only nimbly ascended Prof. Tyndall's elevation, but capped it, as before, with 10 shillings. Rejoicing secretly in the wisdom of the Dana theory, but with an artful simulation of hesitation designed to encourage my fellow investigators, I again climbed over both precipitous heaps to the extent of £10. Then began a contest which now comes to me like a blurred and hideous dream. Prof. Tyndall neaped over me, Prof. Darwin hopped over him, and I turned somersaults over Prof. Darwin, until not only was my entire fossil collection, my pocket-portfolio of engraved portraits of Government celebrities, and cheques for half the sum of my accumulations in the East India Bank, heaped on the pile, with Prof. Tyndall's watch and eye-glasses and fine polariscope and collar-buttons, together with his seal ring, a mortgage on his house, an order for seven months' advance salary as Secretary of your honorable body, and a transfer order for two-thirds of his registered consols, but also drafts from Prof. Darwin upon his publisher for the entire gross receipts of a new edition of the "Descent of Man," and a corrected revision of the "Origin of species," with a clear deed of the copyright of a book now in preparation. I now naturally began to fear lest my zeal should blight the future of my two friends, especially that of Prof. Darwin, whose acquaintance with the science under discussion was but limited at best, and who, I felt quite certain, merely persevered through a gentlemanly spirit of accommodation. But as Prof. Tyndall continued his muscular exercise in boosting my ventures, and as Prof. Darwin would each time mildly encourage him with a 10-shilling prod, I still continued. Finally, when my overcoat, and Prof. Tyndall's rubber goloshes, and Prof. Darwin's telescope hat, had been added to the heap on the extra table brought in to hold the increasing pile, the hands were called all round, Prof. Darwin apologetically saying that he called simply because he had nothing more to bet but his sleeve-buttons, which were a birthday present from his wife. Upon the call, I looked at Prof. Tyndall, Prof. Tyndall looked at Prof. Darwin, and Prof. Darwin looked at both of us. Prof. Tyndall said that he had not foreseen this,—that he had been bounced higher than when he was on top of the Matterhorn, and had forgot himself in his excitement,—that he was so sorry he couldn't think, but he had an ace flush. He then started to gather in and count up the pot. I checked him, and with tears in my eyes confessed that I had been very, very wrong, but that I had really supposed Prof. Tyndall's strata were more nearly like my own,—that I felt keenly for Prof. Darwin, who had been dragged innocently into the destructive contest,—that I would cheerfully return to him his vest, and comforter, and polka-dot handkerchief, and telescope hat, and to Prof. Tyndall his eye-glasses, and goloshes, and one collar-button, and beg both not to mention it,—that I had been surprised at the tremendous developmental effect of the draw upon the germinal protoplasm of my hand, and had been unnecessarily deluded into raising,—and that I was almost ashamed to say it, as they were friends, but that I had three jacks and a pair of queens. I then burst into tears, and began to rake in the small change. In this I was assisted by Prof. Darwin, who certainly displayed the utmost stoicism throughout. At length, when the huge pile was sorted and the value roughly estimated, I thought to console him, and asked him what he had. The horror of both Prof. Tyndall and myself can only be imagined by your learned body when we saw Prof. Darwin deliberately first pocket the neatly-folded bank-notes, and then the rolls of guineas, and then put Prof. Tyndall's watch in his fob, and try on Prof. Tyndall's goloshes, and adjust Prof. Tyndall's eyeglasses on his nose, and test them by running over my hand again, and put on my overcoat, and stuff the pockets thereof with the mortgages, and deeds, and cheques, etc., which had accumulated, and then pass in the fossils to me to be cashed, and, finally, with a delicate smile of condolence, skin out four deuces and a king.

Your Committee beg to state that the Dana theory is pernicious and fraudulent in the extreme. In conclusion I would respectfully beg to withdraw my offer to make at my own expense a scientific investigation of the theory of Prof. McCosh, of Princeton, that "straights are absolute in jack-pots." Prof. Tyndall also desires me to say that his failing health will prevent his equipping and accompanying the proposed party to explore the glaciers of the Jungfrau, and says they must equip themselves or stay at home.

Accompanying the above was a minority report, as follows:

The Dana theory, in my opinion, is the most striking instance of transmitted Simian instinct I have yet seen. Although apt to mislead at first sight, its finer and more deeply-seated reasonings are among the noblest and most improving studies in the contemplation of the ascent and descent of man. I beg to inclose my back dues for eighteen months to the Royal Society; with advance payments for the year, and to state that I will cheerfully contribute £500 towards the contemplated "Classification of the Ring-Tailed Monkeys of Madras" by your illustrious body. I have to-day

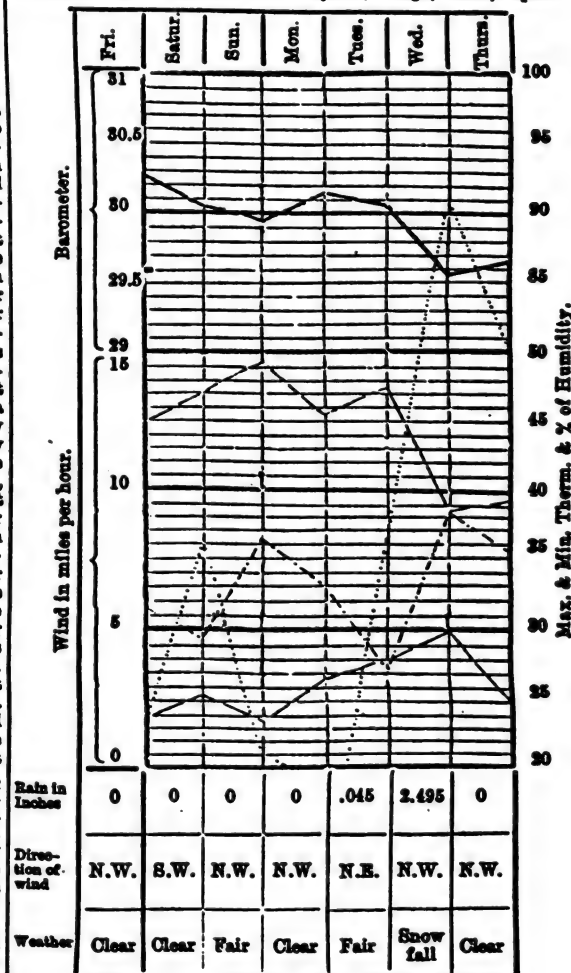
decided to take a pleasure trip around the world, and will forward to your museum, at my own expense, all objects of interest coming under my notice. Respectfully submitted. CHARLES DARWIN, F. R. S.

Addendum:—Should your honorable body desire any further investigations into the same subject I will cheerfully defer my trip, and shall be proud to serve.—*Tribune*. C. D.

METEOROLOGICAL REPORT

FOR WEEK BEGINNING FRIDAY, JANUARY 14TH, 1881.

Observatory of Daigaku, Moto-Fujicho, Hongō, Tokio, Japan.



REMARKS.

Heavy line represents barometer.

Light continuous line—max. & min. thermometers.

.....represents velocity of wind.

.....percentage of humidity.

Max. velocity of wind 25.5 miles per hour on Sunday at 2 p.m.

The barometer is reduced to the freezing point and to the level of the sea.

The highest reading of the barometer for the week was 30.278 inches on Friday, at 6 p.m.; and the lowest was 29.476 inches on Wednesday, at 6 p.m. The highest temperature for the week was 49° 2 on Sunday, and the lowest was 23° 8 on the same day. The maximum and minimum for the corresponding week of last year were 47° 5 and 23° 5 respectively. The total amount of rain and snow for the week was 2.540 inches. No rain or snow fell in the corresponding week of last year.

CHURCH SERVICES.

CHRIST CHURCH.

Sunday Morning 11 A.M.
" Evening 5.30 P.M.

E. CHAMPNETTS IRWIN, M.A.,
The Parsonage, 101.

UNION CHURCH, No. 167.

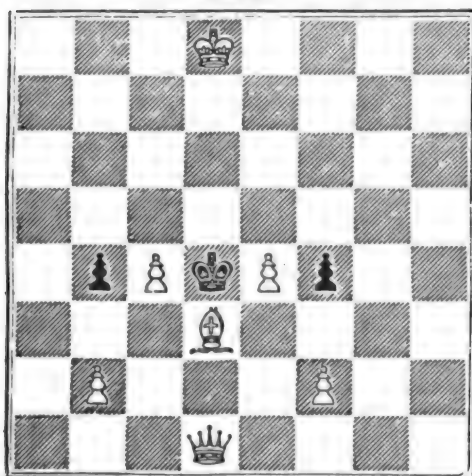
Sunday Morning 11 A.M.
" Evening 8 P.M.

REV. LUTHER H. GULICK, M.D.,
Pastor.

CHESS PROBLEM,

BY G. N. CHENEY.

BLACK.



WHITE.

White to play and mate in 3 moves.

SOLUTION OF CHESS PROBLEM OF JAN. 15TH, BY C. C. MOORE.

- | | |
|-------------------------|-----------------|
| White. | Black. |
| 1.—B. to K. Kt. 4. | 1.—K. to Kt. 4. |
| 2.—R. to Q. 6, dis. ch. | 2.—K. R. 5. |
| 3.—R. to R. 6, mate. | |
| | 1.—K. takes P. |
| 2.—P. to K. R. 4. | 2.—K. B. 5. |
| 3.—R. to Q. 4, mate. | |

Correct solution received from "The Banished Brothers."

SHIPPING INTELLIGENCE.

INWARDS.

- Jan. 17, British steamer *Belgic*, Davison, 2,627, from San Francisco, Mails and General, to O. & O. Co.
- Jan. 17, Japanese steamer *Niigata Maru*, Walker, 1,603, from Hongkong via Kobe, Mails and General, to M. B. Co.
- Jan. 17, Japanese steamer *Tokai Maru*, Hogg, 653, from Kobe, Mails and General, to M. B. Co.
- Jan. 18, British steamer *Bengal*, Stewart, R.N.R., 1,339, from Singapore, Ballast, to Adamson, Bell & Co.
- Jan. 19, Japanese steamer *Wakanoura Maru*, Christensen, 1,300, from Kobe, Mails and General, to M. B. Co.
- Jan. 20, American steamer *City of Tokio*, Cobb, 5050, from Hongkong, Mails and general, to P. M. Co.
- Jan. 20, Japanese steamer *Takasago Maru*, Young, 1,230, from Shanghai and ports, Mails and General, to M. B. Co.
- Jan. 21, Japanese steamer *Tsuruga Maru*, Steedman, 661, from Kobe, Mails and General, to M. B. Co.
- Jan. 21, British steamer *Sunda*, Reeves, 1,704, from Hongkong via Nagasaki, Mails and General, to P. & O. Co.
- Jan. 21, British steamer *Merionethshire*, Rickard, 1,245, from London via Hongkong, General, to Adamson, Bell & Co.

PASSENGERS.

Per British steamer *Belgic* from San Francisco:—For Yokohama: Col. Horace Fletcher and wife, Baron Rosen and C. S. Sharp. For Hongkong: Messrs. E. J. Loughead, C. L. Lyons, and A. L. Young in cabin; 487 Chinese in the steerage.

Per Japanese steamer *Tokai Maru* from Kobe:—Messrs. Harper, Carter, and Jacobs.

Per Japanese steamer *Takasago Maru* from Shanghai and ports:—Rev. Dr. Nelson and Miss Nelson, Miss C. M. C. Crew, Miss H. A. Crew, Rev. Piri Adams, Messrs. G. S. Russell, E. C. Kirby, P. S. Syme, Johnston and 12 Japanese in cabin; 112 Japanese, 1 European and 1 Chinese in the steerage.

OUTWARDS.

- Jan. 16, British ship *Fontenay*, Tribe, 564, for Kobe, Ballast, despatched by A. Reimers & Co.
- Jan. 17, Japanese barq. *Sumanoura Maru*, Spiegelthal, 925, for Nagasaki, Ballast, despatched by M. B. Co.
- Jan. 17, British steamer *Belgic*, Davison, 2,627, for Hongkong, Mails and General, despatched by O. & O. Co.
- Jan. 21, British steamer *Priam*, Butler, 1,572, for London via Kobe and China ports, General, despatched by Butterfield & Swire.
- Jan. 17, British barque *Mikado*, Lehman, 643, for Kobe, General, despatched by Hudson & Co.
- Jan. 19, Japanese steamer *Tokio Maru*, Swain, 1,146, for Shanghai &c., Mails and General, despatched by M. B. Co.
- Jan. 21, Japanese steamer *Niigata Maru*, Walker, 1,603, for Hongkong via Kobe, Mails and General, despatched by M. B. Co.

PASSENGERS.

Per British steamer *Belgic* for Hongkong:—Miss V8n Buren, Mrs. Eldridge, and Mr. G. W. Bappey in the cabin.

Per American steamer *City of Tokio*. For San Francisco:—Captain J. Hawthorne and wife, Mr. Julius Kum; two Chinese in cabin and 265 in steerage.

Per Japanese steamer *Tokio Maru* for Shanghai and ports:—Mr. and Mrs. Bohm, Mr. and Mrs. Faber, Mrs. Hayashi, Messrs. J. G. Walsh, T. H. Whitehead, Yoshinaga, Momogo, C. S. Sheep, Ishitashi, Akaboshi, Kaniko, Alori, Kobayashi, Del Rio, Lanaiten, Iwakura, Yamamoto, Mogagima, Kamashima, and Hayashi.

Per British steamer *Priam* for London:—Captain and Mrs. Blair, Lieut. Blair and two children, Miss Profit, Mr. Dale, and Mrs. C. A. de Boinville and child.

Per Japanese steamer *Niigata Maru* for Hongkong via Kobe:—Messrs. E. F. Kilby and Ashida.

CARGOES.

Per Japanese steamer *Tokio Maru* for Shanghai and way-ports:—Treasure \$ 2,500.00

Per Japanese steamer *Takasago Maru* from Shanghai and ports:—Treasure... .. \$ 38,303.70

REPORTS.

The British steamer *Belgic* reports:—Left San Francisco, December 21st, 1880, at 3.25 p.m., experienced very strong head winds to fresh gales with high confused seas throughout the voyage. December 31st, at 11.15 p.m. and in Latitude $37^{\circ} 10' N.$, Longitude 165°

NATIVE CURRENCY QUOTATIONS.

(For Week Ending 22nd January, 1881.)

	Discount on Yen Sats.			Gold Yen.	Nibus.	Silver Subsidary (New.)	Silver Subsidary (Old.)
	A. M.	Noon.	Closing.				
1881							
Saturday	Jan. 15	77 $\frac{1}{2}$	74 $\frac{1}{2}$	—	—	—	—
Monday	" 17	75	75 $\frac{1}{2}$	—	—	—	—
Tuesday	" 18	75 $\frac{1}{2}$	74 $\frac{1}{2}$	—	—	—	—
Wednesday ...	" 19	74 $\frac{1}{2}$	75 $\frac{1}{2}$	—	—	—	—
Thursday	" 20	75 $\frac{1}{2}$	75	—	—	—	—
Friday	" 21	75 $\frac{1}{2}$	74 $\frac{1}{2}$	75	—	—	—
Saturday	" 22	75 $\frac{1}{2}$	74 $\frac{1}{2}$	—	—	—	—

NEXT MAIL DUE FROM,

AMERICA	P. M. Co.	Jan. 30th 1
AMERICA	O. & O. Co.	Feb. 14th
EUROPE, via HONGKONG	M. M. Co.	Jan. 27th 2
HONGKONG	P. & O. Co.	Feb. 5th
HONGKONG, via KOBE	M. B. Co.	Jan. 31st
HONGKONG	P. M. Co.	—
HONGKONG	O. & O. Co.	Feb. 8th
SHANGHAI, HIOGO & NAGASAKI...	M. B. Co.	Jan. 27th

- 1.—Left San Francisco, January 6th, *City of Peking*.
- 2.—Left Hongkong, January 21st, *Volga*.

NEXT MAIL LEAVES FOR,

AMERICA	P. M. Co.	Jan. 23rd
AMERICA	O. & O. Co.	Feb. 11th
EUROPE, via HONGKONG	P. & O. Co.	Jan. 30th
EUROPE, via HONGKONG	M. M. Co.	Jan. 23rd
HAKODATE	M. B. Co.	—
HONGKONG, via KOBE	M. B. Co.	Feb. 5th
HONGKONG	O. & O. Co.	Feb. 16th
HONGKONG	P. M. Co.	—
SHANGHAI, HIOGO & NAGASAKI...	M. B. Co.	Jan. 26th

The arrival and departure of mails by the "Occidental and Oriental," the "Pacific Mail," and the "Peninsular and Oriental" companies, are approximate only.

LIGHTSHIP SIGNALS.

The following are the signals made from the lightship to denote the approach of vessels:—

Merchant steamer:—A black ball, with the national flag of the vessel below, at the yard arm.

Mail steamer:—A black diamond, with the company's flag below, at the peak

Man-of-war:—National flag of the vessel at the peak.

Sailing vessels:—For a ship: flag B. (red): barque, flag C. (red ball on white ground): brig, flag D. (white ball on blue ground): schooner, flag E. (white ball on red ground) all commercial code, with the vessel's national flag below as soon as it can be made out.

SHIPPING INTELLIGENCE.

VESSELS IN HARBOUR.

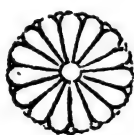
NAME.	CAPTAIN.	FLAG AND REG.	TONS.	FROM.	ARRIVED.	CONSIGNEES.
STEAMERS.						
Bengal	Stewart	British steamer	1,339	Singapore	Jan. 18	Adamson, Bell & Co.
Courier	Cooper	Russian steamer	496	Shanghai via Nagasaki	Jan. 10	Walsh, Hall & Co.
City of Tokio	Cobb	American steamer	5,050	Hongkong	Jan. 13	P. M. Co.
Menzaleh	Honery	French steamer	1,273	Hongkong	Jan. 2	M. M. Co.
Merionethshire	Rickard	British steamer	1,245	London via Hongkong	Jan. 21	Adamson, Bell & Co.
Sunda	Reeves	British steamer	1,704	Hongkong	Jan. 21	P. & O. Co.
Tanaia	Reynier	French steamer	1,735	Hongkong	Jan. 12	M. M. Co.
Takasago Maru	Young	Japanese steamer	1,230	Shanghai & ports	—	M. B. Co.
Wakanoura Maru	Christensen	Japanese steamer	1,300	Kobe	—	M. B. Co.
SAILING SHIPS.						
Athelstan	Bayley	British barque	771	London	Jan. 9	W. J. S. Shand
Alexander	Carson	American schooner	52	Kurile Islands	Nov. 3	J. E. Collyer
Buston Vale	Buckingham	British barque	411	Liverpool	Dec. 17	Hudson & Co.
Black Diamond	Baade	German barque	601	Nagasaki	Dec. 23	P. Bohm
Cilarnum	Beadle	British ship	1,850	Hongkong	Nov. 8	Edward Fischer & Co.
Clan Macleod	Wilson	British barque	646	Antwerp	Jan. 10	C. Illies & Co.
Eiler Bank	Parker	British ship	1,145	Middlesborough	Jan. 9	Hudson & Co.
Grandee	Winn	American ship	1,295	New York	Jan. 8	Order
George Bewley	Hammond	British barque	1,040	Antwerp	Jan. 9	Order
Goodell	Goodell	American barque	964	New York	Jan. 9	Isaac Bros.
Helena	Ewalt	German schooner	60	Kurile Islands	Oct. 31	Captain
Lottie	Hiltz	German schooner	26	Kurile Islands	Sept. 4	Hohnholz & Co.
Madame Demorest	—	Japanese barque	870	Newcastle, N.S.W.	Apr. 19	Walsh, Hall & Co.
Mary C. Bohm	Petersen	German schooner	55	Kurile Islands	Oct. 24	P. Bohm
North Star	Johnson	Russian schooner	42	Kurile Islands	Nov. 16	H. W. Hohnholz & Co.
Otago	Isaacsen	Russian schooner	46	Kurile Islands	Nov. 3	H. Cook
Otome	Hardy	American schooner	72	Kurile Islands	Dec. 13	H. Snow
Pioneer	Maies	Russian schooner	72	Romo, via Hakodate	Jan. 17	Walsh, Hall & Co.
Scottish Fairy	Toozes	British barque	750	Put in dismasted	Oct. 10	Malcolm & Co.
Stella	Werner	American schooner	30	Kurile Islands	Oct. 11	Captain
Victoria Cross	Tweedie	British barque	668	Antwerp	Dec. 3	Boyes & Co.

VESSELS OF WAR IN PORT.

NAME.	GUNS.	TONS.	H. P.	DESCRIPTION.	WHERE FROM.	COMMANDER.
BRITISH—Albatross...	4	894	—	Sloop	Chefoo	Captain Errington
FRENCH—Champlain	10	1,940	450	Corvette	Nagasaki	Captain Michand
GERMAN—Veneta	19	2,000	—	Corvette	Kobe	Captain Zirsow
RUSSIAN—Kniaz Pojarsky	12	4,291	—	Ironclad	Nagasaki	Captain Tirtoff
" Crayser	—	1,500	—	Corvette	Nagasaki	Captain Nazimoff
" Africa	14	1,400	—	Cruiser	Nagasaki	Captain Aleasoff
" Ermak	4	375	—	Transport	Hiogo	Captain Kolfchan

VESSELS ON THE BERTH.

DESTINATION.	NAME.	AGENTS.	TO BE DESPATCHED.
New York via Kobe and China	Bengal	Adamson, Bell & Co.	Quick despatch
San Francisco	City of Tokio	P. M. Co.	Jan. 23rd
London via Japan and China ports	Merionethshire	Adamson, Bell & Co.	Quick despatch
Hongkong	Menzaleh	M. M. Co.	Jan. 23rd
Shanghai and way ports	Takasago Maru	M. B. Co.	Jan. 26th, at 4 p.m.
San Francisco	Belgie	O. & O. Co.	Feb. 11th



NOTICE.

THE NATIONAL EXHIBITION OF 1881, an institution established for the encouragement of agricultural and manufacturing industries, will be opened on the 1st MARCH at UYENO PARK, TOKIO, and will remain open to the public till the 30th JUNE, 1881.

Live Stock will be exhibited from the 1st to the 15th May. Vegetables and Fruits, from the 1st to the 20th May.

CLASSIFICATION.

GROUP I.—Mining, Metallurgical products, Minerals, &c.

GROUP II.—Chemical products, Porcelain and Metallic Ware, Furniture, Clothing, Jewellery, Paper, Books and other articles necessary for educational purposes, Medical and Surgical instruments, Arms, Civil Engineering Plans, Carriages, &c.

GROUP III.—Fine Arts and lacquered ware.

GROUP IV.—Machinery.

GROUP V.—Agricultural products, animals, fish, articles manufactured from vegetables, preserved meats, textile substances (both vegetable and animal), agricultural instruments, forest products, &c.

GROUP VI.—Ornamental trees, shrubs, flowers, and stones. Open to the public daily from—

9 A.M. to 4 P.M. from the 1st March to the 15th April.

8 A.M. to 5 P.M. from the 16th April to the 30th June.

TICKETS.

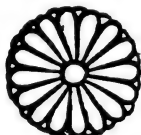
Red Tickets issued on Sundays.....	15 Sen.
White " " " Saturday	3 "
Light blue " " " any other day	7 "

NATIONAL EXHIBITION DEPARTMENT,

Uyeno Park, Tokio.

Yokohama, January 18th, 28M

1w.



NOTICE TO MARINERS.

SHIMONOSEKI STRAITS BUOYS.

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN, that KANABUSE BUOY and MIDDLE GROUND BLACK BUOY, which were advertized as having broken adrift from their moorings, have been replaced.

BY ORDER.

Lighthouse Establishment,
Benten,

Yokohama, 17th January, 1881.

China Fire Insurance Company, (LIMITED.)

THE rate on FIRST-CLASS GODOWNS is this day reduced to $1\frac{1}{4}$ per cent less 20 per cent discount.

MOURILYAN, HEIMANN & Co.,

Agents.

Yokohama, January 5th, 1881.

Scottish Imperial Fire Insurance Company.

REDUCTION OF PREMIUMS.

THE undersigned are authorized to accept risks on FIRST-CLASS GODOWNS and their contents, at the reduced rate of $1\frac{1}{4}$ per cent less 20 per cent. discount.

C. ILLIES & Co.,

Agents.

Yokohama, January 5th, 1881.

NORTHERN ASSURANCE COMPANY.

FIRE AND LIFE.

THE UNDERSIGNED, on behalf of this Company, are prepared to accept FIRE RISKS on FIRST-CLASS GODOWNS and BONDED WAREHOUSES, at $1\frac{1}{4}$ per cent. and LIFE RISKS on HOME TERMS, and settle all claims thereon.

W. M. STRACHAN & Co.

Yokohama, January 6th, 1881.

The London & Staffordshire Fire Insurance Company,

(LIMITED).

THIS COMPANY is now prepared to accept Risks on First-Class Godowns, at the rate of $1\frac{1}{4}$ per cent. per annum.

W. J. S. SHAND,
Agent.

Yokohama, January 5th, 1881.

PROVIDENT CLERKS MUTUAL LIFE ASSURANCE ASSOCIATION.

NOTICE.

MR. W. S. S. SHAND has been appointed AGENT of this Association in YOKOHAMA from this date

C. F. HOOPER.

Yokohama, 17th June, 1880.

SUN FIRE OFFICE.

THE UNDERSIGNED are prepared to accept RISKS AGAINST FIRE for periods

Not exceeding Ten days at.....1/8th,
" " Four days at.....1/16th,

of the annual rate.

WILKIN & ROBISON,
Agents.

Yokohama, June 24, 1879

MISCELLANEOUS.

IMPORTANT

—FOR—

WATCHMAKERS!

IMPORTANT

FOR

EVERYBODY!

THE Rodanow Manufacturing Company (Limited—Capital \$2,000,000), Boston (America), will forward, hereafter, even one single Watch to any part of the world at wholesale prices, i.e., 35 per cent cheaper than any watchmaker, as none of them is manufacturing Watches himself, but only buying them from here. We call the particular attention of every one intending to purchase a first-class reliable Watch to our following price list:—

Key-winding Watches.

SILVER WATCH.	£	s.
Crystal glass, seconds hand.....	0	10
Hunting case, engraved, highly finished..	0	14
Skeleton movement, extra jewelled, stout double cover.....	1	00

GOLD WATCH.

Jewelled, maintaining power, crystal glass.	1	10
Half hunter, enamel or gold dial, lever escapement	1	16
Hunting case, superior nickel movement, best quality with all the latest improvements, two gold covers	2	03

Keyless Watches

(Stem-Winders.)

The keyless mechanism to a watch is one of the great modern improvements in Watch work, it does away with the old-fashioned key, with which so many persons have ruined their Watches. The Watch is wound by turning a knurled knob, placed on the handle or bow, instead of by the ordinary means; the hands are set in the same way. The advantages of these improvements are obvious, the case, which never need be opened in winding, is made airtight and dust-tight, thus preserving much longer the fluidity of the oil, and greatly prolonging the intervals between the necessary cleaning of the Watch.

SILVER KEYLESS WATCH.

Lever movement, flat, jewelled, crystal glass	£	s.
Double cover, enamel or ornamented silver dial	1	05
Superior skeleton movement, extra jewelled, stout double cover	1	15

GOLD KEYLESS WATCH.

Open face, lever escapement, ten jewels...	2	05
Half hunter, best movement, all latest improvements, fifteen jewels.....	3	00
Two stout gold covers, chronomet. movement with centre seconds hands, a splendid Watch for presentation	3	15

MISCELLANEOUS.

GOLD KEYLESS CHRONOMETER.

Three gold covers, movement of finest workmanship, centre seconds hands, repeating hours and quarters.....	8	10
Imperial Chronometer, showing days, date, weeks, and month on dial, repeating hours, quarters, and eighths, three heavy gold covers, warranted for five years, and without doubt the best and handsomest Watch in existence.....	15	00

OBSERVATIONS.

1.—All the above Watches can be had in smaller size to suit for ladies' wear at the same price. Monograms, initials, arms, etc., engraved on the back of the Watch free of charge.

2.—All our Watches are thoroughly finished and ready for immediate use, and will be sent securely packed in morocco case, *post free*, to any part of the world, together with spare mainsprings, glasses, and keys, these being a great convenience, as in man out-of-the-way places, it is almost a matter of impossibility to replace one of those articles.

3.—Every watch is accompanied by a written warranty, guaranteeing the regularity and superiority of its workmanship for three years, during which time no charge will be made for repairing if the watch is returned *post free*.

4.—All our gold cases are eighteen carat gold; the silver cases are of the best sterling silver.

5.—Six per cent discount will be allowed on orders for six and more Watches.

6.—All our Watches have compensation balance, which renders them equally accurate in either hot or cold climate.

7.—All Watches may be ordered without seconds hand, with engraved, plain polished, or engine-turned cases, without difference of price.

8.—No orders from abroad filled unless accompanied by a remittance to cover the amount, or a reference on a Boston house.

Persons residing in any part of the world need not hesitate to forward their orders to this establishment as they may rely upon receiving the exact Watch ordered by them, which if not approved, will be exchanged free and safe by post, or money refunded. The best means of sending money is by draft on New York, Paris, or London, which can be procured at any banker and everywhere,—or enclose the amount in bank-notes, gold coins, or postage stamps of any country of the world. All orders, the smallest as well as the most important, will receive the same particular attention and will be forwarded without delay. We respectfully ask for a trial order.

THE

Rodanow Manufacturing Company,

5 and 7, Portland Street, Boston, U. S. of America.

J. J. GARGAN,
ENGINEER AND MACHINIST,
Boiler-maker, Black-smith, Copper-smith,
and Tin-smith.

House Building & Repairs & General Contractor.
No. 88, Creek Side,
YOKOHAMA.

Yokohama, November 22nd, 1880.

MISCELLANEOUS.

BUGS, FLEAS, MOTHS, BEETLS,

and all other insects are destroyed by

KEATING'S INSECT POWDER,

which is quite harmless to Domestic Animals.

In exterminating Beetles the success of this Powder is extraordinary, and no one need be troubled by those pests. It is perfectly clean in application.

Ask for and be sure to obtain "KEATING'S POWDER," as Imitations are Noxious, and fail in giving satisfaction.

SOLD BY ALL CHEMISTS IN BOTTLES, 1/- & 2/6 each.

KEATING'S WORM TABLETS,

A PURELY VEGETABLE SWEETMEAT, both in appearance and taste, furnishing a most agreeable method of administering the only certain remedy for **INTESTINAL or THREAD WORMS**. It is a perfectly safe and mild preparation, and is especially adapted for Children.

TESTIMONIAL.

Medical Hall, Gildersome, Nov. 28th, 1876.

MR. KEATING,

Dear Sir,—I think it nothing but my duty to inform you of the immense sale I have for your Worm Tablets, which I may justly say is enormous, and in every case gives the greatest satisfaction. I have now in stock two bottles containing the Round Worms brought me during the last few days by customers, one Worm 40 yards long. I dare not be without the remedy.—Yours respectfully,

M. A. WALKER.

SOLD IN BOTTLES, BY ALL CHEMISTS AND DRUGGISTS.

Proprietor—**THOMAS KEATING, London.**

REWARD AND CAUTION.—Whereas fraudulent imitations of this unsurpassed remedy have been sold, I hereby request anyone knowing of the vendor of the same to communicate with me, on conviction of the offender a liberal reward will be paid.

April, 1880.

**E. P & W. BALDWIN,
WILDEN WORKS.**

STOURPORT ENGLAND.

SHEET IRON,

BRANDED

"BALDWIN-WILDEN," AND "SEVERN."

TIN PLATES,BRANDED "EP & WB" "WILDEN," "UNICORN,"
"ARLEY," "STOUR."Stamping Sheets, Bullion Iron, Sheet Iron, Pickled, Cold Rolled,
and Close Annealed.

Export Agents—

Brooker, Dore & Co., 2, Rood Lane. London, E.C.

April, 1880.

NOTICE.

MR. ALEXR. WRIGHT, Mr. J. R. ELLIOTT, and
M. EDWARD HUNT, are authorised to sign our
firm per procuration.

HUNT & Co.

Japan, January 1st, 1881.

MISCELLANEOUS.

HONGKONG AND SHANGHAI BANKING CORPORATION.

PAID-UP CAPITAL \$5,000,000.
RESERVE FUND... .. \$1,600,000.

Head Office: HONGKONG.

COURT OF DIRECTORS.

Chairman—The Hon. W. KESWICK, Esq.
Deputy Chairman—ALEX. McIVER, Esq.

E. R. Belilios, Esq., H. L. Dalrymple, Esq., H. Hoppius, Esq.,
Wilhelm Reiners, Esq., F. D. Sassoon, Esq., W. S. Young, Esq.,
H. de Courcy Forbes, Esq.,
Chief Manager—THOS JACKSON, Esq.

LONDON COMMITTEE.

A. H. Phillpotts, Esq., Director of London and County Bank.
E. F. Duncanson, Esq., of Messrs. T. A. Gibb & Co.
Albert Deacon, Esq., of Messrs. E. & A. Deacon.
Manager—DAVID McLEAN, Esq.

Bankers—LONDON AND COUNTY BANK.

SHANGHAI:

Manager—EWEN CAMERON, Esq.

BRANCHES AND AGENCIES.

New York, London, Bombay, Calcutta, Foochow, Shanghai, Hiogo,
Hankow, Saigon,
Amoy, San Francisco, Manila, Singapore.

YOKOHAMA BRANCH.

Interest allowed on Current Accounts at 2 o/o on Daily balances.
On Fixed Deposits, for 12 months, at 5 o/o
" " " " 6 " " 4 "
" " " " 3 " " 3 "

LOCAL BILLS DISCOUNTED.

Credits granted on approved Securities, and every description
of Banking and Exchange business transacted.
Drafts granted on the Chief Commercial places in Europe,
India, Australia, America, China and Japan, and Circular Notes
issued for the use of Travellers.

JOHN WALTER, Manager.

Yokohama, 25th August, 1880.

The "Japan Mail,"

A Daily, Weekly, and Fortnightly Journal,

ESTABLISHED, 1865.

TERMS OF SUBSCRIPTION.

WEEKLY EDITION. The "Japan Weekly Mail," a Weekly Review
of Japanese Commerce, Politics, Literature and Art:—Per
annum, \$24; Six months, \$13; Three months, \$7.

FORTNIGHTLY Edition, being a Summary of the foregoing, is published
for transmission by the American Mail Steamers via
San Francisco. Per annum, \$12; Six months, \$7; Three
months, \$4.

THE JAPAN DAILY MAIL is published every morning (Sundays excepted) and contains the Arrivals and Departures of all Shipping, Passenger lists, Cargoes, Vessels on the Berth and in Harbour &c., &c. Also the latest Telegrams, Japanese news, Reports of Trials in the Courts of Law, Meetings of public bodies, and all matters of interest to the Community. Special attention is called to this Journal as a medium for circulating local advertisements. It has a large and constantly increasing circulation, its low price bringing it within the means of all classes of the community. It therefore affords exceptional advertising advantages, and secures to all announcements the utmost publicity, the object aimed at by advertisers.

SUBSCRIPTION PER MONTH—ONE DOLLAR.

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Printed and published for the Proprietor, by the Manager,
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MISCELLANEOUS.

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April, 1880.

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MISCELLANEOUS.

NOTICE TO MARINERS.

No. 127.

CHINA SEA.

SWATOW DISTRICT.

BREAKER POINT LIGHT-HOUSE.

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that the Light on Breaker Point was exhibited for the first time at sunset on the 8th December, 1880.

The illuminating apparatus is a First Order Dioptric Occulting Light alternately showing for *eight seconds* and suddenly disappearing for *two seconds*. It shows *white* from S. 55° W. round by W. to N. 53° E., and *red* in shore of both these bearings as far as the land. The bearings are magnetic and taken from seawards.

The light is elevated 152½ feet above the level of the sea, and in clear weather it should be visible at a distance of 19 nautical miles.

The tower is round, of iron, 91 feet high, with a total height from its base to the lantern vane of 120 feet.

The tower is painted in black and white horizontal bands, and the dwellings and boundary wall white.

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Longitude....E. 116° 28' 10".

By order of the Inspector General of Customs.

DAVID M. HENDERSON,
Engineer-in-Chief.

Imperial Maritime Customs,
Engineer's Office,
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EXHIBITION, 1876."

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VAN LISSA BROTHERS,
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Yokohama, January 4th, 188.

MISCELLANEOUS.

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CAUTION.*Be sure and ask for "NORTON'S PILLS," and do not be persuaded to purchase an imitation.*

November 11th, 1878.

SUPPLEMENT TO THE JAPAN WEEKLY MAIL.

YOKOHAMA, SATURDAY, 22ND JANUARY, 1881.

ARRIVAL OF THE AMERICAN MAIL.

On Sunday last, the O. & O. steamer *Belgic* arrived in port from San Francisco, with telegrams up to December 20th, 1880:—

London, December 15th.—William Bence Jones, an Englishman and a large land-owner, residing at Lissillane, County Cork, writes to the *Times* that he has expended £150,000 on the improvement of his property, and has hitherto enjoyed good relations with his tenants, but because he refuses to accept Griffith's valuation, his tenants have been deterred by threats from paying their rent. He is threatened that his grave will be dug opposite his door. His laborers are compelled to leave, and none dare buy produce, because when it is sent to market it is surrounded by a howling mob. A correspondent of the *Times* at Cork says: When Jones, on Tuesday, tried to ship eighty head of cattle and sheep to Bristol, for sale, a number of large shippers informed the steamship company they would close their dealings with it if the cattle were shipped, and the company consequently refused to take the cattle, as also did the Clyde Shipping Company. Finally the drovers refused to tend the cattle, which, after straying through the streets, were finally driven by the police to the Great Western Railway for that company, and forwarded thence to Dublin by train, in spite of the efforts of "Boycotters" to prevent the company from supplying the train. When the cattle arrived at Dublin they were treated in the same way as at Cork. An attempt will be made to ship the cattle to Glasgow or Liverpool. Jones is unpopular, because of his writings in the periodical press in opposition to public works. The police promised to protect the labourers if they would remain with Mr. Jones, but they refused. The Land League will support the labourers who left the estate. The family of Mr. Jones are attending the remaining cattle.

London, December 15th.—The Executive Committee of the Grand Orange Lodge of Ireland, at a special meeting yesterday, adopted a resolution to raise a fund for the purpose of providing the means of protection for "loyal men" in the remote districts. The state of siege at Jones' residence continues. All furloughs to the army in Ireland have been cancelled. It is stated that 100 men will start for Dublin to-night to reinforce the Coldstream Guards there. A battalion of the Scots Guards has been ordered to be ready to proceed to Ireland on Friday. Parnell, Davitt and Dillon have received letters threatening them with death.

Dublin, December 15.—A manifesto adopted by the Land League to-day states that when the outlines of the promised land bill are made public by the Government a special meeting of the League will be immediately held for the purpose of discussing the measure and pronouncing as to its worth. If necessary the Grand National Convention of the Land League delegates will then be summoned, in order to make a national pronouncement on the settlement which the League demands. The manifesto condemns outrages and sending of threatening letters as harmful to the cause of the League. It declares that if the traversers are convicted all of the vacancies in the Executive Committee of the League will be filled until the traversers are able to resume their positions.

London, December 15.—The *Daily News* says: The details of the Government Irish Land bill are the subject of consideration by a current series of Cabinet councils, and Ministers hope that the measure will be ready to submit in complete form when Parliament opens. It will be neither a small nor a temporary compromise, nor a revolutionary scheme.

The *Times* attacks the Government for not taking energetic measures in Ireland, and says that in the presence of such growing disorganization, silence and inaction are hard to be excused, and cannot be justified.

Postmaster-General Fawcett believes the Gladstone Government will not be terrorized into making unwise concessions to Ireland.

At an Irish town near Clare Morris last night a body of

men attempted forcibly to enter a farmhouse from which a tenant had been evicted. They attacked the Constable, who immediately fired on them. He wounded four and arrested two.

Of a panel of forty-eight from which a jury is to be selected for the trial of the leading Land Leaguers, thirty-nine are tradesmen, two agents, four gentlemen, one secretary of a railway company, one a hotel-keeper and one a Lieutenant-Colonel.

New York, December 15.—A cable special to the *Herald* from Dublin of the 14th says: Urgent orders have been received in Dublin to-night directing that no further furlough for the present be granted to non-commissioned officers and men in Ireland. The orders also direct that any men whose furlough has been made out and who have not yet left should not be allowed to go, consequently a number of men who were leaving on furlough for England this evening were stopped before going on board and directed to return to their quarters. Officers and men now on leave from regiments stationed in Ireland have been ordered to rejoin their regiments without fail before the 28th inst. Great excitement was caused here by the news that orders had been issued by the War Office in London to the Scots Guards to proceed to Ireland on Friday. It was the Scots Guards which, when the Fenian scare occurred at Chester, turned out at a quarter of an hour's notice from the bugle call. The battalion musters 800 bayonets, but instructions have been issued to bring the force up to 1000. The majority of the men are Scotch, the Irishmen in the battalion numbering less than 100, of whom 40 are Catholics.

Dublin, December 15.—At the Cork Assizes, John Power and a party of armed men, who forcibly entered a house from which the tenants had been evicted near Tralee, County Kerry, in the night, about a fortnight ago, and split the ears of the occupant, a bailiff, have been acquitted, although identified by the prosecutor.

The Assize Courts in various quarters of Ireland are now sitting and dealing with the agrarian crimes which for the past few months have been creating the terrorism that now exists. Four of the leading Judges have delivered their charges to the Grand Jury, beginning a week ago at Cork with the Right Hon. John D. Fitzgerald of the Queen's Bench, and ending yesterday in Ulster with the Right Hon. James Anthony Lawson of the Common Pleas. In the course of his charge Judge Fitzgerald said: "The offences were of a character which strikes at the peace and welfare of society, and that if they were allowed to go on they would work a total disorganization of the social system. Some organizations, acting on the cupidity, passions and fears of the people, have reduced certain districts in the country to anarchy and confusion, little, if at all, differing from civil war. True liberty has ceased to exist, and intolerable tyranny prevails: life is not secure, and right is not regarded; the processes of law cannot be enforced, dishonesty and lawlessness disgrace the land. It is said in excuse or palliation that this flood of anarchy and crime has been produced by bad existing laws, but it is not for us to consider whether our laws require amendment or whether our institutions are open to improvement. These are matters for the Legislature. No candid man can doubt the disposition of the Imperial Parliament and its anxiety to consider and redress the grievance. I add, for myself, for you, and for all well-thinking people, that we are prepared to make all sacrifice, if by doing so we can procure restoration and peace and prosperity to this distracted country. The primary functions of the Government are to protect life and property and to repress crime. It is to aid in accomplishing these objects that we are assembled here. Our duty is to administer the law as it exists, and endeavour to eliminate crime from the land. With these objects in view I offer you my best aid, and expect from you firm and courageous assistance." The picture held up by Judge Barry at Waterford is not so dark, showing that the spirit of agrarianism is less strong in Tipperary, Waterford and Kilkenny, though a considerable increase in that class of crime is reported.

New York, December 16.—A dispatch to the *World*

from London reads: The Land-Leaguers are leaving no stone unturned to defeat the Government in the coming trials of the indicted members. It has just been made public that several commercial travelers, representing Dublin firms, whose names have been drawn on the jury panel, have received warning from their customers all over the country, that if a verdict of guilty should be found they need expect to do no more business with them. This, together with the announcement that a Dublin merchant has been summoned to appear before the Clare Land League to answer for an old eviction carried out a year ago, and threatened with "Boycotting" in case he should fail to appear, has caused a profound excitement in Dublin business circles.

Chief Secretary Forster's demand for more troops for Ireland will be complied with, it is to-day announced, and to the large force already there will be added the whole body of the Coldstream Guards, which will leave for Ireland to-morrow, and the First Battalion of the Scots Guards, which will sail on Friday. I am informed that Mr. Gladstone has in hand and will present to Parliament, together with the Land bill, a scheme to give State aid to emigration from Ireland.

Anthony Mundella, one of the Liberal members from Sheffield, addressing his constituents to-night said that when Parliament met the Government intended to make of paramount importance and place in the front rank the whole principle of its Irish policy, and while the Government was thoroughly resolved to repress disorder and vigorously maintain the law, it did not intend to resort to coercion or neglect the just grievances of the Irish people.

The Tory fossils are beginning to wake to the importance and power of Lord Randolph Churchill's Young England or fourth party movements. To-night in Exeter Sir Stafford Northcote, Lord Beaconsfield's Chancellor of the Exchequer, tendered them the olive branch, in the course of a speech, in which he also took occasion to say that the coming session of Parliament would be the most important in Irish history. He also took pains to deny that any division existed in the Tory ranks.

New York, December 17.—A *Herald* London dispatch says: Our Clare (King's county) correspondent telegraphs the particulars of an extraordinary case of intimidation. Charles S. Dugeon, a landing proprietor of Longford, who had a man named Nagle sentenced to twenty years' penal servitude for firing at him, is the agent to the state of Mrs. Bryde, near Ballyclare. Last night he proceeded to Clare, with a view to collecting his rent to-day. His visit was anticipated, and when the train arrived, about 200 people had assembled on the platform. The appearance of Mr. Dugeon was the signal for a general yelling and hooting. With considerable difficulty the policemen succeeded in getting him into the station master's office. No person in Clare would give him shelter, nor could he procure a car to get to Tullamore. Consequently he had to remain inside the station until after midnight. Matters were at one time so threatening that the police on the platform had to load their guns, in order to protect Mr. Dugeon. At 12 o'clock he succeeded in starting to Tullamore, accompanied by two armed policemen. He had to walk the entire distance, about seventeen miles. He obtained admittance into Mr. Brown's hotel in that town, but on hearing what had occurred, that lady also declined to run the risk of sheltering him. Mr. Dugeon then had to proceed to the house of Captain LeStrange, who accommodated him until this evening, when he left for Dublin, without of course receiving one penny of rent. No arrests were made.

St. Petersburg, December 17.—The *Armenian Journal* publishes an account of a sanguinary fight between the inhabitants of Turkish Armenia and the Turkish troops. The Russian Consul at Van has gone to the scene of the disturbance.

A *World* London special reads: It is stated in town to-night that there was a painful scene between the Queen and Gladstone at Windsor over the Irish question. Her Majesty urged the Premier very decidedly to resort to once to force, and to crush the disorder in Ireland. The Liberals who circulate this story ascribe the Queen's interference to the personal influence of Lord Beaconsfield, in whom she has unbounded confidence, and who has recently made her a visit. The condition of affairs in Ireland formed the principal topic of discussion to-day in the Cabinet council,

but the decision arrived at if any, has not yet been made public. Those persons who profess to be well informed as to the devious course of justice in Ireland express a belief that the acquittal at the Cork Assizes yesterday of Healy and Walsh of the charge of intimidating Farmer Manning, will have a very bad effect on the coming trials of the indicted Land Leaguers.

Dublin, December 17th.—The officer commanding at Birr, Kings county, has been ordered to patrol his district nightly with forty soldiers. The police patrol has also been doubled.

William Beuce Jones, the victim of "Boycotting," writes: "I am getting some resolute men from a distance, well armed, to replace the laborers who have left me. Two police-men sleep in my house, and four others are stationed near my farm. I have applied for more protection, and troops are promised me by Friday."

Cork, December 17th.—There is a great want of employment throughout the country, owing to the disinclination of landlords to lay out money. At several meetings recently held farmers were summoned to give employment to laborers. The agent of the Earl of Cork was requested to provide labor on the Earl's estate, near Charleville, County Cork, and he has just intimated that he will open works in that locality, and give employment until March, 1881.

London, December 17.—The followers of the Government are embarrassed, and for the most part do not know what to say, while a few are bold enough to express their regret at the line their leaders have pursued. Whitebreak, one of the most respected Liberals in the House of Commons, speaking at Bedford last night, described vividly the reign of terror that had left no honest calling safe in a large part of Ireland, and avowed his feeling that the sad time had come when the Government might be compelled to use coercion. There have been Liberal Governments before the present Government embarrassed by the Irish difficulties, but they have not been slack to do what they could to assert the authority of the law. The contrast between the spirit of those times and the spirit prevailing now is little to the credit of the Government or that of the present generation. One of the worst evils consequent upon the Government's attitude is the effect it must have upon the popular reception in Ireland of their remedial legislation.

The *Times* says: The situation in Ireland is one of deepening gloom. The officers of the Government look on while lawlessness is unchecked, but this cannot continue. At some point the will of rebels against society must be broken by the force of society. If the Government does not step forward to resume its functions, we shall see the coming of a spontaneous struggle between those who set up their own will as the law and those who resist coercion. The short-comings of the Government thus threaten us with a recurrence of difficulties in the future, for their conduct will encourage the repetition of the tactics with which they have not ventured to grapple.

The iron screwship *Assistance*, about to undergo refitting, has been ordered in readiness to proceed within twelve hours' notice on a special service to Ireland.

A tenant-right meeting was held at Loughgall, County Armagh, to-day. Those present were principally Orangemen. A mob of fifty persons took possession of the platform, which they destroyed. A meeting was then held in the adjoining field. Resolutions were passed in favor of peasant proprietary.

A telegram from Dublin says that it is confidently stated that Michael Davitt's ticket of leave is about to be cancelled, and that he will be arrested.

At the Manor Hamilton (County Leitrim) fair on Monday, a man, by order of the local branch of the Land League, went about telling the people not to buy nor sell cattle to any one not a Land-Leaguer. He was arrested by the police yesterday, and brought up in the Petty Sessions, charged with intimidating the public. After hearing the case the magistrate committed him to jail for one month. This has caused great excitement in the district, as "Boycotting" was frequent.

About 1,000 persons assembled in Kilmore, County Mayo, and rebuilt a house from which a woman named McNicholas had been evicted. The rebuilding occupied about four hours. They then reinstated Mrs. McNicholas and left her three months' provisions. There was a large number of police at the scene, but they did not interfere. When all

was over the people quietly dispersed, and in marching order, each section of the Land-Leaguers headed by its own band.

Counsel for the Crown and counsel for the traversers in the Irish State prosecutions each struck off twelve names from the forty-eight previously balloted for, leaving twenty-four from which the jury will be selected at the opening of Court. The Crown solicitor struck off the names of twelve Catholics and the traversers' solicitor three Catholics and nine Protestants, each side alternating in striking them off name by name. At each name struck off by the Crown, Dillon, traverser counsel and cousin of John Dillon, cried "Another Papist," or otherwise called attention to the fact, though the Master of the Crown Office severely reprimanded him. Some Catholics are included in the remaining twenty-four persons in the panel, but the probability is that a great majority of the jury will be Protestants.

The Parnell Defence Fund now amounts to over £10,000.

The Grand Orange Lodge has issued a circular, urging the brethren to take measures for meeting by means of signals at any time of night, in any emergency, and to take means for protecting themselves. Another circular announces that a subscription has been opened to provide for the organization of defence and gives information with regard to the cost of arms.

A correspondence is published between Captain Boycott and Gladstone. The former asks the assistance of the Government to indemnify him for some of the losses caused by his having to quit Ireland. Gladstone replies that the Government has already largely assisted Boycott with troops. To this Boycott replies that the army was sent to Lough Mask against his wishes.

A dispatch from Cork states that offers of help are pouring in upon Mr. Jones. One friend offers a body of English navvies, but it is thought better to get a few men brought in quietly. Jones announces his intention of throwing all his farm into a pasture and leaving the country.

James O'Kelly, M. P., has instructed his solicitors to begin an action for assault against the Magistrate of Enniskillen, who broke up the land meeting at Brookborough on December 7th, and ordered O'Kelly, who was one of the speakers, to quit the field.

Orders have been received at Queenstown for the dispatch of forty marines to Cloghnakilly. It is believed, in connection with the Boycotting of Jones, the Liverpool consignes, refused to receive Jones' sheep.

The *Times*, in a leading editorial, says there is great uncertainty in regard to the degree of agreement that was established at the sittings of the Cabinet at which the remedial legislation was discussed, and it is to be feared that on the vital subject of Irish land the agreement of the Cabinet is rather nebulous. The *Times* states that the First battalion of the Twentieth Regiment at Malta is ordered to Ireland.

Judge Dowe, closing the Connaught assizes, said that of 212 jurors summoned, only half had attended, and that the absentees would be fined 20 shillings each.

A dispatch from Liverpool says: The consignees state that they refused to receive Jones' sheep because the Land League threatened them.

The state of anarchy and fear which now exists in Ireland is startlingly illustrated by the declaration to the Bench of a jury impanelled in one of several murder cases shortly to be tried, that they do not and shall not consider as binding their oath to give a verdict according to their consciences, because a verdict of guilty would inevitably cost them their lives. A. M. Sullivan, the member for Louth, who yesterday secured the conviction of a fellow-member, Mr. Callan, to pay a fine of £50 for having libeled him, left London to-night for Dublin, to prepare the defence of the indicted members of the League.

A statement published by the *Daily Telegraph* to the effect that the Government proposes to proclaim and enforce martial law in the disturbed districts of Ireland is without any foundation in fact.

Mr. Boyd of New Ross has just persuaded his workmen, after their threat of "Boycotting" him, to make a new arrangement for the completion of the work now on hand.

London, December 19th.—A Land League meeting was held in Mullingar county, Westmeath, to-day. There were

10,000 persons present. The town was decorated with flags. P. D. Sullivan, M. P., one of the speakers, said that their fathers had faced the sword and bullet for Ireland, and Irishmen were not now to be frightened by the suspension of the Habeas Corpus Act or the proclamation of martial law.

A mob of 2,000 persons attempted on Saturday to wreck the residence of Mr. Downing, Justice of the Peace at Bonniconean, County Mayo, after he had served writs of ejectment on some tenants. The police kept the people back at the point of the bayonet. Downing escaped on a car to Ballina, where he took the train for Dublin. The police now occupy his residence.

Great diversity of opinion exists among prominent Land-Leaguers in regard to the course to adopt if the Government introduce a land bill, which, although falling short of the programme of the League, would substantially benefit the tenants. Some are in favor of fighting it out to the end; others say to reject a good bill would be to incur great responsibility. The extremists say if a partial measure is accepted the question would be dormant for ten years or more, and the work would have to be begun afresh. There are now 500 branches of the Land League.

A battalion of Scots Guards will go to Ireland to-morrow. The troop-ship *Himalaya* is expected at Portsmouth. She has been ordered to disembark a battalion of the rifle brigade at Queenstown.

Bruce Jones denies that he had a quarrel with his laborers, and attributes their departure to threats. He also utterly denies that he had a dispute with his tenants. He has telegraphed to Chief Secretary Forster for twenty marines, and his request has been complied with.

Dublin, December 19.—Bruce Jones has plenty of provisions. He has received a letter from an official of the House of Commons stating that London is seething with indignation at the Government's inaction.

Members of the Land League in Dublin seem to think that there is a good ground for believing that Michael Davitt will be arrested for not complying with the conditions of his ticket-of-leave.

Cavalry and infantry numbering 800 and 700 soldiers, stationed at Curragh, have been sent to Queen's county.

At a large meeting in Curragh Michael Davitt made a speech.

The meeting at Cullohill was convened for the purpose of denouncing a landlord who sought the assistance of the Bankruptcy Court to recover his rents. Two hundred hussars, 400 infantry and 100 constabulary arrived at Cullohill on Saturday, with ambulance wagons. The promoters of the meeting issued a notice abandoning the projected meeting at Cullohill, but afterward issued a placard convening a meeting a few miles off. The troops, however, arrived on the ground, a resident magistrate forbade the meeting and said that he would disperse it with backshot or whatever was necessary. The meeting was then finally abandoned.

At a meeting at Curragh two hussars stationed close to the platform carried on signals with the camp, which was close at hand. There were also fifty policemen in ambush.

New York, December 20.—A *World* dispatch from London says: A most profound sensation was caused to-day in London as well as Dublin by the news that the Irish Privy Council, at its meeting in the Castle last evening, proclaimed against land meetings only in Queen's county, Leinster. The Privy Councillors share Mr. O'Connor's fears of the bloody Christmas, evidently, as I am informed that their action was based on a dread of the results that might follow the Cullohill meeting, notices of which were posted this morning. To enforce the Council's decree a force of 1500 troops was dispatched during the night. As a result three meetings, which were to have been held to-day, were abandoned without any attempt at resistance.

Captain Boycott is "Boycotting" Mr. Gladstone, and the various steps in the process are watched with equal amusement and delight by both Liberals and Tories. Mr. Gladstone's cool reference, in his last answer to Captain Boycott, to what the Government had already done for the Captain and the snub conveyed to him in Mr. Gladstone's allusion to the exertions made by the Government to enforce the existing law through the Courts, have led Captain Boycott to address a third letter to the Premier, in which

he explicitly asks for £6,000 as the reparation due to him from the State. The amount asked is considered by impartial persons to be small in comparison with what Captain Boycott has actually lost by his departure from Ireland. The Tories intend to make all the capital possible, not only out of Captain Boycott, but out of all victims of "Boycotting," and intend to press the matter as a special grievance against the Government.

A Dublin dispatch to the *Herald* says: A very significant movement is afoot with regard to the agitation, which may have an important influence on the final settlement of the question. I refer to the attitude suddenly adopted by a number of the Irish landlords, both Liberal and Conservative, favoring, what are called the three "F's," meaning fair rent, fixity of tenure and free sale. The landlords' opposition to these measures has been sensibly lessening in many quarters for some time. The first public expression given to them was during the last week at a Monaghan Orange meeting, presided over by Lord Rossmore. This meeting made the three F's its platform. This action shows on the part of the young nobleman and the other landlords associated with him a public spirit and wisdom far in advance of their class. Some Armagh landlords have done the same thing. Many prominent English members of Parliament have also spoken out clearly on this point. Furthermore the *London Times*, which has heretofore opposed concession and favored an out-and-out policy on the part of England toward Ireland, printed on Saturday a remarkable article, arguing vigorously in favor of the fixity of tenure, and the other F's saying, "the easiest way to establish a peasant proprietary is through that plan." To properly understand the importance of this change of attitude, it must be remembered that fixity of tenure was denounced everywhere, a year ago, as utterly inadmissible. Anyone proposing it was considered a madman. Of course the three F's do not satisfy the Land League, but if the landlords should generally adopt them they would be going half way in concession to the League.

London, December 19.—A meeting of 2000 persons was held in Berlin on Sunday, at which resolutions were passed in favor of the suppression of the liberty of Jews, to return no Liberal to Parliament who will not promise to vote for such suppression, and to buy nothing from Jewish shops or firms.

December 20th.—The allotment of the Panama Canal shares has been made. The Mexican Government has granted railroad concessions to Palmer & Sullivan and the Mexican National Company. The billiard match between, Vignaux and Sloason, for the championship of the world, began in Paris last night. The Boers of the Transvaal South Africa, have thrown off the English yoke and re-established the Republic. The Basutos are driving the Colonial forces before them. The Russians have defeated the Turcomans and captured one of their fortified villages. Troops are being hurried into Ireland from Malta, Gibraltar and England, and London police will re-enforce the Irish constabulary. The traversers will seek to introduce evidence to justify their conduct and acts. A large meeting of Irishmen has been held in Manchester.

Dublin, December, 20th.—The *Freeman's Journal* says that the suppression of a meeting at Callow Hill Saturday was one of the gravest intrusions on public rights and liberty ever committed, and accuses the Government of postponing the announcement of its intention to suppress the meeting to the last moment so as to provoke a collision with the troops.

The Irish Land Commission is expected to report on Thursday. It is rumored that a majority of the Commission are agreed on the outlines of a scheme, the principal features of which are an extension of the Ulster tenant right to the whole of Ireland, with the alternative of compulsory purchase, with a view to the creation of peasant proprietors in the event of owners objecting to extension. It is understood Kavanagh and the O'Connor Don dissent from the proposal, and will make a separate report.

London, December 20.—An order for the departure of 100 volunteers from the Second Battalion, Scots Guards, from Windsor, to make up the strength of the First Battalion, will be countermanded. Three hundred experienced London police have been selected to strengthen the civil force in certain parts of Ireland, particularly Dublin.

The *Times* says: It is to deliver the peasantry them-

selves, as well as the upper and middle classes, that vindication of the law becomes imperative.

Justin McCarthy, Home Rule member of the House of Commons for Longford county, speaking last night, said he had reason to know that Forster himself is as well convinced that State prosecutions in Ireland must fail as were any of his auditors.

David R. Plunkett, member of the House of Commons for Dublin University, speaking at a Conservative meeting at Chesterfield yesterday, said the Government was bound to fail. While deploring the outrages in Ireland, he asked his hearers to take into account the influences which are brought to bear on his countrymen by agitators seeking to serve their own purposes.

James Stansfield, Radical member of the House of Commons for Halifax, speaking at Somerby Bridge, said: As a member of this Commission on Agriculture he had spent some time in Ireland studying the Irish question. They had now, he said, to face a great crisis, and he believed the remedy for the present state of things would be found.

A demonstration was made by 5000 Irishmen in Manchester last night for the purpose of expressing sympathy with the Land League and raising money for the Parnell defence fund. Chief-Justice May was denounced in violent terms.

A company of the Army Service Corps Commissariat and Transport Department will be ordered to proceed to Ireland on Wednesday. It is stated that a battalion of the Grenadier Guards will go to Ireland on Friday.

Dublin, December 20th.—The traversers intend, if allowed, to examine nearly 1000 witnesses at their trial, including tenants and evicted persons, to show that their language and conduct were justified.

A circular has been issued to the constabulary to use the utmost vigilance to protect the bailiffs and care-takers placed in charge of houses from which tenants are evicted, and arrest persons who may illegally take possession of such houses. Another circular enjoins extra vigilance on the patrol parties to prevent outrages by armed bands.

A battalion of the Rifle Brigade from the troopship *Himalaya* disembarked at Queenstown to-day, and has arrived at Cork. It will remain there with a regiment of infantry and three troops of dragoons.

The *Times* reports that the ninety-eighth foot from Gibraltar and a battalion of the Twentieth foot from Malta have been ordered to disembark at Queenstown.

London, December 20th.—A telegram to the Colonial office from Pietermaritzburg, dated December 19th, reports that 50,000 Boers have taken possession of Heidelberg and established a republic, with Paul Kruger as President and Joubert as Commandant. No act of violence was committed. Communication with Pretoria is cut. All the available troops are being sent up.

New York, December 21th.—A *World* special from London reads: The London clubs, and more especially the military clubs, are boiling over with excitement to night in consequence of the receipt by the colonial authorities of a telegram from Colonel Sir Pomeroy Colley, announcing that a force of 50,000 Transvaal Boers had captured the town of Heidelberg and founded a new Republic with a Boer, Mr. Kruger, as President. This, the most serious news we have yet had from Africa, has finally awakened the Government, which has so far turned a deaf ear to the appeals made from time to time by the Cape Government. The propriety of sending a force of Imperial troops to South Africa is under consideration. The Boers have never been reconciled to the summary annexation in 1877 of their Transvaal Republic to the Cape Colony by Sir Theophilus Shepstone, and their mutterings of revolt have more than once caused the greatest uneasiness to the Government. Of course this new uprising will put an end to responsible government in that particular portion of the Queen's dominion, and necessarily brings down Lord Kimberley's scheme with it. Another war in South Africa meets with great favor in military circles, for the honors would naturally be more easily obtained in a conflict with the civilized Boers than with the savage Zulus or Afghans. Towards Sir Garnet Wolseley now all eyes are turned, as all eyes were turned in 1873 during the Ashantee war, and in 1875 during the Zulu crisis; and if rumor is correct, he will be sent out to bring the Boers to their senses, and restore order.

THE Japan Weekly Mail,

A WEEKLY REVIEW OF
JAPANESE COMMERCE, POLITICS, LITERATURE, AND ART.

VOL. V. No. 4.]

Yokohama, January 29th, 1881.

[£24 PER ANNUM.]

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The Japan Weekly Mail.

'FAIS CE QUE DOIS; ADVIENNE QUE POURRA.'

NOTICE TO CORRESPONDENTS.

No notice will be taken of anonymous correspondence. Whatever is intended for insertion in the JAPAN WEEKLY MAIL must be authenticated by the name and address of the writer, not for publication but as a guarantee of good faith.

It is particularly requested that all letters on business, relating to Advertisements, Job-printing, or Accounts, be addressed to the MANAGER:

And that literary contributions of every description be addressed to the EDITOR.

YOKOHAMA: SATURDAY, JANUARY 29TH 1881.

JAPANESE ERA 2541, MEIJI 14TH YEAR, 1ST MONTH, 29TH DAY.

Tokyo has again been the scene of a disastrous conflagration, scarcely second in magnitude to that which swept from the Castle to the coast in the winter of 1872. The origin of the fire has been traced to a heap of chopped straw in the store house of a plasterer residing in Matsu-yeda street. The flames were discovered at about two o'clock on the morning of the 26th inst., and they did not subside until between three and four o'clock in the afternoon of the same day, by which time they had traversed without check a distance of four miles, their course being at last arrested, not by any human agency, but simply by the absence of fresh material to destroy. A fierce north-westerly wind—one of those winds that seem to be inspired by the very spirit of destruction—swept the furious element on towards the river, and in an incredibly short space of time, a mass of smoking unsightliness occupied all that district as famous in love and romance, the quarter of the Yanagi-bashi dancing girls, as well as the little city of deftly fashioned tea houses and miniature parks that stood by the side of the Sumida-gawa.

We need not dwell upon the circumstances that accompanied the conflagration. Experience has made such things too familiar to our readers. There was the same utter helplessness to resist the destroyer; the same devoted courage and misdirected energy on the part of the firemen, the same cheerful resignation on the side of the sufferers, and the same strange anxiety to rescue from the debris a few dingy chat-

tels and cracked utensils, suggesting so pitiable a contrast between the littleness of our lives and the magnitude of the disasters to which they are exposed. Yet after all the presence or absence of a few wadded quilts and of a chest-of-drawer's contents, does seriously affect the condition of homeless humanity on a bitter winter's night, and there can be no doubt that the misery this fire entails has been much intensified by the destruction of a large quantity of property which had been carried out and piled by the river-side in a place of apparent safety. The river however proved no obstacle. At Riyogoku bridge the width from bank to bank is thirteen hundred feet, and yet the flames leaped this chasm as if it had been only an alley drain. Nakamura, the monster tea house, and its humbler neighbours, were soon in ruins, and it became unhappily certain that nothing short of a miracle could arrest the conflagration before it reached the eastern limit of the city. Such indeed was the issue, and if we desire to form a conception of the truth, we must imagine in the very heart of the capital and amongst its gayest, most populous districts, a huge gulf, some three quarters of a mile in width and five times as long, encumbered with the debris of eleven thousand houses and peopled by fifty thousand homeless individuals. At first no lives were lost, though some fatal accident seemed at one time inevitable, for a number of people, who had climbed to the roofs of their houses, were surrounded by the flames and obliged to leap into the river for safety. They were fortunately rescued by the police boats, which, as well as the river steamers, did good service in saving property. Subsequently, however, a little beyond Riyogoku-bashi, occurred the most pitiable disaster of all. The roads leading southwards from the bridge are crossed here by the Tatakawa, a tributary of the Sumidagawa, the junction of the two streams forming an angle in which stood a cluster of well-known tea-houses. The bridges over this Tatakawa, being both narrow and far apart, were so crowded with fugitives that when the flames had crossed the main stream, and leaping from place to place threatened to enclose the whole Riyogoku quarter, traffic in either direction became for a time completely impossible. In this dilemma an extempore bridge was devised by throwing floor-mats into the stream. For a time this expedient answered, but its success unfortunately encouraged rashness. The mats, overloaded, sank completely, and the crowd, ignorant of what had happened, kept thrusting its units madly forward until the bed of the Tatakawa was half filled with drowning folk. How many lives were lost here it is impossible to say. The police were untiring in their efforts at rescue, but as the smoke was rolling over head in dense, suffocating volumes and the flames were almost at hand, there can be but little hope that the victims were few. God help these unfortunate denizens of wooden cities! The world has woes enough for us all without the addition of such harrowing miseries. The Municipal authorities, headed by the Governor, Mr. Matsuda, took all possible measures to relieve the sufferers, and a subscription for

the same purpose was immediately set on foot. Considerable sums will no doubt be contributed. Such items as Tokugawa Toshikatz—500 yen; Todo Takakiyo—300 yen; Todo Takanori—300 yen; Ikeda Akimasa—300 yen, and so forth, prove that the benevolent citizens of Tokiyo are not without sympathy for their countrymen's misfortunes, but we trust that the Foreign Community also will come forward with its wonted generosity on so sad an occasion.

We regret to observe that the Agricultural Bureau seriously contemplates an export of silk-worm eggs from the farms in Yezo. That this pernicious trade should receive official sanction is not only lamentable but inexplicable. The Japanese have not hitherto given the world any just cause to accuse them of utter commercial ineptitude, but in this matter they are assuredly laying the seeds of such a reputation. Their own language contains two very apposite aphorisms; one describing the rat that gnawed away the base of the pillar in which he lived, and the other telling of a rustic simpleton who sold bait for coppers to those that desired to angle in his pond, instead of catching the fish himself and exchanging them for broad gold pieces. The silk-worm egg farmers would probably be a good deal offended if we used either of these fables to illustrate their conduct, but as a matter of fact the similes would err, not on the side of caricature, but of flattery, for whereas the rat and the rustic were the only sufferers by their own folly, every merchant in Japan will presently have cause to lament the fatuity of the egg exporters.

Indeed, like some of the very elementary truths in mathematics, the thing is so self evident that one can scarcely command patience to demonstrate it. Surely we need not point out that this trade is at once self-destructive, and fatal to the vital interests of the whole silk manufacture. Self-destructive, because every card that finds its way westward, permanently supplies a portion of the Continental growers' wants; fatal to the silk manufacture, because the result must ultimately be a transfer of the producing power from Japan to Europe.

Official interference in such matters is, as a rule to be deprecated, but here is a case so obviously detrimental to the country's commercial welfare, that we should heartily welcome any prohibitive action on the part of the authorities. If, however, the Agricultural Bureau is not maligned, we can only bow our heads and say 'Quos Deus vult perdere, prius dementat.'

While writing on the subject of Silk-worm eggs, we take the opportunity of correcting a false impression that seems to have been conveyed by a passage in our opening article for this year. In detailing the commercial events of 1880, we confined ourselves as far as possible to the history of the period, and did not therefore refer to conditions whose origin dates back more than a decade. When we described certain operations in the silk worm export trade, nothing was farther from our thoughts than a desire to recommend the trade as beneficial. Indeed it is scarcely fair, we submit, to draw such an inference from our statement, since nobody approves of smuggling or larceny, though all will admit that considerable profits have been realized by contraband whiskey and swallowed diamonds. Zeal is however, sometime disposed to be indiscriminate, and with our contemporary's honest warmth in such a cause we can most heartily sympathize.

We have to thank one of our contemporaries for bringing to our notice an article from the *Hiogo News* on the

subject of our supposed relations with the Japanese Government.

That such relations exist is completely false. This paper is not an official organ in any sense of the word. It receives no subsidy whatsoever from the Government of Japan, and the opinions expressed in its columns are entirely the outcome of independent conviction.

If it were possible to make this statement more explicit we should do so. We write without reservation or equivocation, and we desire our readers to interpret what we have said in its fullest sense, for, beyond this most emphatic denial, we do not propose to make any further reference to the subject.

Meanwhile there is one point we should like to bring to our readers' notice since it will probably afford them as much amusement as it has given us. In reviewing the events of the past year we made use of these words:—"we cannot persuade ourselves to believe that a country's right to regulate her own tariff varies directly as the aptness of that tariff to alien ends." A contemporary journal, referring to the article in which this phrase occurs, accuses us of having said that a country's right to regulate her own tariff varies directly as the aptness of that tariff to alien ends! What a delightful example of convenient rendering is this! It is especially commendable on the score of novelty, for so far as our experience goes we cannot recall a similar instance of similar literary *insouciance*. A little subtle sifting of sentences; a gentle dislocation of their members and suppression of their negatives might give very pretty results under judicious management. The method has evidently commended itself to others also, for we find the '*Hiogo News*' following suit, though with a symptom of timidity that does its moral principles much honour. It quotes a short description we lately gave of the affair at Sakai in 1868, and puts these words into our mouth:—"believing also that they were doing real service for their sovereign and their country, they (i.e. the Tosa soldiers) did not hesitate for a moment to attack the French marines * * *." Such deeds may be intolerable under certain aspects, but even the hard materialism of modern progress can scarcely forbid sympathy with the spirit that prompts them." Now in the original the place of these asterisks is occupied by an account of the suicide of the twelfth Tosa soldier, who having been brought to the place of execution and unexpectedly reprieved, refused to survive his comrades. It is to his self-destruction that the sentence 'Such deeds &c.' refers and not to the attack made upon the French Marines. This of course is a mere trifle. The main point is the clumsy insertion of the asterisks: an insertion which not only mars the effect of the juggle, but also betrays a sad inability to follow a perfect precedent. We trust that no undue weight will in future be given to such paltry matters as negatives, contexts or any inconvenient particles whatsoever, for we assure the editor of the *Hiogo News* that he is quite at liberty, so far as we are concerned, to subject our sentences to any process of legerdemain he pleases. The thing is an agreeable trick if boldly performed, and marks a new era in the history of newspaper morality.

A certain reverend gentleman by name Sada Kaiseki, of the Monto persuasion and a native of Higo, has been of late sadly embarrassed by a problem in political economy. Walk where he might after night-fall he saw a kerosine lamp burning and smelted a smell of kerosine oil. He was possessed of some aptitude for arithmetic and a considerable predilection for divination. After a careful study therefore, he succeeded in reading this prophesy by the light of the lamps and under the influence of their subtle odour.

"Japan has thirty eight million inhabitants and the average price of a kerosine lamp is three yen. At the rate of one lamp per head, the country will consequently spend a hundred and fourteen millions of yen on glass, brass and tin,, unless this moth-like mania for lamp-light is arrested. Thus it is that foreign innovations are lighting us on our road to national bankruptcy."

Sada was a man of rapid resolution and corresponding celerity of action. He knew that to form a company nothing is needed but a prospectus and a name. He therefore formed a company forthwith. "Kankosha" or "light-displaying company" was the name he chose, not with any reference to kerosine, but as a modest allusion to the luminosity his proceeding should presently confer on Japan. The prospectus gave him more trouble, but piety and a soroban carried him through. Here is a translation of the document.

"For seven summers poverty and distress have been multiplying themselves in our midst by a yearly coefficient of ten. The maximum of misfortune has been attained in Tokiyo. There in every street are three or four vacant houses, from each of which seventeen or eighteen bankrupt tenants have been evicted in one third the same number of seasons. And all this has been brought about by an unfavorable balance of trade, an excess of imports over exports; a constant outflow of Japanese money and a resultant depreciation of Japanese produce as well as a debilitation of Japanese producers. A moment's examination of the articles imported and the prices paid for them will prove this at once. Thus we have of European and American goods; stuffs, as cloths, woollens, velvets, camlets, cottons and so forth, which at the rate of seven yen per man of the whole population, gives a yearly expenditure of two hundred and sixty-six million yen; umbrellas and parasols, one for every three individuals of the population, say ten million yen; leather for boots, handbags, tobacco pouches, saddles and so forth, about one million yen; boot-brushes, blacking, five hundred thousand yen; stoves, five hundred thousand yen; cement, a hundred thousand; iron for nails, farming implements, bridges, fences, and so forth, ten millions; sugar, five millions; machinery, three millions; arms and accoutrements, an untold sum; finger rings, two hundred and fifty thousand yen; gloves, five hundred thousand; comforters for the neck, 5 millions, i.e. one at 50 cents for every fourth individual of the population; caps and hats, thirty millions; velvets, camlet, and other stuffs for making patten-straps, two millions and a half; glass, a hundred thousand; soap, five hundred thousand; paper and envelopes, three hundred thousand; slates and school-books, five millions; silver for manufacturing purposes, one million; medicines, ten millions; lead, one million; medical instruments, two millions; watches and clocks, five millions; carpets, five millions; toys for children, one million; toys for adults, as musical boxes and so forth, one million; dye powders, ten millions; paints, six hundred thousand; photographic lenses, chemicals &c., five millions; tin, two millions; beans, one million; barbers' tools, as twelve kinds of hair oil, scissors, combs, tuning-forks (!), aprons, towels, mirrors &c., five millions; paper one and a half millions; lamps and lamp oil, two hundred and forty millions.

Next we have Chinese goods: paper of various sorts, ten millions; ornamental woods, as Shitan, Tagayasu &c., two millions and a half; vermilion, two millions and a half; articles for the Tea Clubs, as porcelain, jade, crystal, bronzes &c., ten millions; stuffs, two millions; rattan, one million; rush-mats, one hundred thousand; chemicals for dyeing purposes, fifty thousand; pens and ink, three hundred thousand; potted plants, some more than a thousand yen each, five millions; flower-pots, an untold sum, besides a variety of other articles too long to enumerate.

This estimate, rough indeed, but certainly not erring on the side of exaggeration, gives a grand total of about seven hundred and thirty millions of yen, which in fact only represents half the loss. For every cent's worth of imported goods replaces a cent's worth of native produce, and thus if we suppose, as we are plainly justified in doing, that importation prevents an equal amount of home production, we arrive at this result:—the aggregate yearly loss entailed upon Japan by the import trade, amounts to at least fifteen hundred millions of yen. If this goes on much longer the result is as plain as though it were reflected in a mirror: Kinsatz at a waste paper value, a total absence of metallic currency and—national bankruptcy. The disaster is obvious; the remedy, palpable. Let us all solemnly bind ourselves to refrain for ten years from purchasing any articles of foreign manufacture in any form whatsoever. Thus only can the national prosperity be restored; thus only, gold and silver again rendered plentiful, and thus only the ancient prestige of Divine Japan made resplendent once again before the nations of the world. It is for this reason we have named our society "light-displaying," and under that title we call upon all thinking patriots to join us."

His prospectus compiled and fairly indited, Sada set himself to carry it from house to house, not sparing pulpit eloquence in its support. His success was at first signal. He obtained the signatures of several cenobites, whose upper stories had been denuded of furniture by too constant tonsure; also of a strolling improvisator, by name Yencho, who treated his audiences to sundry spicy delineations of the reverend economist and his kerosine craze; and finally of one Sechian, an impecunious bard, who constructed a jingle of rhymes out of Sada's currency comparisons. Flushed with good fortune the economist now ventured to address some of the leading merchants; men whose names were actually borne on the roll of the Chamber of Commerce. From them his figures must enforce assent, unless indeed the Gods had abandoned Japan altogether. But so the Gods had apparently. For instead of signatures, the reverend gentleman got jibes. Some of those to whom he applied offered him tickets of admission to the Lunatic Asylum, and others flourished translations of John Stuart Mill in his face, but not one would read his prospectus through or take the trouble to examine his totals. Still he is wandering on not without hope. According to the latest accounts he has gained a few more disciples, but their conversion was easy, since their pecuniary conditions gives them a special predilection for an increased currency. A few days ago indeed Sada's prospects were suddenly and strangely brightened. A rumour went abroad that a meeting of the principal merchants in Yokohama and Tokiyo had been held for the purpose of discussing just such a scheme as his own, and that official pressure had been secretly exercised in favour of the idea. For a moment Sada saw himself deified by his enfranchised countrymen, Satz abolished and square Obans once more bandied from hand to hand. But the next minute he discovered that rumour had only shewn him a magnified reflection of his own shadow. The monster meeting of merchants and the official inspiration had no more real existence than the accomplishment of his cherished project. Report had in short created them out of the materials he furnished himself, and seeing how little people troubled their heads even then about the matter, he is beginning to suspect that public opinion is less exercised than he fancied about the great balance of trade question.

Among the telegrams brought by the French Mail, which anchored in the harbour at about seven o'clock last night,

was one which announces a sad disaster to the French Navy. On the 29th ultimo the flagship *Richelieu*, while lying in Toulon harbour, was completely destroyed by fire. No details as to how this unfortunate occurrence took place are to hand, but we trust that, on the principle of no news being good news, the calamity was unattended with loss of life.

The *Richelieu* was one of the finest of the vessels that compose the French ironclad fleet. She was comparatively new, having only been launched in 1876. Her displacement was 8,064 tons and her armament eight 18-ton and two 11-ton guns. Since the date of her commission she has always formed one of the Mediterranean squadron.

The orange crop in Kiushiu has been unusually large this year. From the two town lands of Arita and Unami in that province about twenty thousand boxes of fruit have been sent daily to the Osaka and Kobe markets. The numbers of oranges in a box depends of course on the size of the fruits—that of the boxes being generally fixed—but we shall not be far wrong if we estimate it at one hundred and fifty, at which rate the consumption of the Kobe and Osaka fruit eaters would amount to some three millions of oranges per diem. But indeed eggs and oranges represent something more than mere edibles in Japan. They are the messengers of courtesy, the very rank and file of that intrinsically worthless but morally inestimable army of gifts from which all the outposts of Japanese amity and conventionality are garrisoned. Abolish baskets of oranges and boxes of eggs from the region accessible to coppers, and you shall subject the social existence of this country to a loss not less paralyzing than that of the jacket button, without which its owner was not at liberty to construe Horace. Oranges deftly piled up in plaited pyramids and eggs neatly pillowed in a bed of husks, do not convey much from the donor or confer much on the recipient, but in the eyes of a Japanese they are the bulwarks of that very material old hospitality which forbade friendship to be ever empty-handed, and taught at the same time that the value of a gift is measured by its intention, not by its quality.

It is a very generally accepted opinion amongst Westerns, and indeed with a certain section of the Japanese also, that the relations between China and Corea are of a most intimate character, and that the destiny of the Peninsula depends in effect on that of the main-land. Geographically, and perhaps strategically, this may be so, but if the sentiments expressed by certain Coreans who lately visited Japan can be taken as an index of their country's moral bias, the Tsungli Yamen would be ill-advised did it place much reliance on Corean loyalty. Hideyoshi—these men say—did certainly invade Corea, and never since history began to be written, have the Coreans suffered more than they did at the hands of his warriors. But the war was not a causeless one. It had a pretext, which, however differently it was regarded by invaders and invaded, was yet a pretext not inconceivably sufficient. Far other however are the memories connected with the establishment of the Tartar dynasty. In their wars with the Min, Corea was invariably made the Manchoo base of operations. Over and over again was the peninsula converted into a camp for lawless soldiers, and if the fall of the Min filled the Coreans with sorrow for the fate of their old allies and staunch friends, it gave them at any rate respite from a succession of sufferings which must ere long have annihilated the country's resources and reduced it to a condition of semi-barbarity. Here there was no just pretext. If the Tsing Tartars chose Corea as a stepping-stone to the conquest of Corea's patron and protector,

and if in their ruthless progress they trampled the very heart's blood out of an inoffending nation, is it likely that the injury will be easily forgotten, or that Corea, looking back at what she once was and contrasting it with what she now is, can be moved by very large sympathy for the Tsing despots? On the contrary if the truth were known, she regards the Japanese as her natural allies, for whatever pains they inflicted on her, were no more than the common consequences of a war waged by strong soldiers in a presumed just cause.

This is plausible, but we must needs remind our readers that it was communicated to a Japanese and is now put before the public in the raiment of Japanese rendering. We are not without examples either of certain amenities which tend to smooth the ruggedness of direct statements, or of divers dispositions which render repetition a convenient occasion for colouring. Meanwhile, if then be any truth in history's disposition to repeat itself, we strongly suspect that Corea ran some serious risk lately of being converted into a Muscovite, instead of a Manchoo, stepping-stone, in which event, however, she might have had the consolation of seeing some scores paid back at second hand to her Tsing friends.

It is very interesting to watch the motherly care with which Japan regards her infant colony at Fusan. She would fain preserve it from all taint or contamination and make its community a model of every thing that is socially correct and commercially punctilious. The wine cup, dear even to the chaste soldier, and more especially charming when its contents are mulled and the thermometer stands at 20° below zero, has already done very able duty, and like the American lecturer on temperance, who gave his audience personal illustrations of the drunkard's various conditions, a merchant may be excused for exhibiting to his customers the cheering effects of bottled wares. But there is another wine which, as a certain lady remarked to Doll Tearsheet, is "a marvellous searching canaries, that perfumes the blood ere we can say—what's this?" and of that wine considerable quantities have been lately imported, it appears, from Nagasaki, Tsushima and Osaka by Geisha and Cyprian adventures. The results are reported as exceedingly disastrous. Sober merchants have been suddenly transformed into "bottle-ale rascals" and a regular "Young May moon" life is being carried on at Fusan, to the no small edification of the Corean onlookers. Of course the authorities are considerably shocked and much exercised as to the possibility of applying a radical remedy, such as a wholesale deportation of all the Phryne genus, but they have decided on the advisability of a non-intervention policy. "Wherever men's faces are found, there also will men's fancies obtain," they say, and if the little colony has at last discarded its go-horse and begun to run about on its own hook, its parents must be prepared for some slight vagabondage.

The recent telegram announcing a settlement of the dispute between Russia and China, is exceedingly welcome, but must not, we fear, be taken too explicitly. In all probability it means nothing more than that China has consented to some preliminary conditions. The details remain to be adjusted, and it is not impossible that they may give quite as much trouble as the conduct of the negotiations up to the present point.

On Thursday evening—27th instant, H. B. M. Chargé d'Affaires and Mrs. Kennedy entertained the following ladies and gentlemen at dinner: Their Excellencies, Sanjo, Yamagata Saigo and Matsugata, His Excellency and Mrs. Oyama, Mr.

and Mrs. Matsuda (Governor of Tokiyo); Messrs. Sudzuki, Nagasaki, Satow, Siebold, and Buchanan.

The fact that twelve Russian vessels of war are for the moment stationed at Nagasaki, seven or eight in Yokohama and four at Kobe, making in all a total of more than twenty, is apparently regarded with anything but indifference by the Japanese. It is, they say, an article of treaty that not more than seven foreign ships of war flying the same flag, shall anchor at the same place and time in Japanese waters, and their natural reflection is that if covenants are so far liable to be changed by circumstances it were better on the whole to contract no engagements whatsoever. If there be any justice in this reflection it has no doubt suggested itself already in proper quarters. We observe, however, with amusement some very naive remarks made by a Japanese correspondent who is not quite able to fathom the gist of what he sees at Nagasaki. The Russian admiral, he says, has just cashed a bill on Nagasaki for eight hundred thousand dollars, and it is scarcely probable that he means to devote the whole of that sum to the purchase of coal. *Apropos* of coal too, he observes that the Russian naval regulations do not seem to be quite so precise as the French or English, for the coal dealers are in the habit of delivering their wares to the ships partly in kind and partly in coin. Thus of a thousand tons purchased on paper, seven hundred are actually shipped, and the remaining three hundred represented by a metallic equivalent. These vagaries do not however elicit any unpleasant strictures from our correspondent. He contents himself with observing that there is no doubt some occult reason for all this, and then goes on to describe the conduct of the Russian men-of-war's men ashore, which, he says, shocks even the well-annealed denizens of the Nagasaki purlieus. But Jack has never been wont to keep very thoroughly within his bearings in the presence of such perturbing influences as facile beauty and cheap drams, so that we are not inclined to attach much weight to this item in our correspondent's catalogue. Whether Russia will be content to recall all these ships and men without having given them any employment beyond the manipulation of coal accounts and the organization of pic-nic parties, is another question, and it were perhaps better advised not to hazard any conjectures upon it for the present.

A Korean, who until the end of last year resided in Kiyoto and Osaka, was noted for his untiring attendance at the temple of Hongwan, where he received instruction in the tenets of the Monto sect and finally became a convert to its doctrines. Since his return to Corea rumour says that he has been busily engaged preaching his new faith from place to place, nor that without result either, for his disciples now number some fifty or sixty, and it is opined that the movement may ultimately develope into a religious reform, more especially as the Monto doctrines on the subject of marriage and other social ceremonies, are not calculated to do much violence to epicurean creeds.

The Fuhansengaisa, or Sailing Ship Company, is reported to have realized such large profits during the latter half of 1880, that after defraying all expenses, a dividend was declared at the rate of thirty per cent per annum. Our readers are not perhaps conversant with the difficulties that beset this company in the early days of its career. It had to encounter the opposition of a powerful and firmly established rival, who, if rumour may be trusted, was not over particular in his choice of weapons. But these things are how happily past and gone. The company has struggled

bravely into existence, and unless its success of last year be very largely exaggerated, others may be expected to follow its good example, so that presently there will be no more room for complaints about officially supported monopolies and excessive freights.

The following extract from the *Times* contains matter more astounding than credible. Could anybody have believed before reading it, that such things are done to-day in Paris, the centre of refinement and civilization? Why if it happened in Yokohama, it would retard the repeal of the extra-territorial clause by at least a dozen years, and probably induce the most moderate among us to snap his fingers at Japanese progress. Coming from France, however, we can afford to treat the story lightly, because we justly deem it an accidental abuse, and because we know too much of Gallic judicature to base any *a posteriori* arguments of corruption or inefficiency on such solitary examples. Nevertheless we are very proud to think that 'accidents' of the sort could never occur in London, and if these facts have any moral we entrust its inference to those whom it most concerns.

Paris, Dec. 2nd.—“I received a call to-day from Mr. Harman Grisewood and his wife, who had an introduction from a friend, the wife of an English ex-Minister. Here are the facts related to me by Mr. Grisewood, and which, although he is evidently a gentleman perfectly trustworthy, I thought it well to get confirmed from other quarters before inviting English public opinion upon them. On Monday morning Mr. Grisewood left his house to attend the mass for the Lacordaire anniversary. On quitting St. Augustin's Church at 11.15 he found himself in the midst of a crowd collected to see the congregation disperse, and, like them, he waited. Some policeman close by him suddenly spoke to an elderly woman and ordered her to move on. As she did not stir they hustled her and, on her remonstrating, two of them seized her by the shoulders, made her stoop, and dragged her towards the police station. At this moment Mr. Grisewood, filled with indignation, dashed forward and tried to rescue the woman by driving off the police to the right and left. This was, no doubt, an unwise step, but what extenuates it is that the woman was released in a few hours and therefore, could not have deserved arrest. No right feeling man could have helped intervening, at least by word, but Mr. Grisewood, not knowing French, could not, of course, have preferred a remonstrance. Well, the policemen immediately rushed on him with exclamations and gesticulations of evident anger, and took him before the commissary. Had he, after an explanation, been discharged there would not have been much to complain of. But things took a different course. After two hours Mr. Grisewood was taken before the police commissary, who had been breakfasting, and, without heeding his demand to be allowed to write to the British Embassy, or, at least, to have an interpreter, cross-examined him and called on him to sign the minutes, notwithstanding his inability either to reply or to read the document. At 3.30 he was taken to the Rue Amsterdam before another commissary, and in broad daylight, a cab being refused, he was led on foot through the city like a malefactor to the lock-up of the Prefecture of Police. Meanwhile, Mrs. Grisewood, who is in delicate health, uneasy at her husband's non-appearance, had been to consult a friend (a popular English authoress) and had been seeking him. She followed him from station to station and eventually found him in the lock-up, in one of the cells of which he had been confined. No entreaties availed. Mr. Grisewood was incarcerated for the night. He had been relieved of everything he had on him, even of a penholder, leaving him only 30f. in his pockets. Of course, he declined to sleep in the prison bed, and, neither eating nor drinking anything, awaited the Tuesday morning with anxiety. Towards 10 o'clock he was fetched, and, along with the worst vagabonds, seated on a wooden bench, where he had to wait for two hours in the ante-chamber in order to appear before the magistrate of the *petit parquet*. This magistrate, who seems to have rivalled the policemen and commissaries in brutality, refused to allow the prisoner an English

interpreter. A man in uniform entered, who said harshly to Mr. Grisewood, "Get up. Come here. What do you want?" in broken English, which Mr. Grisewood could scarcely understand. But what was Mr. Grisewood's astonishment when he was informed that this man who spoke so rudely to him was his interpreter? Mr. Grisewood said he wanted an English interpreter, that the situation was too serious for him to accept an interpreter on whom he could not perfectly rely. The magistrate thereupon got into a temper, told Mr. Grisewood he was pretending not to understand the interpreter, and after having consulted a file of documents remanded the prisoner to his cell. Mrs. Grisewood and her friend in the meantime arrived at the *petit parquet*. Knowing French very well, they explained matters to the magistrate, and he informed them that in 20 minutes Mr. Grisewood would be set at liberty. But hours still passed. Mrs. Grisewood went to the Prefect of Police and saw a gentleman, who told her that her husband would be set at liberty. "But," remarked Mrs. Grisewood, "the woman on whose account he was arrested was liberated yesterday, and my husband is still in prison." "That is because your husband is a foreigner," was the reply. At length, at 6 a.m., after 30 hours of ill usage, fasting, imprisonment, and sleeplessness, Mr. Grisewood was liberated without any penalty, without any investigation or decision—the best proof that nothing could be seriously alleged against him. Now, this is not the first time that such complaints have been made to me. The police are too prone to detain and insult Englishmen, who cannot defend themselves. An end must be put to such occurrences. If Englishmen residing here cannot be sufficiently protected they had better avoid Paris as a place of abode at present. Nothing, however, is easier than to protect them. The Government ought to tell the Prefect of Police to give his agents orders that immediately upon an English man being arrested, who asked the aid of the English Embassy, it should be informed of his arrest. It is inconceivable that the Embassy would not at once make inquiries and become the natural protector of any respectable Englishman who appeals to it. It is to be hoped that the English public will sustain this appeal and that the Government will without delay give its Ambassador the necessary instructions, in order that Mr. Grisewood's adventure may be the last of its kind."

CHRISTIANITY AND THE CURRENCY.

THE terms of this title do certainly seem somewhat strange in juxtaposition, but our concern is with facts not phrases. What we desire is not to overrate this or deride that, but merely to demonstrate a point of history which deserves more than a passing comment.

That we possess few accurate delineations of ancient phases of life and processes of public thought is chiefly because contemporaneous sources for investigation have been neglected, and occasions that never recur, left unemployed. The error is to-day amply recognized. Posterity will have little cause to complain of our indolence in such matters, nor will future history fall much short of the standard which demands a true interpretation of motives and causes as not a whit less essential than an accurate exposition of deeds and issues. For in these latter times an annalist must not be content when he has built up the skeleton of the past, however accurately he has succeeded in restoring its joints, processes and articulations. The structure is incomplete for all useful purposes until it ceases to be inanimate; until clothed with flesh that feels, and endowed with faculties that direct, it grows into a living model of the epoch it represents, and so becomes, as it were, a portion of that experience from which the guiding instincts of life emanate.

Materials for such a work are most difficult of access in this country and at the same time most indispensable, for to read the story of Japan's foreign relations aright, we

must needs borrow a commentary compiled from sources other than bald recitals of facts, or conjectures—however ingenious—of analysts, educated in alien schools. Chief amongst these sources is the testimony of those that have been not only witnesses but also controllers of the events we seek to interpret; men whose lips have been hitherto sealed by easily comprehended motives, and whose veracity is attested by the perfect unison of the causes they assign and the events we ourselves see. It is to these living expositors we must look for a true rendering of much that is still obscure, and if the result of our enquiry sometimes—as in the present case—seems to associate evil with good, or to place side by side things that have nothing common but their dissimilitude, such incongruities ought rather to induce than to discourage deeper study.

The opposition Christianity encountered in Japan has been traced by different authors to different agencies, some ascribing it to the hostility of the native priesthood, some to the intrigues of the Dutch, and some to the indiscretion of the Jesuit propagandists themselves. For the moment, however, it does not concern us to balance the merits of these various views. Whichever cause predominated they were all three co-existent and certainly co-operative. Iyeyasu, at any rate, who carried the image of his patron god in his bosom, and refused to wear armour in battle lest he should seem to mistrust heaven's tutelage, can scarcely have needed either a forged memorial or a Buddhist priest's petition to suggest the suppression of a creed that tended to extirpate superstitions of which he made such large capital. If we were only required to account for his motive, these considerations might suffice, but the thoroughness of his action, combined with his successors' unswerving allegiance to the same principle, attest a conviction born not of bigotry alone but also of political prescience. The rulers of Japan honestly believed that not eternal damnation alone but temporal disaster as well, would be the outcome of adherence to the Christian faith, and obedient to this belief, they strained every resource of an almost illimitable power to root out the heresy. Iyeyasu himself had too much knowledge of men and things to fancy that persecution alone could accomplish the desired result. He foresaw that moral agency would be even more essential than physical, and with this view took subtle measures to enlist popular prejudice in his cause. By erudite proclamations, by priestly teaching, by skillfully conceived allegations and by appalling punishments, the people were taught that the sacred doctrines of the only saving faith were in danger of perversion, and the Country of the Gods in peril of appropriation, unless the christian intriguers were exterminated. The history of those times is one of horrors well-nigh unparalleled, but fortunately our purpose does not compel us to describe their details. It is only necessary to point out, that when rewards sufficient to make men rich for life were given to informers, and tortures of the most ghastly character inflicted on the victims they indicated; when proselytes were burned alive, sawn asunder, drawn by oxen, suspended in the pit, plunged in the boiling marl of the volcano, tied head downwards to stakes by the sea side so that every wave broke over their faces, or starved to death in spiked cages with an abundance of savory food always in sight; when the indignation such spectacles might have aroused was calmed by logical explanations of their necessity, and when, above all, punishments only a degree less severe were meted out to those that associated with or harboured the proscribed, it is scarcely to be wondered at that little by little people

forgot to distinguish between cause and effect, or that in the course of two centuries the word 'foreigner' came to be a synonym for something all honest men were bound to hate and to destroy. Every Western was a Christian—a 'Bataren'—who came with the sole object of propagating his heresies, not because he believed them beneficial, but because their acceptance should prelude the inception of a thousand sinister and nefarious projects. This was the creed of patriotism, and these were the lessons mothers taught their children during the seventeenth and eighteenth centuries, so that when Commodore Perry's squadron sailed into Yedo Bay, the heart of the nation was stirred by feelings not unlike those of the householder who discovers a burglar in his strong-room, or of the traveller who finds himself confronted by a footpad.

Those who hold that human destinies are swayed not by accidental influences but by some unerring power, will no doubt find fresh warrant for their faith in the fact, that these American ships arrived at the precise moment when Japan was least prepared to give them the reception she unquestionably desired. Had they come a few years sooner, the signing of the treaties must have been prefaced by deeds humanity does not care to contemplate. As it was, however, they found a nation of soldiers unnerved by peace too long continued, and a Government that dared not do what it believed to be its duty. Historians have said that the concessions then made by the Bakufu administration were the signal for its overthrow. To call them the cause were perhaps more just. This at any rate we believe to be certain, that however ripe the country was for revolt; however irksome the rule of the Northern Regents had become, and however madly the inborn spirit of national progress beat itself against the barriers an essentially selfish state policy had set up, the vital forces of the Tokugawa dynasty were still far from exhaustion, and its chiefs might be ruling to-day in Yedo could they only have devised a means for evading or refusing the Barbarians' demands. Failing this their fall was assured, and we shall scarcely be accused of superstition, if we recognize something more than chance in this ordination of the christian sufferers' comrades to be the unwitting agents of their persecutors' overthrow.

But what a problem was the new Government called upon to solve! The germ of its existence was its avowed hostility to foreigners. The Emperor, its head not in name but in fact, had made their concessions to the 'Bataren' a pretext for his old servants' overthrow, and had solemnly pledged himself to rectify their deviation from the national creed. It was this faith that unified the designs of the Western Barons, and for the fulfillment of this pledge, almost every man that could carry a sword waited impatiently. If in short there was anything that could have rendered the change of administration popular—anything that could have won for it the hearts of the whole nation from prince to pariah—it would have been the declaration of a crusade against the hated barbarians.

It seems little likely that we shall ever fully understand the circumstances by which this current of popular fanaticism was diverted. The death of the Emperor Komei no doubt effected the issue considerably, but if the truth were known, it would probably be found, that the ratification of the treaties made by the Bakufu, and the tolerant attitude of the Central Government in the early days of its existence, were not so much evidences of an altered policy as results of a conviction that, to be successful, the expulsion of the foreigners must be temporarily deferred. Many causes no doubt cooperated to convert this momentary forbearance into permanent amity, but as we now

know, not the least powerful of those causes was, that amongst the little band of leading spirits by whom the Restoration had been planned and achieved, there happened to be three or four, who either by travel or study had made themselves conversant with the real strength of Western nations and with the benefits Japan might derive from foreign intercourse. It is not impossible—nay there is some evidence to prove—that these every men had once been staunch advocates of the 'exclusion policy' themselves, but they were still stouter supporters of their new faith, and if they had not ability to convert their comrades, they had at any rate wisdom to devise and courage to initiate, the only practicable means of attaining that end. We use the word 'courage' advisedly, because the scheme proposed was fraught with ultimate perils, and of those perils none were more fully cognizant than its proposers. Their country was in fact attacked by a mortal disease, and to treat that disease effectually necessitated the employment of a medicine in itself more or less poisonous.

It is to this point that we desire to direct particular attention, because it furnishes an easy explanation of Japan's too precipitate progress, and of the embarrassments her headlong haste entailed.

The medicine administered was foreign travel. It was easily rendered palatable, to some by a description of its attractions, to others by its apparent concord with the policy obtaining at the time of the first interchange of treaties, namely, that to oppose Western nations successfully, it was essential to study their sciences and learn the use of their weapons. So with the least possible delay all those possessed of local influence and known to be hostile to foreign intercourse, were either persuaded or ordered to visit Europe and America. There was no overrating of their country's resources on the part of those who counselled this course, nor yet any ignorance of the results to be expected. They knew by experience the bewildering fascination of the marvels these travellers were about to witness; they knew that the influences which obliterated old errors would awaken new ambitions, and they knew that their country must presently be committed to a multitude of undertakings which would tax its strength to the utmost limit of endurance, possibly, indeed, beyond that limit. Yet it would be more than difficult to indicate any wiser course, impossible to devise one more rapid, and as for its success, we have before our eyes evidences that may not be gainsaid.

But we desire to confine ourselves for the moment to the financial rather than the political results of the remedy. Reforms that partly reconciled, partly compelled the nation to accept its altered condition, immediately followed the Restoration, and amongst them must be reckoned the inception of various social and industrial enterprises, which, if little indicative of matured wisdom, were to a great extent justified by the necessity of exhibiting to public view some tangible evidences of the progress demanded unanimously though not from uniform motives. It cannot be denied that there was more to upbraid than to applaud in the rash spirit of innovation which was then abroad; but we may not forget how largely it was fostered by unprincipled advisers, who, knowing well that all permanently ameliorative measures must of necessity be the results of social progress and can never be its effective causes, did not hesitate to counsel undertakings for which the national intellect was still totally unprepared, and which were consequently destined to become either a perpetual burthen to the state if maintained, or a re-

proach if abandoned. All this, however, was to a certain extent inevitable, and would probably have produced no very serious consequences, had it not been supplemented by the results of the remedy we have described. For when the men who had been sent abroad to cure their blindness, came back with opened eyes, they brought with them in some cases pity, in others contempt for their country's littleness, but in all an absorbing desire to institute those reforms which each one deemed the most important factors in the product of western civilization.

This was what had been anticipated, though no doubt the reality somewhat exceeded the expectation. Nay, the excess must have been very considerable, for it were difficult even now to recapitulate the unceasing sequence of reckless enterprise and premature innovation that ensued. The world indeed stood by applauding. There was much to marvel at, much to admire in the spectacle, and few might guess that the race was too fast for the runners, or perceive that an almost fatal exhaustion was gradually benumbing their energy. Only those who had recognized the inevitability of the crisis laboured untiringly to mitigate it, but it will easily be conceived that their strength was often insufficient to stem the current of popular opinion. At best they could only hope to exercise a very gradually augmented restraint, and by what enormous strides the national indebtedness advanced in the interim, the present condition of the currency sufficiently demonstrates. Neither did those who understood the necessity of circumspection act with unanimity. Some shrank from applying the check when the mischief was still in its infancy, and their reluctance caused the secession from their party of two who could ill be spared at such a juncture. Had the outer world been then a little wiser, it might have construed these events aright, and credited the seceders' prediction of impending embarrassments. But the outer world found it more profitable, as it was certainly more pleasant to consider Japan's resources inexhaustible; and men did not even hesitate to call such unfounded vaticinations traitorous, classing their authors in the same category as Yeito Shimpei and Mayebara Issai. Now at last the truth is recognized and the rejected counsels received; but now too the mischief has attained such dimensions that the slight restraint which might once have sufficed, must be exchanged for a curb which, if applied with sufficient strength to be really useful, can scarcely fail to impede profitable progress at the same time.

Still we do not for a moment doubt the possibility of a cure. On the contrary, the fact that these difficulties were foreseen and accepted as temporarily inevitable, seems to furnish the best possible guarantee for their ultimate removal. Neither do we seek to disparage the justly enlogized activity Japan has displayed since the Restoration, though we do believe that her advance has been precipitate and that much of what has been effected cannot be permanent, since the mind of the nation is not yet ripe for its reception. We have merely sought to demonstrate, first that the old spirit of exclusion was a fruit of three centuries' growth and that it had its germ in a subtly fostered misconception of Christianity and its purpose; second, that Japan's present embarrassments are in a great measure the issue of that misconception, and third, that had she not willingly accepted those embarrassments, we should have very much graver cause of complaint to-day than a hampered trade or a depreciated currency.

RICE.

TO the mind of a Japanese his country's present financial condition presents itself under two aspects: he observes that the currency is seriously depreciated and that his rice costs him a number of yen far in excess of any precedent; or he remarks, that although he gets on tolerably well within the limits of his own country, he has no sooner sailed beyond Goto or Tsushima, than he is only separated from starvation by his watch and trinkets.

This difference of aspect, it need scarcely be observed, is one of appreciation rather than of fact. The two embarrassments are in reality phases of the same condition, though their mutual relation has not always been precisely alike. In the days when some reasonable proportion existed between the totalities of the metallic and paper currencies—that is to say, in the early times of the latter's issue—an exodus of the precious metals did no doubt take place on a very considerable scale, not alone as bullion, but also to restore the normal equilibrium of international demand. Importation was then largely stimulated, both by the altered ratio of relative values and by the spirit of speculation which invariable accompanies, and very often indeed intensifies, such commercial disturbances. Now, however, the inflation of the currency has far passed the point at which it ceases to effect the amount of the metallic media. Whatever may have been its aggregate influence on imports in the past, it has to-day attained such a degree of practical inconvertibility, that it acts as a serious check, both moral and material, on the whole course of foreign trade. Neither do existing circumstances promise any immediate amelioration of the evil, for the exchanges are palpably against Japan, and the action of that great panacea, the competition of commerce, is for the moment largely impeded. Minor circumstances may of course modify individual estimates, but most of us are probably agreed upon these salient facts, and all unanimously recommend the same remedy, namely, a restoration of the due ratio between the paper and metallic currencies either by a sufficient diminution of the former or an increase of the latter.

With the question of diminution we do not propose to concern ourselves here. There is, we believe, a method by which this excessive inflation might be effectively and beneficially contracted, but we reserve the indication of that method for a future occasion, merely observing, *en passant*, that the Government's earnest resolves to curtail the unproductive expenditure by which so large a quantity of its paper issues have been hitherto put into circulation, cannot fail ultimately to exercise a palliative effect.

Omitting then the alternative of a foreign loan, which, from the dual nature of its probable action, does not strictly belong to either of the methods we have indicated, an improvement in the export trade naturally suggests itself as the most desirable means of restoring the balance, and rice has been generally held to be the factor capable of exercising the largest effect in this direction. If only the export of grain were facilitated, the return of prosperity would, it is said, be assured, and the sorely needed metallic media flow back to the country in a permanent stream. Some prominence has been imparted to these hypotheses by the late fall in the price of rice, and it will therefore be well at the outset to eliminate any delusions engendered by this circumstance. The reduced quotations do certainly indicate faith in the prospects of a plentiful harvest, but this motive is not strong enough to be considered appreciable. The simple truth is that in Japan, as in all other countries, the native markets are

subject to temporary and regularly recurring influences which have no connection with purely commercial causes. Thus at the New Year the farmer needs money for three purposes; to defray his taxes, to purchase agricultural requisites and to provide the luxuries he then allows himself, however gloomy be his prospects. To procure this money he is obliged to sell a certain quantity of rice, and it is to the increased supply thus placed in the market that we must ascribe the present fall in price.

In estimating the useful potentialities of the rice export, our first disposition is to consider the aggregate amount of grain that can be spared to foreign countries. This we fear has been somewhat exaggerated. A comparison of the total average produce of the rice districts with the entire population of Japan, shews that the former scarcely exceeds one fourth of the quantity required for the complete supply of the latter on the supposition of an universal uniform consumption. Two very important items in this estimate have of course to be corrected before it becomes reliable. First an allowance must be made for the female and juvenile portions of the community, and second, a large fraction of the whole numbers must be struck off to represent the non-consuming section. It is scarcely necessary to remark that the use of rice as an article of diet is very far from universal. The lower classes of the people are strangers to such a luxury, and even in the producing districts barley and millet have hitherto constituted the staple food of the petty farmers. Against this however, we must set the now indisputably established fact, that since the Restoration the improved condition and more stable prospects of the agricultural classes have greatly generalized rice consumption. Some economists represent this difference by a ratio of two to one, but without entirely accrediting their estimate we may confidently assert, that this increase of consumption fully balances the saving effected by the reduction of the feudatories' unproductive expenditure. On the other hand the rice growing area has been appreciably enlarged. New lands have been brought under cultivation and the rural population has received large accessions from the military classes. Moreover of these changes probably the last alone has attained its full development. We may look for still further increments to the producing districts and still greater additions to the consuming masses, nor is it by any means easy to predict which of the two will ultimately predominate. In short, statistical data are not as yet sufficiently accurate to guide our conclusions much, and we shall be in less danger of error if we base our reflections upon the actual condition of the rice market to-day.

Now the aggregate yield of the last two years has not been below the average. There has consequently been no diminution of supply from natural causes. Against the increased consumption amongst the agricultural classes too, we have to set these compensatory influences; the abolition of the feudal system and its enormous unproductive expenditure, the extension of the fruitful area and the augmentation of the producing classes. To what then are we to attribute the present abnormal prices of the grain; prices which almost represent a scarcity value? If the quantity of rice in the country exceeded the supply required for home uses by an amount whose export were as capable of producing a sensible change in the currency level, is it conceivable that the market value of the grain could be sustained for a moment at present quotations? Let us examine briefly the reasons commonly adduced in support of such a faith.

First it is alleged that the rise in price is a symptom of

the depreciated currency. As a matter of fact, indeed, the advance of the one has notably outstripped the decline of the other, but this, so far from vitiating the argument, is, considered rather to support it. Rice is thus regarded as a measure of exchange value, and the currency depreciation is estimated by a comparison not between the minting and market prices of the precious metals, but between the amount of grain a given weight of silver once purchased, and the quantity that can now be obtained for the equivalent of that silver in Kinsatz. The fallacy of such reasoning is at once apparent when we remember, that a mutual relation necessarily exists between the values of all labour-produced articles considered as the means by which capital is remunerated. It is a fundamental principle of political economy, that the rate of profit in all employments tends to an equality. The cost, risk, and trouble of producing a given quantity of rice have not undergone any very palpable change during the last ten years, but other industries have been abnormally developed, and rice has not been excluded from the general adjustment of advantages without which these various employments could not co-exist. A moment's reflection will disclose a multitude of additional disturbing elements which have accompanied the social revolution lately accomplished in Japan, but we have not space to detail these here. All we desire to demonstrate in this connection is that circumstances not directly connected with the depreciation of the currency, have influenced the value of rice, and that the general laws applicable to those circumstances may therefore be justly extended to the case of rice also.

The depreciated currency is also said to heighten market prices through the mistrust it inspires. In other words, the farmer refuses to part with an article of certain value for one subject to abrupt fluctuations. There may be some truth in this, but not so much as appears at first sight. Agricultural classes have no such standard of comparison as urban tradesmen whose concern is with imports and exports. It suffices for country folk that a measure of grain should retain its power of exchanging for a certain portion of silk, cotton or tea. Familiarity is with them the father of faith, and it is obvious that their acquaintance with the comparatively new metallic currency now in circulation cannot be more intimate than it is with kinsatz. Disturbing rumours may, and probably do, reach them from time to time, but on the whole paper tokens will not be much despised so long as they pay for labour and purchase necessities.

Again the co-existence of high prices and abundant supplies is explained by assuming an universal disposition to hoard produce. Now the hoarding even of money is a propensity which only obtains on a large scale when apprehensions of insecurity exist, accompanied by a difficulty of finding safe and profitable investments. These, however, are precisely the conditions which the abolition of the feudal system and subsequent improvements in legislation, have tended to remove, so that unless we suppose the effective desire for wealth to be abnormally developed amongst the Japanese, we shall be puzzled to account for any general disposition to hoard. As for the hoarding of perishable produce, it cannot possibly be attributed to anything but a hope of influencing the market. Agricultural produce—since it cannot be increased in quantity before the next harvest—is certainly one of the few commodities susceptible of being forced to a monopoly value. But this supposes an equilibrium of demand and supply, and what then becomes of the large

surplus awaiting exportation? Even granting that the farmers have everywhere combined to force the price by holding back, nor yet denying the presence either of a desire to hoard suggested by the novelty of being able to do so, or of a disinclination to sell for paper of unstable worth, how is it possible to conceive rational men so possessed by avidity to add some hypothetical fraction to gains immediately realizable, that they persist in hoarding a commodity subject to daily deterioration, and known to be largely in excess of anything home consumption can ever require?

We have not at present space to examine the question of mechanical obstacles to export, but we may remark that shipping monopolies, exorbitant freight, and such things, cannot have existed in former times less than they do now, when the resources of the carrying trade are increased by the vessels of the Mitsui Bishi, the Fuhansen-gaisha and other minor companies. At any rate the removal of these obstacles could only tend to increase the demand for rice, and therefore also to enhance its value, under which circumstances the profits of exporters become somewhat problematical.

On the whole therefore we are led to conclude that no reasonable explanation can be adduced sufficient to reconcile the present market value of rice with the hypothesis of a superabundant supply. A considerable quantity might no doubt be spared for exportation, but whether the operation would be remunerative, or whether it would exercise any permanently sensible effect on the balance of trade, are points we recommend to the more careful consideration of those concerned.

REVIEW.

"The Classical Poetry of the Japanese." By BASIL HALL CHAMBERLAIN, author of "Yeigo Henkaku Ichiran." London, Trübner and Co.

In the introduction to Mr. Chamberlain's scholarly work upon the classical poetry of the Japanese, he asks "shall translations from foreign poetry be made in prose or in verse? or, to change the form of question, shall we reproduce the actual words of the original, or make ourselves the interpreters of its intention? Shall we sacrifice the spirit to the letter, or the letter to the spirit?" Whilst admitting that this perplexity is as old as the art of translation, our author shows that in adopting verse as his method of rendering, not only the general sense, but, in some degree, the delightful rhythmic melody of the original lyrics, he has erred—if he has indeed been thought to err at all—in such good company as Mons. de Rozeny and Dr. Legge. The difficulties, however, which surround a translator who aims at a poetic version, in which the general spirit and the *ipsissima verba* of the original shall both be equally preserved, are undoubtedly great. Indeed, Mr. Chamberlain himself points out that Japanese prosody knows neither rhyme, tone, accent, quantity, or alliteration. The only rule which appears to govern it is that every poem must consist of five and seven syllables, with, generally, an extra line of seven syllables to mark the close. Though not absolutely essential, there are, however, three original additions at the Japanese versifier's command. These consist of what are styled "Pillow-words," "Prefaces," and "Pivots." The "Pillow-words," Mr. Chamberlain explains, "are meaningless expressions which are prefixed to other words merely for the sake of euphony. Almost every word of note has some 'Pillow-word,' on which it may, so to speak, rest its head; and dictionaries of them are often resorted to by the unready Japanese versifier just as rhyming dictionaries come to the aid of the poetasters of modern Europe. A 'Preface' is but a 'Pillow-word' on a more extensive scale, consisting, as it does, of a whole sentence, prefixed to a poem, not on account of any connection with the sense of what follows, but merely as an introduction pleasing to the ear. The 'Pivot' is a more complicated device, and one which, in any European language, would

not be only insupportable, but impossible, resting, as it does, on a most peculiar kind of *jeu de mots*. A word having two significations serves as a species of hinge on which two doors turn, so that while the first part or the poetical phrase has no logical end, the latter has no logical beginning. To the English reader such a punning invention will doubtless seem the height of misapplied ingenuity, calculated to reduce poetry to the level of the acrostic and the *boutes rimes*. But as a matter of fact, the impression produced by these linked verses is delightful in the extreme, passing, as they do, before the reader, like a series of dissolving views, vague, graceful, and suggestive."

Japanese poetry, as a reference to Mr. Chamberlain's translations will show, contains something more than a five or seven-syllable string of quaint conceits and grotesque word-twistings. Although the ingenuity of the modern punster is often surpassed by the dexterity with which the classic bards of Japan can quibble and prevaricate upon the language they employ, still their verses are not unfrequently marked by sound thought and happy metaphor. These, together with some excellent word-paintings, Mr. Chamberlain has preserved with great ability, but of the verbal contortions with which the originals are said to abound, he has rendered little, feeling, perhaps, with Addison that "a pun can no more be engraven than it can be translated." The result of Mr. Chamberlain's labours show that he has acted not only wisely but well, in preserving the spirit rather than the letter of the poems, and there is ample evidence to prove that justice has been done not only to the sense, but to the rhythmic melody of the originals.

Mr. Chamberlain's translations are arranged under seven heads. The first division comprises the ballads from the "Manyōfushifu," or "collection of a myriad of leaves," and in this the classical poetry of the Japanese is contained. They comprehend selections from a number of collections made by Imperial command from the tenth to the fifteenth centuries, and commonly known as the "Collections of the One-and-Twenty Reigns." The many thousands of stanzas forming this collection, and from which Mr. Chamberlain has made a careful selection, are arranged under the headings of Spring, Summer, Autumn, Winter, Congratulations, Parting, Travelling, Acrostics, Love, Elegies, Various, and Conceits. In the original there are various subdivisions of these headings for the convenience of reference. Our author points out that, even in the arrangement of these sub-divisions, a characteristic conceit is worked classifying Love under five heads, commencing with Love Unconfessed and ending with Love Unrequited and Forgotten. The space at our command will allow us only to extract one or two of the shortest of Mr. Chamberlain's translations:—

SECRET LOVE.

"If, as my spirit yearns for thine
Thine yearns for me, why thus delay?
And yet what answer might be mine
If pausing on her way,
Some gossip bade me tell
Whence the deep sighs that from my bosom swell?
And thy dear name my lips should pass,
My blushes would our loves declare;
No, no! I'll say my longing was
To see the moon appear
O'er yonder darkling hill;
Yet tis on thee mine eyes would gaze their fill!"

The elegancies of metaphor are nicely employed in the following:—

RAIN AND SNOW.

"For ever on Mikane's crest,
That soars so far away,
The rain it rains in ceaseless sheets,
The snow it snows all day.

And ceaseless as the rain and snow
That fall from heaven above,
So ceaselessly since first we met,
I love my darling love."

The anonymous lines composed on beholding an unaccompanied damsel crossing the great bridge of Kahanchi convey a pretty word-picture:—

"Across the bridge, with scarlet lacquer glowing,
That o'er the Katsushika's stream is laid,
All trippingly a tender girl is going,
In bodice blue and crimson skirt arrayed.
None to escort her: would that I were knowing
Whether alone she sleeps on virgin bed,
Or if some spouse has won her by his wooing:—
Tell me her house! I'll ask thee, pretty, pretty maid!"

These short extracts are sufficient to indicate how ably Mr. Chamberlain has succeeded in his difficult task. For a more intimate acquaintanceship with the excellence of his style we must refer the reader to the book itself. It is undoubtedly one of the best translations of lyric literature which has appeared during the close of the last year.—*Shanghai Courier*.

REUTER'S TELEGRAMS.

LONDON, January 24th, 1881.

County Clare has been proclaimed as disturbed. The House of Commons, after a long debate, has voted the address to the Royal Message.

The Chinese Government has approved the treaty with Russia.

LONDON, 27th January, 1881.

On the trial of the Land Leaguers the jury were unable to agree and were discharged.

[SUPPLIED TO THE "HONGKONG DAILY PRESS."]

London, January 17th.

The Ambassadors of the Greek Powers have learned that hostilities between Turkey and Greece are expected to commence at the end of January.

After severe fighting the Russians have completely invested Geok Tepé; the loss on both sides was heavy.

MISCELLANEOUS NEWS.

The Messageries Maritimes steamer *Volga* arrived only this morning, being delayed by bad weather. She brings London dates up to the 10th ulto. The *City of Peking* is due from San Francisco to-morrow. The P. & O. steamer *Senda* left at daybreak to-day with the homeward mails.

Following on the smart shock early yesterday morning, another, but of a trifling nature, was felt shortly after nine o'clock in the forenoon, and yet another just after 1 p.m. This morning there was a perceptible motion at 5.27 a.m. It is to be hoped that the frequency of these shocks will not reach its culminating point in a great earthquake, such as we had nearly a year ago.

The *London & China Express* says:—We hear that the negotiations on the proposals of the Japanese with reference to the revision of the Treaties may prove somewhat longer than was anticipated. This is consequent on the proposals not being simply revisionary, but almost entirely abrogating the Treaties at present in existence, and as H. M. Government did not expect this, they naturally require longer to sift the details.

The following were the current rates of freight for vessels on the berth at home on the departure of the last mail, December 3rd:—Per Conference steamers.—To Hongkong, £1 10s. weight and £2. measurement; to Shanghai £1 10s. weight, and £2 measurement; to Hankow or Nagasaki, £2 0s. weight, and £2 10s. measurement; and to Yokohama, £1 15s. weight, and £2 5s. measurement. Per China and Japan Shippers' Association:—To China, £1 15s. weight or measurement; to Yokohama, £1 15s. weight, £1 17s. 6d. measurement; to Hiogo, £1 15s. weight, £1 17s. 6d. measurement. Per sailing vessels.—To Hongkong, £1 7s. 6d. weight, £1 5s. measurement; to Shanghai, £1 7s. 6d. weight, £1 measurement; and to Yokohama, £1 12s. 6d. weight and £1 5s. measurement. The current quotations for coal were as follows:—From Wear or Tyne, per keel.—To Hongkong, £23; Shanghai £31; to Bangkok, £24; to Yokohama, £26. From Newport, Cardiff, or Swansea, per ton.—To Yokohama, 27s.; to Shanghai 28s.; to Hongkong, 24s. From Birkenhead, per ton.—To Hongkong, 22s.; to Shanghai, 26s.

We are happy to be able to inform our readers that there is every possibility that the present disgraceful state of the streets

of the settlement, after sunset, will soon be remedied. The suggestion of an assessment, in paper yen, of three per cent. on annual rentals has been readily acquiesced in, and subscriptions are coming in so fast that in a short time we shall rejoice in the novelty of lighted streets. All of us must have had occasions when a stumble over a heap of stones or gravel left in the middle of the path, has called forth a left-handed prayer, and when we are able to walk out at night without barking our shins or imperilling our necks, the public spirit of those who have interested themselves in this matter should be gratefully remembered.

We are informed by the Post Office Authorities that the *Toyoshima Maru*, which arrived from Hakodate yesterday morning, had her iron mail-room flooded by a sea breaking into it during the prevalence of a storm on her passage to this post. The mail, amounting to three packages in all, was reduced to a mass of pulp, and it is probable that the Japanese portion of it will be a total loss. The foreign letters may be nearly all saved by reason of the stronger paper upon which they are written, but as the covers even of these will be defaced and torn, it will be necessary to return them to the writers as far as possible. The Post Office is now engaged in drying the mail preparatory to an examination.

The National Base-Ball League at New York have made the following revisions in the playing rules:—The pitcher's position is moved five feet further from the home base; the number of called balls is reduced to seven, and strikes to three: warning a good ball is omitted; the runner shall not have a substitute run for him under any circumstances. A base runner may be put out on returning on his base after a foul ball, if touched by the ball in the hands of a fielder, after the pitcher handled it. In scoring, the column of bases on hits is substituted for bases run, and of errors for total chances offered. The Spalding League ball was adopted for the next season.

After a short respite, the fire season seems to have come upon us again, with violence refreshed by its short space of rest. In one single day no less than seven fires have been reported in the capital and its suburbs. On Tuesday night a fire broke out at Shinagawa, and destroyed a large area containing numerous houses, including police stations, a telegraph office and similar buildings. Not an hour after this another conflagration occurred at Minami Moto-cho, Asakusa, which destroyed some thirty houses. Yesterday forenoon a fire broke out at Higashi Konya-cho, Kanda-ku, and spreading rapidly westward, consumed all Yechizen-bori, Bakuro-cho, and other streets. The fire also extended in the opposite direction and passing through some of the most densely populated districts of the city, crossed the Sumida-gawa and continued its ravages on the opposite bank. It was eventually got under control at about six o'clock, though a dense cloud of smoke still hangs over the locality.

The *Shanghai Courier* writes:—"We learn on good authority that one of the largest of the Russian men-of-war in Nagasaki harbour has been loaded with 2,000 tons of coal and a large quantity of artillery and ammunition. Another vessel of the fleet is being similarly loaded. It is evident that the Russians have some secret project in view. This information, taken in connection with our Newchwang correspondent's communication, tends to the belief that some Korean port is the destination of the material which has been taken on board the steamers in Nagasaki harbour."

A native journal states that rumour has long been rife as to the frequent appearance of pirates in the neighboring sea of Kiushiu. Now it is reported that the scoundrels have largely increased their numbers and are causing great trouble to navigation. The police along the coast have been using their exertions to capture some of these marauders but hitherto without any success. It has been lately discovered, however, that they have a harbour of refuge in a small island called Matsushima, close to Corra, and preparations are being made for despatching a force of police collected from various prefectures against them.

JAPANESE ITEMS.

[The following Notes on various Japanese matters are chiefly derived from the native papers, occasionally supplemented from original sources of information, and are carefully collated and edited, so as to make them readable and intelligible.]

COURT, POLITICAL AND OFFICIAL.

The *Hochi Shinbun* say that His Majesty the Emperor will go to the Narashino plains shortly to witness some rabbit hunting, to which the Princes of the Blood, the Prime Ministers, and the Privy Councillors are invited.

The same paper writes as follows:—"Tokio folks, who are noted for their garrulity, say that Atami is a branch office of the Central Government just now, and this seems to be after all quite correct. Many prominent functionaries are at present going there one after another, but we can not think this is because all of them have become sick at the same time. His Excellency Inouye, Minister for Foreign Affairs, leaving Tokio by the 9 a.m. train, went there on the 21st instant. Mr. Senator Ijimin is now making preparations to visit these hot springs, and Messrs. Chief Secretary Yamasaki, of the Council of State, and Under Secretary Hirata of the Finance Department, have been ordered there in all haste."

The *Mainichi Shinbun* announces that during the absence of His Ex. Foreign Minister Inouye at Atami, His Ex. Wooyeno has been appointed to take charge of the Department.

His Excellency General Saigo, Privy Councillor, went to Atami on Sunday last.

His Excellency General Yamada, Privy Councillor, who has been ill for some time, is now convalescent, and left Tokio for the same place on Tuesday.

His Excellency General Kuroda, Chief of the Colonization Commission, returned to Tokio on Saturday last from Atami. Judge Kishira, President of the Supreme Court, and Judge Watanabe, both went there on the same day.

One of our native contemporaries states that rules for the duties of the new gendarmes force were compiled and forwarded to the Cabinet by the Minister of War some time ago. Owing to press of official business, however, they were delayed and only transmitted to the Legislative section on the 19th instant. Revision commenced the next day, but the rules will not be published before the beginning of next month. Mr. Under Secretary Kiyoura was appointed Inspector, but owing to his son's illness has been compelled to decline the post, which will be filled by another official of the same class. The uniform of the corps will be a red coat and black trousers, and they will carry Japanese swords and pistols. Surgeons and paymasters will be attached to the force.

Sunday the 30th instant being the 15th anniversary of the death of Komei Tenno, father of the present Emperor, a great religious ceremony will be performed at the head temples of all the different sects, at 10 a.m. on that day. In Kioto, the Imperial tomb will be opened to the public, for the purpose of worship.

According to the *Hochi Shinbun* the new force of gendarmes will be divided into parties of three hundred men each. The annual cost of the force is expected to be 200,000 yen.

The *Hochi Shinbun* states that last Sunday, being the birthday of Her Majesty the Empress Dowager, Their Majesties the Emperor and the Empress went to the Awoyama palace to offer their congratulations. All officials connected with the Imperial Household attended in uniform.

The same paper says that a Japanese Consulate is to be established in Paris.

Mr. Shima, Governor of the prefecture of Iwate, went to Atami the day before on Tuesday.

Mr. Kitagaki, the new Governor of Kioto, being about to leave for his post, gave a banquet to his friends at the Seiyoken Hotel, on Monday last.

His Excellency Prime Minister Sanjo will give a banquet at his private residence, to-day next, on which occasion many prominent people will be invited.

Mr. Kuki, Vice Assistant Minister of Education, arrived in Kioto on the 18th instant, and inspected the Normal School, the School for the Blind, Deaf and Dumb, the Female School, the Female Establishment, and the Drawing School &c.

The *Mainichi Shinbun* states that a special Bureau for the Inspection of the Marine Laws of Japan has been established in the Senate.

The same paper states, writing on the formation of the new corps of gendarmes, that two companies of men will form one battalion. Besides the head quarters, two or three minor stations will be established in the capital.

The *Mainichi Shinbun* states that the recent official appointment of the son of the late Judge Ichi-no-se Nawohisa, who was recently murdered by Usui Rokuro, has given rise to some difficulty in the Judicial Department to which the young man was nominated.

The same paper states that a special Court was opened in the Tokio Saibanabo, on Monday last, for the trial of Usui Rokuro, who murdered the late Judge Ichi-no-se Nawohisa, and his uncle, an accomplice. Their confessions were taken on the following day.

We learn from another journal that a store has been established by the Colonization Commission for the sale of products from Yesso. It will be officially opened on Friday, and for the transaction of business on and after Monday next, and is situated near the Yeitai-bashi, Tokio.

The *Nichi Nichi Shinbun* says:—"We recently published a current rumour to the effect that a Department of Agriculture and Commerce would shortly be established, but it is now generally reported that the Department of Agriculture will be first established, and the Board of Commerce left alone for the present. Some steps regarding the latter office will be taken before the month of June next."

We read in the *Hochi Shinbun* that His Excellency Sugi, Assistant Minister of the Imperial Household Department, inspected the ground for the new Imperial palace on Tuesday last.

The *Nichi Nichi Shinbun* states that H. I. H. Prince Arisugawa Takehito (the younger) arrived at Singapore at 11 a.m. on the 25th instant.

The *Mainichi Shinbun* says that Mr. Kitagaki will leave Tokio for his new post of Governor of Kioto on the 2nd proximo, and will be accompanied by Mr. Secretary Hara, of the Hiogo prefecture, who is also in Tokio.

Mr. Secretary Ootori, of the Public Works Department, arrive at Kobe on the 22nd instant in the *Tokio Maru*, where he inspected the branch establishment of the Civil Engineering Office, and then sailed for Nagasaki.

Dr. Matsumoto, and Dr. Hayashi, military Surgeons in Chief, and Dr. Ikeda, Surgeon, have been appointed members of the committee about to compile regulations for the constitution of Laboratories in Japan.

The *Akebono Shinbun* says that the Chinese Consul at Kobe, Liao Sik Ngan, is about to return to his native country.

The *Nichi Nichi Shinbun* publishes the following from a correspondent at Atami:—"Of the functionaries who have been at Atami since the New Year's day, His Ex. Ito will return to the Capital in a day or two, and His Ex. Inouye on the 28th or 29th instant. His Ex. Okuma is stopping at the Sagamiya Hotel, and there is a large number of prominent people at these hot springs, including Mr. Godai from Osaka, and Mr. Takaahima from Yokohama, the place being so crowded that all the bath houses are full. It seems probable that the above-named three Privy Councillors are highly annoyed at such a great assemblage, as they will not be able to hold any private conferences, lest secret matters should leak out to the ears of outsiders, and consequently they now find Tokio far safer in this respect. Some of the higher officials make their visits to the hot baths a matter quite of secondary importance, though they came for that purpose, and they go from house to house, calling upon their superiors for the purpose of ascertaining the result of the official meetings. When His Ex. Inouye arrived here in a Russian man-of-war, it was quite a dark night, and therefore electric lights were exhibited from three places on board the ship, and the harbour was lighted as clearly as if it were day time, a sight highly surprising those to whom this light is a novelty."

NAVAL AND MILITARY.

The *Akebono Shinbun* states that the Russian fleet at Nagasaki consists of nine men-of-war, of which one or two ships leave every two or three days in turn, very early in the morning, and go out to sea to practise firing, returning to the anchorage in the evening. In the harbour also they practise torpedo experiments, and have boat drill every day.

The *Choya Shinbun* informs us that the distance between the fortifications at Kwanonaki in the prefecture of Kanagawa on this side of the Yedo Bay, and those at Futtsu, the continuation of the Saratoga point, in the prefecture of Chiba, on the opposite coast, is found from accurate surveys to be 1 ri, 12 cho, 30 ken, and the direct line between the coast of Kwanonaki and the point of Futtsu is 3 ri, 7 cho, 22 ken. The construction of Fortification No. 2 will be commenced at the end of this month.

The same paper states that in future any military officer who wishes to marry must apply for permission to the Minister of War, by whom the request will be handed to the Prime Minister for the approval of His Majesty of the Emperor. Formerly the sanction of the Minister of War was sufficient.

The *Nichi Nichi Shinbun* states that a number of officers have been despatched from the Pilot Bureau of the Navy Department, to survey the coast of Shikoku.

Commander Imai, captain of the *Settsu Kan*, has been replaced by Commander Hamabu.

We read in a local native journal that eight Russian naval officers went to Tokio last Tuesday, and visited the Navy Department, where they had a lengthy interview with His Excellency Admiral Enomoto, Minister of the Navy.

According to the *Nichi Nichi Shinbun* Dr. Kagami has been appointed the Director, and Dr. Shibaoka Vice-Director of the Yokosuka Naval Hospital.

The *Mainichi Shinbun* writes as follows:—"Whenever China finds it necessary to purchase arms from foreign countries, she gives her orders to the wellknown firm of Krupp in Germany; agents of this company are now in China, where they are arranging some matters connected with the purchase of cannon and rifles."

INDUSTRIES, TRADE AND FINANCE.

The Imperial revenue, collected at the Tokio Fuchō for the first half of the 13th fiscal year, has been forwarded to the Revenue Department.

A native journal states that the Mitsu Bishi Company's *Koris Maru* took away 51,476.40 yen in paper on the 23rd instant, for the Okinawa (Loochoo) prefecture. The *Wakanoura Maru* brought on her last voyage the sum of 70,000 yen in new trade dollars from the Specie Bank in Kobe. By the French mail steamer *Mensalek* gold and silver bullion amounting to 11,009.88 ounces, and valued at 225,853.82 yen was exported to London.

The same paper states that the newly printed one yen and two yen paper money will shortly be issued in place of those that are now in circulation.

In consequence of the scarcity of small paper currency, the Government Printing Office is about to print ten sen paper with the utmost despatch.

A native journal states that the silk trade in Yokohama is dull. When the French and American mails left here on the 23rd instant, no foreigners had bought silk. No. 90 had inspected about a hundred bales of filatures, valued at \$570 to \$580. The Shibusawa Company sent in forty bales of Tomioka silk to No. 66, valued at \$550, and about a hundred and fifty bales at \$550 were sent in to No. 63: in both cases it is thought that \$10 less would be accepted.

Of imports there are large supplies of merinoes, but they do not meet with a ready sale.

Mr. Mameshima, one of the Committee for Industry at Kamishima Mura in the province of Idzu, who has for years past given strict attention to agriculture, has lately invented a new method of making paper out of the willow tree; the quality is said to be excellent.

The Marine Insurance Company was established originally with a capital of 500,000 yen, but that amount being now found

insufficient, the Company contemplate the issue of new shares to the extent of 1,500,000 yen.

A native journal informs its readers that when some cocoons produced in Yesso and exported abroad were inspected, they were found to be of excellent quality, and the Agricultural Department of the United States of America ordered some through Mr. Tsuda Sen. Three thousand cards of these cocoons were also ordered from Italy.

The Marine Transport Company was opened on Monday, its head office being at the 2nd ward of Minami Shinbōri-cho, Tokio. Mr. Fukaya was appointed director, and Mr. Nobuta, manager. A branch office is established at Odawara, and the company have bought two steamers, which will call at the ports of Kazusa, Shimosa, Izu, Sagami, Awa, &c.

A Spinning Manufactory, under the name of the *Jiakusha*, has been established at Mitajiri, Choshiu.

A native paper tells us that Messrs. Ichioka Heibei, and Shiba Yeihiro, both Tokio men, have for some time past devoted their attention to a new invention for making a substitute for raw cotton from the mulberry tree. Their efforts have at last been crowned with success, and permission has been granted for them to commence operations on a large scale. The workshops will therefore be opened without delay.

A Competitive Exhibition of rice and beans was opened in the prefecture of Miyagi, on the 15th instant.

The *Mainichi Shinbun* writes as follows:—"As the trade in Vladivostock is getting more and more prosperous, Messrs. Sumitomo and Sugiyama, and other wealthy merchants in Osaka, intend opening branch offices in that port in order to afford advantages to Japanese commerce. However, they intend first going to inspect the place."

The *Bukka Shinpo* says that owing to scarcity of stocks the coal trade is very dull at present. A vessel is expected to arrive shortly from Kobe with 3,000 or 4,000 tons on board.

There is not much change in the current price of imported sugar, but if anything it is falling slightly owing to the decline in the value of Mexican.

A native journal informs us that the bad fishing season which was experienced on the coast of Isumi-gori, in the province of Kazusa, Chiba prefecture, during the past year, has been succeeded by one which promises to be very abundant. In the above-named district there are a hundred and twenty families who obtain a livelihood by fishing. Since the expiration of the new year's festivities fishing has only been recommenced for eight days, but in this short space of time no less than eighty-four thousand piculs of fish were landed. This amount, when dried, would be worth over a hundred and twenty thousand yen.

It is said that a Competitive Exhibition of Lacquer and Porcelain Wares will be held in Kioto in the middle of March next.

MISCELLANEOUS.

The *Nichi Nichi Shinbun* writes as follows:—"We have mentioned before that the idea of constructing a railway between Tokio and the prefecture of Gumba was most excellent, and likely to prove successful. An examination into the transport fees between Tokio and Maibashi for the past year shews a total of no less than 1,500,000 yen. It is calculated, besides this, that the actual expenses of travellers during the same period would have been at least 2,500,000 yen. When the railway is constructed, as it will be sooner or later, all the produce of Shinshu and Echigo will come by it to the capital, and the line will consequently reap great profits."

The *Yamanashi Nichi Nichi Shinbun* was suspended by order of the Home Department on the night of the 17th instant.

A new religious periodical, under the name of *Shinkai Zasshi*, has made its appearance. The office is in the second ward of Owari-cho, Tokio.

A native paper says that a school for the study of the Korean language has been established in the Japanese settlement in Fusan, for the benefit of the Japanese residents there, and two Korean professors have been engaged as instructors.

The Shintomiza Theatre was re-opened on the 20th instant. The *Mainichi Shinbun* states that the Toyama Spring Meet-

ing is announced, and the first day's racing will take place on the 15th of April.

A vernacular journal writes:—There are many ships built on the European style which, nevertheless, are not sufficiently well constructed to justify the Insurance Company in issuing policies on them. However, the ships built by the well-known Mr. Shiramine are all strong, and the *Tsukumo Maru*, now running between Corea and Osaka, and the *Nobuoka Maru*, now in the same possession of shizoku of Nobuoka, both built by him, have been insured by the Marine Insurance Company, after undergoing a most rigorous inspection. Another ship of the same class as the *Tsukumo Maru*, which is now in course of being erected at Mr. Shiramine's dock, will be insured by the same Company.

The same paper writes as follows:—"It is a matter of great congratulation that ship-building in Japan is gradually being brought to a prosperous condition. Messrs. Thomson & Co., who are the proprietors of a ship-building dock at Toyokawa-oh, Hakodate, have received orders for the construction of nine ships, and they have been already commenced. Another ship-building company at Niigata has received orders for three vessels."

Mr. Marugawara Bungo, a wealthy farmer at Joto-gori in the province of Yenshin, in the prefecture of Shizuoka, has purchased three steamers, with which he intends opening a line between Tokio and Sagara for passenger traffic.

The *Mainichi Shinbun* says that there are now 65,200 physicians in Japan, of whom only 504 have Government licenses.

We notice in the same paper that a very large supply of gas fittings has lately been imported from England for Tokio.

The Rice Guilds at Kakigaracho and Kabutocho, Tokio, intend to effect a combination, for which purpose a committee, comprising five members from each guild, has been elected.

A vernacular paper asserts that Osaka exports are daily increasing, and as they are all brought down to Kobe, special trains are required to run between the two places more than four times a day, and an extra line of railway is therefore to be constructed. The bridges under the railway being all wooden, they are first of all to be replaced by iron structures, and then the construction of the extra line will be commenced.

According to one of the native journals a party of experienced engineers is to be despatched to take accurate soundings of Lake Biwa, in the province of Oomi.

A correspondent to the above mentioned paper writes from Kobe as follows:—"A steamer named the *Toyokashi Maru*, belonging to Mr. Shimazu Tadayoshi, ex-Daimio of Satsuma, has been recently chartered by the Post Office authorities and she commenced to run between Osaka, Kobe, and Kagoshima on the 2nd instant, carrying the mails. Again, owing to the frequency of accidents to small steamers running between Osaka, Kobe, Shikoku, and Kinshiu, entailing sometimes loss of life, the authorities have taken the matter in hand and, with the view of remedying this bad state of affairs the Post Office officials lately despatched Mr. Kosugi, of the Ship Inspection Office, to Osaka, where he summoned a meeting of the various officials connected with the question from the neighboring cities and prefectures. Measures for the control of such accidents were discussed, but nothing definite was determined on."

A native paper states that a great meeting of Shinto Priests is to be held at the office of this sect, at Hibiya, in the beginning of February.

We have been informed that an Osaka paper, the *Asahi Shinbun*, has been suspended for an offence against the Press Laws.

We learn from a vernacular paper that a report on the comparison between the population and the tracts of land under cultivation in the whole Empire, compiled by the Statistical Bureau of the Home Department, will be exhibited at the forthcoming Second National Exhibition.

IMPERIAL GOVERNMENT RAILWAYS.

TOKEI AND YOKOHAMA SECTION.

Statement of traffic receipts for the week ending Sunday, 23rd January, 1881.

Passengers, parcels, &c.	Yen 8,492.15
Merchandise, &c.	" 1,089.41

Total..... Yen 9,581.56

Miles open 18.

Corresponding week last year.

Passengers, parcels, &c.....	Yen 8,118.55
Merchandise, &c.....	" 876.41

Total..... Yen 8,994.96

Miles open 18.

KOBE AND OOTZU SECTION.

Statement of traffic receipts for the week ending Sunday 23rd January, 1881.

Passengers, parcels, &c.	Yen 12,360.24
Merchandise, &c.	" 2,948.86

Total Yen 15,309.10

Miles open 58.

Corresponding week last year.

Passengers, parcels, &c.	Yen 9,967.60
Merchandise, &c.....	" 1,786.12

Total Yen 11,753.72

Miles open 53.

TELEGRAMS.

Teheran, 18th December.—Russian troops have been sent to assist the Persians against the Kurds.

Kandahar, 16th December.—The Wali left yesterday under a salute of 19 guns. There was no demonstration at Sonthal. A disturbance arose at Jamtara, and the officers' bungalow was burnt. Four persons were arrested. The *Times of India* has an alarming paragraph about Ayub Khan's intentions.

Allahabad, 18th December.—Since yesterday a marked improvement has taken place in the Viceroy's health.

Allahabad, 20th December.—The bulletin issued last evening states that there is some return of the febrile symptoms. His Excellency was restless during the night. This morning he was considered to be progressing satisfactorily, and Dr. Payne returned to Calcutta. The *Indian Herald* has been called upon to contradict the statement made on Saturday that the Viceroy was suffering from enteric fever.

Badulla, Ceylon, 22nd December.—A fearful cold-blooded murder was committed at Madulaina on Monday night. Mr. William Bennison was shot dead through the heart with a gun by his own appu, who is in custody. The Justice of the Peace inquiry is proceeding. Mr. Trevenna, Inspector of Police, started for the melancholy scene late last night.

London, 30th December.—The Boers have captured several towns in the Transvaal.

ARRIVAL OF THE FRENCH MAIL.

TELEGRAMS.

London, 21st December.—In the opening speech of the Attorney-General in the trial of the Land Leaguers at Dublin, he based the charges chiefly on seditious speeches made. His speech has taken four days in delivery.

Bombay, 21st December.—A special telegram from London to the *Times of India* says, that Sir F. Haines has resigned.

Frank Buckland is dead.

New York, 22nd December.—The panic at Chicago is subsiding, financial relief having been forthcoming.

London, 23rd December.—This afternoon a telegram from Durban, of to-day's date states that it is reported that the Boers have defeated a force of the British troops at Meddleburg [? Heidelberg] and the British lost two hundred in killed, and fifty prisoners.

Obituary—George Eliot, the authoress.

All the Powers have accepted the proposal made by England for arbitration and final settlement of the Greek frontier question.

The Under-Secretary of the Home Department has resigned in consequence of ill-health.

Teheran, 23rd December.—The Persian Government has invoked the mediation of France and Austria in connection with the Kurdish insurrection, and has urged the Porte to intern Sheik Obeidullah and surrender the Persian Kurdish in Turkish territory and prevent further incursion.

London, 27th.—Latest advices from Cape Town state that an attack by the Boers on Potchefstroom was repulsed by the Colonial forces.

The Boers have issued a proclamation stating that they deprecate war, but are determined to assert their independence.

Earl Carnarvon has written a letter to Mr. Bright, condemning the speech he made on the 16th November last on Irish affairs, as unbecoming a Cabinet Minister, and deploring his attack on the landlords and preference for

theoretical reforms over restoration of law and order in Ireland.

Sir Richard Temple has published a book entitled "India in 1880," in which he favours the retention of Kandahar and expresses an opinion that had Russia adhered to the arrangement entered into with Great Britain when Lord Clarendon was Foreign Minister the Afghan war would never have arisen. Sir Richard recommends that we should remind Russia of her engagements.

London, 25 December.—An official despatch has been received from Natal, stating that the head-quarters of the 94th Regiment, whilst marching on Pretoria, were overwhelmed by a force of Boers, who inflicted a loss on our men of 110 killed and wounded, and took the rest of the regiment prisoners. The regimental colours were saved.

Lieutenant H. A. C. Harrison was killed, and Major Philip Robert Anstruther, Captain Stanford Nairne, and Lieutenant James MacSwiney, severely wounded.

Sir George Colley has expressed an earnest desire for cavalry reinforcements.

Rome, 25th December.—The *Osservatore Romano* publishes an official communication from the Pope in which His Holiness regrets the deplorable condition of Ireland, and prays that the British Government may speedily repress the disturbances; it also counsels the clergy and people to separate themselves from the revolutionary leaders.

Munich, 25th December.—Artificial indigo equal to Indian has been discovered (made) here by a scientific man.

Geneva, 26th December.—The President-elect of the Swiss Confederation has committed suicide at Hopfaldar, Berne.

London, 27th December. Later accounts respecting the disaster to the 94th state that the regiment was fired upon by Boers whilst rescuing some swamped waggons.

In an attack by Boers on Potchefstroom, the residences of four Englishmen were shelled and 100 inhabitants of the town were killed.

A party of unarmed Boers in the town murdered Captain Lambart of the 31st Regiment (Lieutenant Lambart of the 21st).

The 6th Dragoons have been ordered to proceed to Natal. One company of the Royal Engineers is going to Ireland.

Obituary.—Alderman Mechi.

Athens, 27th December.—The Greek Government insists on the rectification of frontier as decided upon at the Berlin Conference.

Constantinople, 27th December.—The Porte intends proposing a conference for the settlement of the Greek frontier question instead of the proposed arbitration.

London, 28th December.—The disaster to the 94th Regiment turns out to have been greatly exaggerated. The killed and wounded only amounted to thirty; the remainder of the regiment were disarmed by the Boers and released. A Battery of Artillery is under orders to proceed to the Cape.

Mr. Paruell has been elected Chairman of the Home Rulers.

London, 29th December.—The trial of the Land Leaguers commenced yesterday and a jury was empanelled. Chief Justice May will withdraw from the trial.

The Boers have seized the town of Utrecht.

Captain Lawrence Falle, of the 21st Regiment, was killed. The death of Lieutenant Lambart of the 21st, is denied; he is alive, but a prisoner in the hands of the Boers. Second Lieutenant Hume, of the 94th, has been wounded.

Lord Hartington, in reply to a deputation from Lancashire, urging the abolition of the Indian import duties on cotton manufacturers, said he would do his utmost to redress the grievance respecting the confiscation of goods which are believed to be entitled to free duty, and is prepared, when the finances of India permit it, to extend the free trade policy of his predecessors.

Toulon, 29th December.—The French ironclad *Richelieu*, carrying eight 18-ton and two 11-ton guns and having a tonnage of 8,064 tons, has been destroyed here by fire.

St. Petersburg, 29th December.—A flying column under General Kuropotkine has arrived near Geok Tepé in order to operate with General Skobelloff.

Teheran, 29th December.—The Kurdish Chief Hamsah

Agla, who was reported to have been captured some time ago near Urumiah, has returned to Persia with a force and re-occupied Herdmash.

London, 30th December.—The latest news from Natal states that the Boers have captured the Court-house at Potchefstroom, the garrison of which surrendered. They are now besieging the Fort there. The town of Derby has also been captured by the Boers.

London, 30th December.—A conference of the representatives of Chambers of Commerce of the British Empire will be held in London in February. The subjects for discussion will be free trade and the best means to secure uniformity of customs duties. England will be represented by 48 delegates, Canada by ten, India by nine, and other Colonies by two to four each.

St. Petersburg, 31st December.—The semi-official *Agence Russa* announces that negotiations have been concluded between Russia and China at Petersburg, and are now only waiting the decision of the Chinese Government.

Advices received here from the seat of war in Central Asia, state that severe fighting took place near Geok Tepe between the Tekke Turkomans and the Russians, after which the latter withdrew. The losses on both sides were heavy.

Athens, 31st December.—A statue of the goddess Minerva, by the ancient sculptor Phidias, has been discovered here.

Constantinople, 31st December.—The Porte will concentrate 100,000 troops of all arms, on the Greek frontier.

London, 1st January.—The latest advices from Ireland state that in consequence of the authorities having prohibited the holding of land meetings on Sunday, to-morrow, the meetings which have been called throughout the country, will take place to-day.

The British revenue returns for the December quarter, amount to £19,500,000 showing an increase of £920,000 as compared with last year.

Consols 99.

London, 2nd January.—The latest advices from the Cape state that the Boers have abandoned Utrecht.

The garrisons of Slanderten and Wakkerstroom are strongly entrenched and well supplied. British troops are advancing to the front.

The Times, in a leading article, announces that the Land Bill now under consideration of the Cabinet will be supplementary to an remedy defects of the Land Act of 1870: no new principles will be contained in it.

A Royal ordinance has been published prolonging the terms of granting Brevet promotions by succession on occasion of a vacancy, of General Officers in the Indian army, until October.

Colombo, 2nd January.—At an early hour this morning a telegram was received by Colonel Duncan ordering him to hold four companies of his regiment with the Headquarters, in readiness to embark for active service at the Cape, on the transport *Esperates* expected here about the 12th inst. The Band and the women and children will remain here pending further orders.

Arrangements are in progress for the embarkation of the troops; the Companies having the good fortune to be selected for service are Captain Palmer's, Taylor's, Lyasgath's and Hicks'. The force is ordered to be made up to 300 men, and it is supposed that of the two companies to be left here, one will be stationed at Colombo and one at Kandy.

INDIAN NEWS.

Calcutta, 20th December.—The following telegram from Allahabad was received in Calcutta to-day (Monday) at 1.30 p.m.—Last evening there was some return of the febrile symptoms and the Viceroy was restless during the night. This morning however the condition of His Excellency is considered satisfactory. Dr. Payne has left for Calcutta.

Sir Donald Stewart has been appointed Commander-in-Chief of India.

Calcutta, 21st December.—The following telegram from Allahabad was received in Calcutta at 2 p.m. to-day (Tuesday):—The Viceroy slept well last night and the febrile symptoms referred to in yesterday's bulletin have disappeared and His Excellency is stronger this morning.

London, 26th December.—It is rumoured in military circles here that Bengal will probably send five thousand troops to the seat of war at the Cape.

The Viceroy probably leaves Allahabad on the 3rd January, for Calcutta.

THE JAPANESE PRESS.

RAILWAY EXTENSION.

(Translated from the *Kinji Hiron*).

AS a question of political economy it is a matter of great importance to facilitate the means of transport, and we, who desire the welfare of our country, are to-day in a position to effect this. Until the means of transport are improved, it is useless to increase our products, and until these are developed, the prosperity of the country cannot be increased. As the present is a time when such a consummation is most earnestly to be desired, it is proper that public writers should discuss the question, and that the authorities should direct their attention to it.

There are two kind of transport, one by land, the other by sea, and as regards the former nothing can be more expeditious than railways. Of late years our sea transport has been greatly improved. We have the Mitsun Bishi, the Sailing ship and other Companies, all employed in this occupation, and increasing their profits year by year. Means of transport by land however, are decidedly meagre, nor can their progress be compared with that of sea transport. Railways, which are universally acknowledged to be the best kind of transport, are laid down only between Tokio and Yokohama, and Kobe and Kioto, which is far from being sufficient either for carriage of cargo or the convenience of the public. The Northern provinces are those in which the necessity of improving the present means of transport is most urgent. We have been informed that when the various local Governors came to Tokio, in accordance with orders from the Government, those of the Northern provinces held a conference, at which many of the leading men of their districts attended, at the residence of Mr. Nakamura Koki, Senator, and the subject of discussion was the construction of a railway in that portion of the Empire. Although we have not been able to learn any actual details, we congratulate them most heartily on their resolution. Some years ago when Mr. Hachisuka, a nobleman, was studying in London, he wrote to several friends of his own order, commenting on the immense importance of railways, and the necessity of constructing them in Japan, and urging that they should bestow their greatest care and attention to furthering this. His good advice was followed and the noblemen before-mentioned had an interview with Mr. Shibusawa, President of the First National Bank, on the subject of constructing a railway from Tokio to Awamori. This gentleman, however, considering the expense entailed would assuredly be too great, threw cold water on the scheme, and it died a natural death.

At the present time no one opposes the construction of railways, and as regards the general acknowledgment of their usefulness, we need only instance the traffic on the Tokio-Yokohama line. The only question now-a-days is that of capital, and whence it shall be derived. Whether it is the better plan to leave the task of construction entirely in Government hands or to entrust it to a private company?

This is a point on which great diversity of opinion exists, and of which, even in Europe and America, no satisfactory solution has been arrived at. If Government undertakes the work it will be done soon and well, but against this we have the chance of unnecessary expenses being incurred. On the other hand a private company will practise economy, but delays may occur, so that either plan has its advantages and disadvantages. For our own part we are in favour of private enterprise, for reasons of economy, even though delay take place. The Government have provided us with a model, in the lines already constructed, the utility of which is so patent to all of us. If therefore there is any need to extend railways to our Northern provinces, let us undertake the construction ourselves and not wait for Government to do it. Why do not our leading men and responsible citizens bestir themselves about the matter? Cannot they see that by allowing Government to initiate different works of this nature, they are tightening its grip over the people more and more every day?

CHANGES IN THE POLITICAL WORLD.

(Translated from the *Sei Dan*.)

“THE flight of time exceeds that of the swiftest arrow.” Looking back to the past, we find that from the first year of the Restoration, until the end of 1880, is but thirteen short years. A little over four thousand seven hundred days alone have elapsed, but when we attempt to reckon up the changes that have occurred in the political world, during this short space of time, we find them so numerous as to render the attempt useless. Let us however note some of the more important events. Junior Prime Minister Iwakura was sent to Europe and America as Japanese Ambassador in order to ascertain the manners and customs of the people, and to enquire into the various forms of Government prevailing in the two continents. Messrs. Goto, Itagaki, and Soyeshima, with many others, addressed a memorial to the throne suggesting the establishment of a Representative Assembly. Marshal Saigo and Mr. Yeto strongly urged a Japanese invasion of Corea. The Press Laws were issued. Rebellion broke out in Hagi, Kumamoto, and Kagoshima. His Excellency Okubo, Home Minister, fell a victim to assassins, and Local Assemblies were opened in all the cities and prefectures.

These are the more important changes to record, and there can be no doubt that the feeling of the nation has been greatly encouraged by the progress that they show. The more the changes occur, the more are the people interested, and even when innovations look at first sight dangerous, who can foretell whether they may not after all be advantageous? It is on this account that we gladly welcome any further change in the political world.

All the events recorded above, however, extended over a number of years, not one of which included so numerous changes as did last year. In that period, all the private men of position in the different provinces, strongly and simultaneously urged the necessity of a National Assembly, and obtained countless numbers in support of their request. Representatives presented memorials on the subject, some to the Council of State, others to the Senate, and we cannot tell how often they repeated this. Last year too, the first disagreements between the Local Assemblies and the Executive in different cities and prefectures occurred, an incident which strongly affected the public mind. Moreover, Regulations for the control of Public Meetings, and for the receipt of memorials, were issued, all of which had their share in influencing public feeling, so that we consider ourselves right in saying that changes of great importance occurred in the political world last year, and that it is a matter of congratulation, because when a country is at a stand-still, the spirit of its people is dying away gradually and when this is the case, their progress cannot be effected. Such lamentable affairs, however, as the rebellion, and the assassination of Mr. Okubo, are injurious not only to the general welfare of the country, but also to the Government itself, and we sincerely trust we have heard the last of similar occurrences.

We desire as many changes in the political world as possible, always provided they do not injure the public peace: the oftener they occur, the more people will be encouraged to give up their lethargic state and study the pursuit of progress and advancement of intellect. It is for this that we hope to find the changes made in the forthcoming year even more numerous than those in the year that is just past.

LAW REPORTS.

IN H. B. M.'S COURT FOR JAPAN.

Before M. DOHMEN, Esq., Acting Assistant Judge.

Tuesday, 25th January, 1881.

Allen Kennedy was charged with having, on the night of the 22nd instant, fired ten shots into a dwelling house, No. 133, Swamp, with intent to injure William Hasskerl.

Defendant pleaded not guilty.

William Hasskerl, sworn, stated:—I am a German subject and keep a bar-room. On the morning of the 23rd instant defendant came to the house between two and three o'clock and fired five shots into the door and windows, exclaiming to me after every shot, to show my head and he would

blow my brains out. I went to the police station and left Mr. Nelsen in charge of the house; defendant had gone away then. I returned with Mr. White of the Consulate, the policeman, and some others, and was told that defendant had fired another five shots into the house.

By defendant:—I went to the police station between two and three o'clock.

To the Court:—I live at No. 133, in the settlement. It is a two-storied house, but very thin so that the shots came right through. The bar faces the front door, and anyone standing behind the bar must certainly have been killed. The bullets went through the door and windows and through the opposite wall. The marks are there still. There are three bullet holes through the door. The bar is small and has only room for three men to stand side by side. There were five shots fired through the window. I have left the panes there just as they are until this case is over. The balls are in the beams of the house. There was a light in the upper room and he fired up there. I saw defendant fire, myself, I was upstairs then.

By defendant:—You were in the street and it was light enough to see you. I looked out of the window. You were asked, by Mr. Howarth, at whom you were firing and you answered you were looking for my brains.

Julius Nelsen, sworn, stated:—I am a Dane, unemployed at present. I am boarding at Mr. Hasskerl's. On the night in question, I went home with the defendant about midnight. He showed me a revolver and told me that he was going to try and shoot complainant. I thought he was only joking. Then I returned to Mr. Hasskerl's and went upstairs. Complainant, Mr. Howarth and myself were all sitting there, when defendant suddenly commenced firing into the house. He fired five shots. Then complainant and Mr. Howarth went through the back entrance away to the police station. I was left in charge of the house. A short time after the defendant returned and fired another five shots. He aimed at the window, and called out, under the impression that Mr. Hasskerl was in the house, for him to show his head at the window and he would make a dead mark. After the last shot I looked out of the window and saw defendant going away.

By defendant:—I did not leave you in bed; you had not even your hat off. It was between twelve and one that I went home with you.

To the Court:—I know it was the defendant who fired the shots, because I heard his voice on the first occasion, and saw him on the second. I saw him fire the second five shots. It was a moonlight morning, and I could see him standing in the street. There are now two bullets to be seen in the house. One lodged in a beam, the other in the bar. There are shot marks in the front door. I have examined the door, and speak positively. I did not leave the house all the time the affair occurred. The light was in the bathroom. I can't say if defendant could have seen it.

Thomas Howarth, sworn, stated:—I am a British subject, an engineer by occupation. On Sunday morning, I was at Mr. Hasskerl's, and went upstairs to have supper. It was about one o'clock in the morning. Defendant had then just left the house. We had been sitting at supper perhaps half or three-quarters of an hour when a shot came through the window. I ran to the front room and looking out saw defendant. I called out "Are you mad Kennedy, or what are you doing, shooting into the house?"—He exclaimed "Put out your head, Billy Hasskerl, and I'll blow your—brains out, you—son of a—!" He was then firing through the front door. We had just sent a small servant girl down for some claret, with a lamp, and doubtless seeing the light, he aimed in there. As it was, he just missed the girl. I saw him fire the shot myself, as I was speaking to him. He fired five shots and I said to complainant "You'd better go to the police station and have him arrested." Complainant and I then went there. We got a constable and went to the defendant's house. It must have been getting on to four o'clock then. We debated whether it would be safe to go in, as he might still use the revolver. He said that he could not be seen, but a woman opened the door and the constable went in and spoke to him and secured the revolver.

To the Court:—I don't know of any quarrel between the two parties. I heard there had been something, that

night, but saw nothing of it myself. I counted, in the house, eight shots in all.

Jerry Mansbridge sworn, stated:—I am a British subject, and a constable. At about three o'clock on Sunday morning, complainant came to the station and reported that a man named Kennedy had been firing into his house. I heard the circumstances and explained that I could not arrest Kennedy as I had seen nothing of the affair, and would require a warrant. Hasskerl said his life was in danger, and I said I would go down to his house, which I did. I saw various marks in the door and windows which looked to me like bullet marks. The defendant was nowhere in the street. I went to his house afterwards and saw him in bed.

Plaintiff recalled:—There had been a slight quarrel between us because he had lost his pipe, and said some of the customers had stolen it. He afterwards found it himself. I told him I would rather he left the house, and he took up a heavy cribbage board and tried to hit me over the head. I boarded the man before for some time, as he hadn't a cent, but he was so troublesome, always grumbling, that I asked him to leave. After our quarrel, defendant came and made it up, and we played whist together. I am obliged to close early, as a German subject, and never have any but my intimate friends after twelve o'clock. Defendant was not drunk; he had had very little all day. My girl recalled Mr. Howarth, as defendant remained in the house, and she was afraid he might do some mischief, as she knows he is a dangerous man. When Mr. Howarth returned he and I went upstairs, and Mr. Nelson went home with defendant.

Defendant reserved his defence; and stood committed for trial.

AN EXPENSIVE HOAX.

The following account of a hoax played upon me many years ago, may teach a lesson to people who think practical joking capital fun, and make them think twice before they resort to such questionable expedients. I am as fond of a good joke as any one; but I detest hoaxes, which as a rule are "past a joke," seeing that in most cases they go far beyond what their perpetrators intended. In the case I am about to narrate, either from false shame or fear, the chief actors let things take their course, without trying or being able to stop them.

It will be within the recollection of residents in China ports some eighteen years ago, with how great an amount of anxiety and expectation the opening of the mighty Yangtze (the "river of golden sand") to the vessels of the Western barbarians was looked for by all foreigners living in the far East. After the last Anglo-French Chinese war, which had terminated with the capture of Peking, the Chinese government had been compelled to come to terms with the Western powers, and had granted, however unwilling, the opening of several northern ports, and the navigation of the Yangtze above Shanghai, as far as Hankow. Navigable to good-sized vessels for upwards of 2,000 miles from its mouth, it was considered a great boon at the time that even this partial opening of eight hundred and forty miles of the mighty stream had been effected, and the expectations of the advantages to be reaped were raised to a very high pitch.

Shanghai, the old treaty port at the mouth of the Yangtze, was of course the most interested in this new state of things, as it was the starting point of all up-river expeditions, and every mind was filled with the prospects of the large gains to be realized—prospects which unfortunately proved rather fallacious in most cases afterward. There was, however, one serious drawback to the navigation of the river—its many shifting channels and rapid tides made the ascent a matter of great difficulty to sailing vessels; and it was obvious that the lion's share of any profit to be made would fall to those fortunate few who either owned steamers or had one at their disposal. The number available was, however, very small, and the rates of freight rose to such an enormous height that a few up and down trips paid the cost of any good-sized steamer.

In anticipation of coming events, I had been lucky enough, in conjunction with a friendly Chinese firm, to secure the purchase of a small American-built river steamer in Hongkong, which was to run on the river Yangtze. Drawing but very little water, it was deemed inexpedient to expose the small craft to the danger of crossing the boisterous China Sea, and though it took a much longer time, it was determined to make her run up north as close as possible along the coast. All matters connected with the Yangtze navigation were kept very dark at the time, but this had not prevented something about the purchase and the passage of the little steamer being whispered about—a fact of which I was to become aware soon after.

One evening, late—it was close upon midnight—I was busily engaged in my office in Shanghai preparing for the outgoing mail, when the office boy rushed into the room with a letter just delivered. This was a more than unusual proceeding—no foreign mails had arrived, and business communications are not generally made at midnight. I turned the letter rather suspiciously round, for its look was by no means inviting, it being very dirty and well thumbed. Inquiring who had delivered it, I was told that a coolie, apparently in a great hurry, had handed the same to the gate-house-keeper a few minutes previously—that the man had stated

he did not know from whom the letter came, and that no answer was required. There was nothing left but to see what the ominous missive contained; and I was not a little shocked upon reading the following:

Steamer *Phœnix* 12th March 186—

Dear Sir—I regret to have to inform you that we have run upon the North Bank during the last gale, and find ourselves in great danger. We may possibly succeed in getting off, if it ceases to blow hard. Captain S— is sick in bed, and he has asked me to write to you for assistance. Your obedient servant,

John S— (Chief officer.)

Rather pretty news that. The whole of the letter including the writer's signature, whose name, moreover, was unknown to me, was very illegibly written in pencil on a piece of paper, evidently torn from some memorandum book, bearing the marks of hurry and excitement. The dirty look of the outside cover was now somewhat explained—the steamer had probably hailed one of the Chinese junks passing by; and the letter had been forwarded by a Woo-sung runner—the only curious circumstance being, that this man should not even have waited for payment.

We had had very heavy northeasterly gales for two days past, and the steamer was due as any moment. So far everything seemed correct enough; and Captain S—, though known as one of the best men on the China coast, might as well have met with a mishap as any other. I hardly waited for the morning to take the necessary steps in the matter. It continued to blow very hard, and every moment's delay might render the vessel's position more precarious; so I was on my way before break of day to consult one of our best pilots, an American, whom I knew. The man had only returned during the night, I was told, and was still in bed; but I made him get up at once, showed the letter to him, and asked his advice.

"That looks very bad," he said, after perusing the letter, shrugging his shoulders. "With the wind blowing as it does, the steamer may easily have been driven over the bank. The only chance that remains is that she may have got into deep water between the North and South Banks. But if she has gone on the latter, I wouldn't give a cent for the hull and all that's in her! If we had another steamer handy" [the only available tug was just out of port], "I should ask you to send her down without a moment's delay. As it is, I'll go down there at once, and see what's to be done. My boat is ready, a few good men will soon be picked up, so I shall be off in half-an-hour's time. Meanwhile, you must hope for the best."

Thanking the brave fellow with all my heart for his readiness, I left him to get ready; and after seeing him go down the river under full sail before the appointed time, I returned home, somewhat calmer.

Thirty-six hours of anxious waiting had gone by, when on the afternoon of the following day, Mr. C—, the pilot, entered my office. His face boded no good.

"Bad news, sir," Mr. C— commenced. "I could find no trace whatever of the *Phœnix*. Heaven knows what has become of her and her crew. We have searched the whole of the outer Bank, and got ourselves upon it; and we only left off when it was found that our boat had sprung a leak in striking, which compelled me to return. There is now but one possibility left—provided the vessel has not gone to pieces ere this—that she, as I told you yesterday, may have got between the two Banks, or is fast on the South Bank. You have now only one course to take. Try and get Captain F—, of the *Dragon*" [the tug before mentioned], "who has just come into the harbor, to go down again without delay. I will go on board with you at once; and I am sure Captain F— won't leave you in the lurch in such an emergency."

This was no sooner said than done. Arriving on board the *Dragon* we found Captain F— just on the point of going ashore. A few words sufficed to inform him of the state of things. Although he himself and his crew had hardly had any rest for some days past, he did not hesitate a moment.

"We cannot leave Captain S— without assistance, if help is still of any earthly use to him. He wouldn't think twice if he was in my place, and the sooner we are off the better. Luckily we have still got steam, so we will start at once. But you must be prepared for a long bill. You know our charge is fifty taels (seventeen pounds) per hour as long as I am under-weight, and I am not at liberty to reduce the owner's charges."

Of course I told him that money was of no consideration where the lives of so many people were at stake, and I had the satisfaction to see the *Dragon* steam out of the harbor within a quarter of an hour. The news of the presumed dangerous position of the *Phœnix* and of the steps taken to assist her, had meanwhile spread all over the foreign settlement, and I had to submit as best I could to the many inquiries and condolences about her probable fate from all sides. Captain S— was a well-known person in all the China ports, and every one waited anxiously for further news, while his sad end was universally deplored.

In the afternoon of the day following, the *Phœnix* was reported in sight, and I was on board before she had dropped anchor. Captain F—, who looked flushed and wearied, had evidently not taken a moment's rest since he had started. He came up to me with a sad face.

"We have not been more fortunate in this attempt than Mr. C—, the pilot," he said. "There is no vestige of the *Phœnix* to be seen anywhere: if she has really struck there, she must have gone to pieces long ago, and not a soul of her crew has been saved. I have done all in my power, and left nothing undone. We have searched every nook and corner, and went as far as the South Bank: and the worst is, I nearly lost my own steamer, as she struck, and we had all the trouble in the world to get afloat again. I am rather surprised, though, that we have seen no spar or timbers floating about. And that makes me ask you, don't be vexed,

but rather a queer thought struck me suddenly when returning—do you know the name of the chief officer of the *Phœnix*?"

I told him I did not.

"And has it never come across your mind—now just keep quiet—that some one, may be without considering the consequences, may have written that letter for a hoax?"

"It would be too abominable, Captain F—," I replied: "nor can I believe any one would dare to do such a thing."

"Well, we'll soon see about that. But for your sake and Captain S—'s, I could almost wish that to be the case. Not but that it would give me all the pleasure in the world to horsewhip the writer all round the settlement. You at all events have done your duty; the rest we must leave to the future."

I left the honest captain with rather conflicting feelings. Hither to I had never dreamed of giving way to any such suspicion, as he had done; but the more I thought of all the circumstances connected with the delivery of the mysterious letter, the more I felt inclined to admit there might be something in the view he took of the affair.

The first thing I did on reaching home was to try and decipher the very illegibly written signature of the name, to which as yet I had paid but little attention. Now, with roused suspicions, I looked at it in a different light, and I succeeded at last, with a deal of trouble, in linking the single characters together. The result was *Snooks*—John Snooks. Now, although the chief officer's name for all I knew to the contrary, really might have been Snooks—a very low one, it must be admitted—still this discovery could not but fail to increase any suspicions as to the genuineness of the letter itself. "It might be Beelzebub, but it ain't," was the short and smart repartee of a friend of mine, who, when travelling in the United States, was once accosted by a Yankee with the inevitable. "What might your name be stranger?" It might be Snooks, but I could not help being convinced that the officer's real name was not Snooks, after all. However, I was not to remain very long in suspense on this point, and was still ruminating on this matter, when Mr. A—, an old friend of mine, came into my room. We had known each other from the first day of his arrival, and had always been on the best of terms together. He commenced talking on several indifferent subjects—both of us avoiding any allusion to the steamer; but I could not fail in observing that A—, who in general was very quiet and collected, appeared unusually uncomfortable and absent. He shifted uneasily about in his seat just like a man who has got something on his mind, and who wishes to unbecom himself, but does not know how to set about it. At last he seemed to have come to some resolve, for suddenly he jumped up from his chair and paced the room several times.

"So the *Dragon* has come back, and brought no further news?" said he, turning round upon me.

I told him that was exactly the state of the case.

"Now, look here, H—," he resumed. "It's about time this business were put a stop to; and on that account I am here now. But, for mercy's sake, my dear fellow, be calm." (I had started to my feet.) "At all events, listen quietly first to what I have to tell you; afterwards you are quite free to decide what course to take."

And then the whole of the edifying story came out.

Some evenings ago—according to A—'s account, he himself having been from home—his younger brother had had a few friends dining with him. After dinner, and while sitting over their wine, of which they had likely partaken a little more than was good for them, and while debating how to spend the rest of the evening, one of the guests, a Mr. L—, had of a sudden proposed to indite the letter about the *Phœnix*, which he declared would be a "splendid joke." Neither L— nor any of the others really meant any harm, for I was on good terms with all of them; but having nothing better on hand, the proposal was at once accepted as "capital fun;" and the company joined together to concoct the epistle which had been sent to me—with what result I have told.

Next day neither of them appeared to have thought any more about the affair; when, to their utmost consternation, on the return of the pilot boat, they were roused by the report, rapidly spread about, of the loss of the *Phœnix*, and of the steps taken to save her. None had expected such serious consequences.

But when the departure of the *Dragon*, and lastly the vain search of the latter for the lost vessel, became known, they got very much frightened; and it was decided that the chief culprit should disclose their misdeed to A—, begging him to interfere, and, if possible, to get them out of the scrape by pleading their cause with me.

"Now that you know all about this stupid affair," A— continued, "it is of course for you to say how you mean to act. I hardly dare ask you to pardon them, though by generously doing so you will oblige me to the end of my life. If you decide otherwise, my interference is at an end. Consider, however, that you have, to a certain extent, their future fate in your hands. L— himself will not have the courage to show his face again, and the consequences will be most serious to him. As he did not venture to tell you himself, I could not well refuse his earnest request to beg for him and the others. In case you forgive them, L— promises to come round after dark to tell you how deeply he repents his foolish act. I am also commissioned to inform you, as a matter of course, that the four engaged in this affair are ready to refund all the expenses incurred, which I consider but a just punishment for what they have done."

What was I to do? Making the names of the actors public would certainly damage them seriously, but do little good to me now. On the other hand, angry and vexed as I was as the thought of the care and trouble I had undergone, it was a relief to find that the danger to the vessel, and the consequent loss to me, had no real foundation. After a short consideration I gave way to the earnest pleading of friend A—, and granted a free pardon upon the con-

ditions proposed by him—at which happy result A— left me, evidently much relieved.

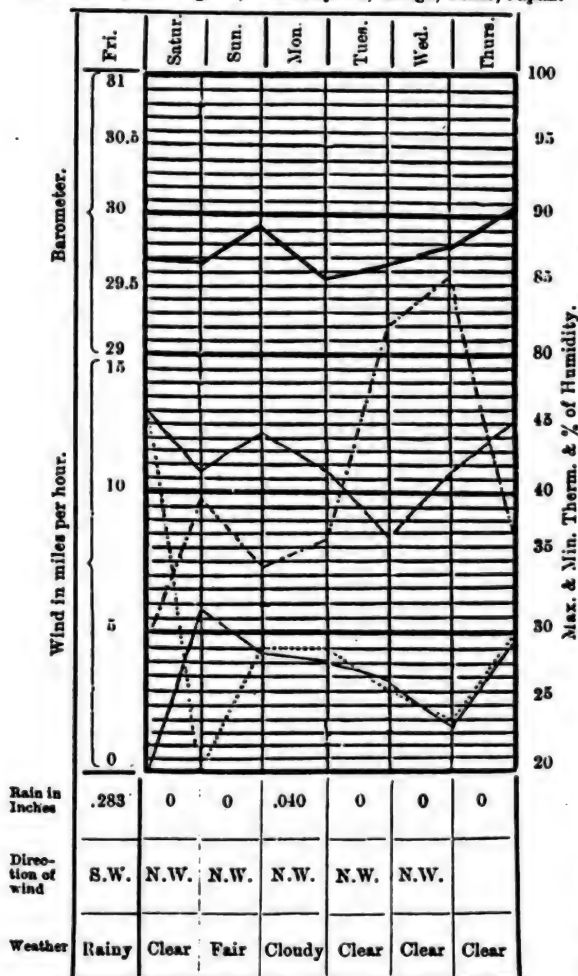
There is little more to add to my story. The actors and amateurs of hoaxing had received a lesson they were not likely to forget as long as they lived, and which cured them radically of all further propensities in that line. I withstood all demands to make the names known, though I could not prevent the fact becoming public that I had been subjected to a hoax; which caused Mr. C—, the pilot, to "salt" his bill rather severely for repairs to his craft, &c.; which otherwise, as he told me, he should not have done. Suffice it to say that the small bill for the *Dragon*, the pilot, &c., amounted in a round sum to close upon five hundred pounds, which the hoaxers had to pay with a grin, glad to get so cheaply out of the scrape.

Thus ended this very foolish but expensive hoax, the moral of which I trust will be taken to heart by those who are fond of practical joking. I may conclude my story by adding that the *Phanix* arrived safe and sound only a few days later in the harbor.—*Chamber's Journal*.

METEOROLOGICAL REPORT

FOR WEEK BEGINNING FRIDAY, JANUARY 21st, 1881.

Observatory of Daigaku, Moto-Fujicho, Hongō, Tokio, Japan.



REMARKS.

Heavy line represents barometer.

Light continuous line—max. & min. thermometers.

.....represents velocity of wind.

.....percentage of humidity.

Max. velocity of wind 43.4 miles per hour on Wednesday at 1 p.m.

The barometer is reduced to the freezing point and to the level of the sea.

A low barometer has prevailed during the week. The highest reading was 30.069 inches on Thursday at 10 a.m. and the lowest was 29.378 inches on Monday at 2 p.m. The highest temperature for the week was 45.7° on Friday and the lowest was 20.5° on the same day. The maximum and minimum for the corresponding week of last year were 49.9° and 23.° respectively. The total amount of rain for the week was 323 inches against .1 inch for the corresponding week of last year.

YOKOSUKA STEAMERS TIME TABLE.

LEAVE YOKOHAMA.

DAILY:—8.30, and 9.45 A.M.; 12.00, 1.30, and 4.15 P.M.

LEAVE YOKOSUKA.

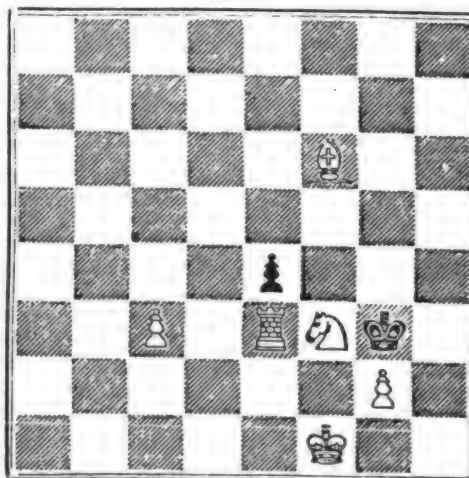
DAILY:—6.45 and 9.30 A.M., and 12.00; 1.30 and 4.00 P.M.

CHESS PROBLEM.

BY N. MARACHE.

(From the American Chess Nuts.)

BLACK.



WHITE.

White to play and mate in 3 moves.

SOLUTION OF CHESS PROBLEM OF JAN. 22ND. BY G. N. CHENEY.

White.	Black.
1.—Q. to K. R. 3.	1.—K. takes B.
2.—Q. to Q. sq.	2.—K. moves.
3.—Q. to Q. 5, mate.	

Correct solutions to be announced next week.

SHIPPING INTELLIGENCE.

INWARDS.

Jan. 23, British steamer *Hoikow*, Bewley, 895, from Glasgow via Ports, General, to Butterfield & Swire.
 Jan. 25, Japanese steamer *Toyoshima Maru*, Hubbard, 598, from Hakodate, Mails and General, to M. B. Co.
 Jan. 26, British barque *Bride*, Sutherland, 300, from Takao, Sugar, to Jardine, Matheson & Co.
 Jan. 27, Japanese steamer *Genkai Maru*, Conner, 1,917, from Shanghai and ports, Mails and General, to M. B. Co.
 Jan. 27, Russian iron-clad *Minin*, Captain Nazimoff, 16 guns, 300 H.P., from Nagasaki.
 Jan. 27, British steamer *Lord of the Isles*, Felgett, 1,560, from London, General, to Smith Baker & Co.
 Jan. 27, French barque *Caroline*, Voisin, from Hamburg, General, to M. Raspe.
 Jan. 27, Japanese steamer *Kumamoto Maru*, Drummond, 1,240, from Hakodate, Mails and General, to M. B. Co.
 Jan. 28, French steamer *Volga*, Guirand, 1,502, from Hongkong, Mails and General, to M. M. Co.

PASSENGERS.

Per Japanese steamer *Genkai Maru* from Shanghai and ports:—Mr. and Mrs. Forrester, Messrs. J. R. Davis, W. Langley, Abramoff, and 17 Japanese in cabin; 3 Europeans, 238 Japanese and 2 Chinese in the steerage.

Per French steamer *Volga* from Hongkong:—2 Chinese and 1 Japanese in cabin.

OUTWARDS.

Jan. 21, Japanese steamer *Nigata Maru*, Walker, 1,603, for Hongkong via Kobe, Mails and General, despatched by M. B. Co.
 Jan. 23, French steamer *Menzaleh*, Homery, 1,273, for Hongkong, Mails and General, despatched by M. M. Co.
 Jan. 23, American steamer *City of Tokio*, Maury, 5,050, for San Francisco, Mails and General, despatched by P. M. Co.
 Jan. 23, British barque *Clan MacLeod*, Wilson, 646, for Kobe, General, despatched by C. Illies & Co.
 Jan. 25, Japanese steamer *Wakamatsu Maru*, Christensen, 1,300, for Kobe, Mails and General, despatched by M. B. Co.
 Jan. 26, British steamer *Brugal*, Stewart, 1,339, for Kobe, General, despatched by Adamson, Bell & Co.
 Jan. 26, Japanese steamer *Takamago Maru*, Young, 1,230 for Shanghai and ports, Mails and General, despatched by M. B. Co.
 Jan. 27, British steamer *Hoikow*, Bewley, 895, for Kobe, General, despatched by Butterfield & Swire.
 Jan. 29, British steamer *Sunda*, Reeves, 1,074, for Hongkong, Mails and General, despatched by P. & O. Co.

PASSENGERS.

Per French steamer *Menzaleh* for Hongkong.—One Japanese in cabin.

Per American steamer *City of Tokio*. For San Francisco:—Captain J. Hawthorne and wife, Mr. Julius Kum; two Chinese in cabin and 265 in steerage.

Per Japanese steamer *Takasago Maru* for Shanghai and ports:—Mr. and Mrs. Kogune, Mrs. Petersen, Messrs. J. Morris, C. Braces, T. A. Lyons, Doi, Noda, E. C. Kirby, C. A. Heimann, Yukamatori, Kawano, Asano, Achidate, Kurita, and Binture.

Per British steamer *Sunda* for Hongkong:—Miss Le Cren, Capt. Sutton, Messrs. Le Cren and Russell in cabin.

CARGOES.

Per American steamer *City of Tokio*, for San Francisco:—

TEA:				
From	San Fran.	N. York.	Other Cities.	Total
Shanghai	24	237	1,905	2,166
Hioho	—	480	171	651
Yokohama	1,306	190	213	1,709
Hongkong	193	106	75	302
Total	1,469	1,013	2,346	4,828

SILK:				
From	San Fran.	N. York.	Other Cities.	Total
Shanghai	1	263	—	264
Hongkong	2	63	8	73
Yokohama	—	150	—	150
Total	3	476	8	487

Per French steamer *Mexalek* for Hongkong:—

Silk for France

" " London

Total

Waste Silk for France

" " London

Total

Per Japanese steamer *Genkai Maru* from Shanghai and ports:—

Treasure

Per British steamer *Sunda* for Hongkong:—

Silk, for London

" " Italy

Total

REPORTS.

The British barque *Bride* reports:—Left Takao on the 14th instant; has moderate weather to the 16th, and strong N.W. gales to Oosima; had light weather on the 23rd, which changed to a fresh westerly gale, lasting through the Uraga Channel; thence moderate winds and fine weather to port.

The Japanese steamer *Genkai Maru* reports:—Experienced strong gales from Shanghai to Nagasaki. After leaving Nagasaki fine weather to Kobe. Left the third mate ashore at Nagasaki, ill.

The British steamer *Lord of the Isles* reports:—Left Hongkong 21st January, at 5 p.m. Experienced strong N.E. wind and heavy sea to 25° N. 25th and 26th strong N.N.W. gale and high sea. From thence up to arrival light and variable winds and smooth water. On the 27th at 7 a.m. passed a raft Oosima bearing N.W. true 20 miles distant; steamed slowly round it but failed to discover any particulars.

The British steamer *Hoihow* reports:—January 12th, 6.45 a.m. cast off from Company's buoy, Hongkong, and proceeded full speed out of port by the Lye-moon Pass. Touched at Swatow on the morning of the 13th, and at 8.30 proceeded to Yokohama. On the 19th, at 9 a.m. blowing a heavy gale from the westward, with a high sea running brought ship to the wind on the starboard tack, engines going slow. 6 p.m.: shipping heavy seas; carried away after binnacle ladder, &c., and broke the leg of one of the crew. Midnight: heavy gale, with squalls blowing with hurricane force, which continued until midnight of the 20th inst., when it moderated a little; kept ship away on her course. Jan. 21st, 5 p.m., strong increasing gale with heavy rain, brought to on port tack, with her head to S.W. 8 p.m., heavy gale with rain and lightning. 9 p.m., wind hauled to the N.W. Midnight: Fresh gale and clear weather which continued until 4 a.m. on the 22nd inst. From 4 a.m. to 8 a.m. blowing a hurricane from the W. N. W., with high sea running completely burying the ship under water. 11.20 a.m., moderating a little, kept ship away. Noon to 5 p.m. blowing a terrific gale from W.N.W. 5.30 p.m. passed Vries Island; thence to port fresh breeze and fine weather. Anchored at Yokohama at 11.30 p.m.

CHURCH SERVICES.

CHRIST CHURCH.

Sunday Morning

" Evening

E. CHAMPNEYS IRWINE, M.A.,
The Parsonage, 101.

UNION CHURCH, No. 167.

Sunday Morning

" Evening

REV. LUTHER H. GULICK, M.D.,
Pastor.

NATIVE CURRENCY QUOTATIONS.

(For Week Ending 29th January, 1881.)

Discount on Yen Sals.				Gold Yen.	Nibus.	Silver Subsidary (N.Y.)	Silver Subsidary (Old.)
A. M.	Noon.	Closing.					
1881							
Saturday	Jan. 21	74 ¹ / ₂	74 ¹ / ₂	—	—	—	—
Monday	" 22	74 ¹ / ₂	74 ¹ / ₂	74 ¹ / ₂	—	—	—
Tuesday	" 24	74 ¹ / ₂	74	73 ¹ / ₂	—	—	—
Wednesday	" 25	72 ¹ / ₂	72	73 ¹ / ₂	—	—	—
Thursday	" 27	74	73	73	—	—	—
Friday	" 28	72 ¹ / ₂	72 ¹ / ₂	72 ¹ / ₂	—	—	—
Saturday	" 29	72 ¹ / ₂	72	—	—	—	—

NEXT MAIL DUE FROM,

AMERICA	P. M. Co.	Jan. 30th
AMERICA	O. & O. Co.	Feb. 14th
EUROPE, via HONGKONG	M. M. Co.	Feb. 10th
HONGKONG	P. & O. Co.	Feb. 5th
HONGKONG, via KOBE	M. B. Co.	Jan. 31st
HONGKONG	P. M. Co.	Feb. 27th
HONGKONG	O. & O. Co.	Feb. 8th
SHANGHAI, HIOGO & NAGASAKI	M. B. Co.	Feb. 3rd

1.—Left San Francisco, January 6th, *City of Peking*.

NEXT MAIL LEAVES FOR,

AMERICA	P. M. Co.	Mar. 1st
AMERICA	O. & O. Co.	Feb. 11th
EUROPE, via HONGKONG	P. & O. Co.	Feb. 12th
EUROPE, via HONGKONG	M. M. Co.	Feb. 5th
HAKODATE	M. B. Co.	Jan. 31st
HONGKONG, via KOBE	M. B. Co.	Feb. 5th
HONGKONG	O. & O. Co.	Feb. 16th
HONGKONG	P. M. Co.	Feb. 2nd
SHANGHAI, HIOGO, & NAGASAKI	M. B. Co.	Feb. 1st

The arrival and departure of mails by the "Occidental and Oriental," the "Pacific Mail," and the "Peninsular and Oriental" companies, are approximate only.

VESSELS EXPECTED IN JAPAN.

S A I L E D.

DATE.	NAME OF VESSEL.	FROM	FOR
Sept. 14	Remonstrant	LONDON	Yoko. & Hioho
July 23	Furness Abbey	"	Hioho
Sept. 26	Anna Seiben	ANTWERP	Yokohama
July 17	Ste. Lucie	PHILADELPHIA	"
" 11	Auguste	SWANSEA	Nagasaki
Aug. 7	Philip Nelson	HAMBURG	Yokohama
Nov. 18	Pakhoi (s.s.)	GLASGOW	Jap. via Manila
" 19	Ordovic	LONDON	Yokohama
" 22	Malacca	HAMBURG	Yoko. & Hioho
" 25	Gleniffer (s.s.)	LONDON	"
Dec. 8	Flintshire (s.s.)	"	"

YOKOHAMA-TOKIO RAILWAY.

DOWN TRAINS LEAVE SHINBASHI.

A.M.	A.M.	A.M.	NOON.	P.M.	P.M.	P.M.	P.M.	P.M.	P.M.
8.0	9.15	10.30	12.0	1.30	2.45	4.0	5.15	6.30	8.0

UP TRAINS LEAVE YOKOHAMA.

A.M.	A.M.	A.M.	NOON.	P.M.	P.M.	P.M.	P.M.	P.M.	P.M.
8.0	9.12	10.30	12.0	1.30	2.45	4.0	5.15	6.30	8.0

SHIPPING INTELLIGENCE.

VESSELS IN HARBOUR.

NAME.	CAPTAIN.	FLAG AND REG.	TONN.	FROM.	ARRIVED.	CONSIGNEES.
STEAMERS.						
Genkai Maru	Conner	Japanese steamer	1,917	Shanghai & ports	Jan. 27	M. B. Co.
Lord of the Isles	Felgett	British steamer	1,560	London	Jan. 27	Smith, Baker & Co.
Merionethshire	Rickard	British steamer	1,245	London via Hongkong	Jan. 21	Adamson, Bell & Co.
Tanais	Reynier	French steamer	1,735	Hongkong	Jan. 13	M. M. Co.
Volga	Guiraud	French steamer	1,302	Hongkong	Jan. 28	M. M. Co.
SAILING SHIPS.						
Alexander	Carson	Americanschooner	52	Kurile Islands	Nov. 3	J. E. Collyer
Athelstan	Bayley	British barque	771	London	Jan. 9	W. J. S. Shand
Black Diamond	Baade	German barque	601	Nagasaki	Dec. 23	P. Bohm
Bride	Sutherland	British barque	390	Takao	Jan. 26	Jardine, Matheson & Co.
Buston Vale	Buckingham	British barque	411	Liverpool	Dec. 17	Hudson & Co.
Cilurnum	Beadle	British ship	1,850	Hongkong	Nov. 8	Edward Fischer & Co.
Caroline	Voisin	French barque	—	Hamburg	Jan. 27	M. Raspe
Eder Bank	Parker	British ship	1,145	Middlesborough	Jan. 9	Hudson & Co.
George Bewley	Hammond	British barque	1,040	Antwerp	Jan. 9	Order
Goodell	Goodell	American barque	964	New York	Jan. 9	Isaac Bros.
Helena	Ewalt	German schooner	60	Kurile Islands	Oct. 31	Captain
Lottie	Hilts	German schooner	26	Kurile Islands	Sept. 4	Hohnholz & Co.
Mary C. Bohm	Petersen	German schooner	53	Kurile Islands	Oct. 21	P. Bohm
North Star	Johnson	Russian schooner	42	Kurile Islands	Nov. 16	H. W. Hohnholz & Co.
Otome	Hardy	American schooner	72	Kurile Islands	Dec. 13	H. Snow
Otago	Isaacson	Russian schooner	46	Kurile Islands	Nov. 3	H. Cook
Pioneer	Males	Russian schooner	72	Bombay, via Hakodate	Jan. 17	Walsh, Hall & Co.
Scottish Fairy	Toomes	British barque	750	Put in dismasted	Oct. 10	Malcolm & Co.
Stella	Werner	Americanschooner	30	Kurile Islands	Oct. 11	Captain
Victoria Cross	Tweedie	British barque	668	Antwerp	Dec. 3	Boyes & Co.

VESSELS OF WAR IN PORT.

NAME.	GUNS.	TONN.	H. P.	DESCRIPTION.	WHERE FROM.	COMMANDER.
BRITISH—Albatross...	4	894	838	Sloop	Chefoo	Captain Errington
FRENCH—Champlain...	10	1,940	450	Corvette	Nagasaki	Captain Michand
GERMAN—Veneta...	19	2,000	—	Corvette	Kobe	Captain Zirnow
RUSSIAN—Africa...	14	1,400	—	Cruiser	Nagasaki	Captain Aleksoff
„ Crayser...	8	1,500	250	Corvette	Nagasaki	Captain Nazimoff
„ Ermak...	4	375	—	Transport	Hiogo	Captain Kolchun
„ Kniaz Pojarsky...	12	4,291	—	Ironclad	Nagasaki	Captain Tirtoff
„ Minin...	16	5,300	6,300	Ironclad	Nagasaki	Captain Nazimoff

VESSELS ON THE BERTH.

DESTINATION.	NAME.	AGENTS.	TO BE DESPATCHED.
San Francisco...	Belgio	O. & O. Co.	Feb. 11th
Hongkong via Kobe...	Sumida Maru	M. B. Co.	Feb. 5th, at 4 P.M.
Shanghai and way-ports...	Genkai Maru	M. B. Co.	Feb. 1st, at 4 P.M.
Hakodate...	Toyoshima Maru	M. B. Co.	Jan. 31st
Hongkong...	Tanais	M. M. Co.	Feb. 5th, at 9 A.M.
Australia...	Hungarian	Jardine, Matheson & Co.	About Feb. 17th

COMMERCIAL INTELLIGENCE.

IMPORTS.—Generally dull: we leave prices unchanged but everything must be considered more or less nominal. The Chinese New Year holidays will interfere with business during the next few days, although we hope for some improvement when these are past.

COTTON YARNS:—

Nos. 16 to 24, Common to Medium ...	per picul	\$29.75 to 31.50
" " " " " " " " " " " " " " " "	"	\$32.00 to 33.75
Bombay, No. 20 do. ...	"	\$29.50 to 31.50
Nos. 28 to 32, Common to Medium ...	"	\$34.00 to 35.00
" " " " " " " " " " " " " " " "	"	\$36.00 to 37.00
" 38 to 42 ...	"	\$40.00 to 41.00

COTTON PIECE GOODS:—

Grey Shirtings:—7 lb. per piece 28½ yds. 39 in.	\$1.50 to 1.90
" " " 8½ lb. " 38½ " 39 in.	\$1.75 to 2.25
" " " 9 lb. " 38½ " 45 in.	\$2.20 to 2.60
T. Cloths:—7 lb. ... 24 yds. 32 in. per piece	\$1.55 to 1.70
Drills, English:—14-15 lb. 40 " 30 in.	\$2.50 to 2.70
Indigo Shirtings:—... 12 " 44 in.	\$1.50 to 1.60
Prints:—Assorted ... 24 " 30 in.	\$1.40 to 2.60
Cotton Italians & Sateens Black 32 in.	\$0.09½ to 0.15½
Turkey Reds: 2 to 2½ lb. 24 yds. 30 in.	\$1.55 to 1.75
Do. 2½ to 3 lb. 24 " 30 in.	\$1.70 to 1.85
Do. 3 lb. ... 24 " 30 in.	\$1.85 to 1.95

COTTON PIECE GOODS:—Continued.

Velvets:—Black ... 35 yds. 22 in. per piece	\$7.00 to 8.75
Victoria Lawns ... 12 " 42/3 " "	\$0.76 to 0.77
Taffachelass:—... 12 " 43 " "	\$1.70 to 1.90

WOOLLENS:—

Plain Orleans ... 40-42 yds. 32 in. ...	4.50 to 6.00
Figured Orleans ... 29-30 " 31 " ...	3.50 to 4.25
Lastings ... 29-30 " 31 " ...	10.00 to 11.00
Italian Cloth ... 30 " 32 " ...	0.22 to 0.31
Camlet Cord ... 29-30 " 22 " ...	4.50 to 5.75
Mousselines de Laines:—Crape 24 yds. 30 in. ...	0.16½ to 0.17½
do. Itajime 24 " 30 " ...	0.23 to 0.29
do. Yuzen 24 " 30 " ...	0.35 to 0.45
Cloths, all wool plain or fancy ... 48 in. to 52 in. ...	0.80 to 1.50
Pilots ... 54 " to 56 " ...	0.32½ to 0.47½
Presidents ... 54 " to 56 " ...	0.60 to 0.65
Union ... 54 " to 56 " ...	0.32½ to 0.60
Blankets, green, 6 to 8 lbs. ... per lb. ...	0.37 to 0.41

SUGAR.—New arrivals have weakened prices. Sales 3,000 piculs old at quotation. Stock 43,000 piculs including 8,000 new crop, for which \$4.60 is bid and \$4.75 asked.

SAIGON RICE.—No sales and no change. Stock 24,000 piculs.

KEROSENE.—Sales of 10,000 cases have occurred. Stock 440,000 cases.

Sugar:—Takao in bag New ... per picul	\$4.60
" " " Old ...	\$4.46
" Taiwanfoo in bag ...	\$4.42½
Ching-pak and Ke-pak ...	\$7.75 to \$9.00
China No. 4-5, Kungfun & Kook-fah ...	\$6.50 to \$8.75
Japan Rice ... per picul	\$2.75 to 3.20
Japan Wheat ...	\$2.00 to 2.04
Saigon Rice [cargo] ...	\$1.80
Kerosene Oil ... case	\$1.97

EXPORTS.

SILK.—We have had another active week in our silk market and the demand has been steady and general. Large parcels of filature reels and Hanks have changed hands and transactions amount to about 800 shipping bales. Prices are unchanged but remain very firm. Stock about 4,200 shipping bales.

	Exchange 3/8½	Exchange 4/76
Hanks.—No. 1 & 2	\$560 to \$565 = 18/ to 18/2 = fcs. 49/20 to fcs. 49.50	
" " 2	\$550 = 17/8 = " " 48.90	
" " 2½	\$530 = 17/2 = " " 47.00	
" " 3 & infra.	\$500 = 16/2 = " " 44.80	
Filatures.—Extra	\$640 to \$650 = 20/11 to 21/3 = " 57.90 to " 58.70	
" " 1	\$590 to \$610 = 19/4 to 19/11 = " 56.10	
" " 2	\$590 = 19/4 = " 53.50 to " 55.30	
" " 3	\$540 to \$550 = 17/9 to 18/1 = " 49.10 to " 50.00	
Kakodas.—Best	\$600 to \$620 = 19/8 to 20/4 = " 55.40 to " 55.60	
" Medium & Good	\$570 = 18/8 = " 51.80	
Re-Reels Medium to Best	\$580 to \$600 = 19/ to 19/8 = " 52.20 to " 54.00	

TEA.—Our market remains quiet, some 850 piculs only having been settled during the week, composed of all grades. Prices remains much the same. Stock 6,200 piculs.

Common ...	\$9 to \$12	Fine ...	\$21 to \$23
Good Common ...	\$14 to \$15	Finest ...	\$25 to \$27
Medium ...	\$16 to \$18	Choice ...	\$28 to \$29
Good Medium ...		Choicest ...	\$32 to \$34

EXCHANGE AND BULLION.

EXCHANGE.—A fair business has been done principally in Continental Paper, rates were somewhat firmer during the week but dropped again towards the close of the Mails of 28th instant. But little business has been reported for remittances.

STERLING—Bank 4 months' sight	3/8½	ON SHANGHAI—Bank sight	72
" " " " " " " " " " " " " " " "	3/7½	" " " " " " " " " " " " " " " "	72½
" " " " " " " " " " " " " " " "	3/8½	ON NEW YORK—Bank Bills on demand	88½
ON PARIS—Bank sight " " " " " " " " " " " " " " " "	3/8½	" " " " " " " " " " " " " " " "	89½
" " " " " " " " " " " " " " " "	4.62	ON SAN FRANCISCO—Bank Bills on demand	88½
" " " " " " " " " " " " " " " "	4.73	" " " " " " " " " " " " " " " "	89½
ON HONGKONG—Bank sight	½ % prm.	KINSAZ ...	66½ dis.
" " " " " " " " " " " " " " " "	½ % disc.	GOLD YEN	380 nom.

SHIPPING.

SHIPPING.—The s.s. *Merionethshire* is loading for London via China. There are no disengaged sailing ships in port.

NEW ADVERTISEMENTS.



UNITED STATES LEGATION,
JAPAN,
Tokai, January 27th, 1881.

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that the following Amendment of Section 22 of the title "Criminal Proceedings" in the "Regulations for the Consular Courts of the United States of America in Japan," published to be in force November 16th, 1870, shall take effect and be in force from and after the 2nd day of February, 1881, the said Amendment having been heretofore, to wit: on the 11th of December, 1880, ordered and decreed by me, and the same having been heretofore duly assented to and approved by the several Consuls of the United States of America in Japan as certified by them respectively.

JNO. A. BINGHAM,
*Envoy Extraordinary and Minister
Plenipotentiary of the United States of
America in Japan.*

AMENDMENT.

It is hereby ordered and decreed that section 22 of the title "Criminal proceedings" in the "Regulations for the Consular Courts of the United States of America in Japan," adopted November 16th, 1870, be and the same is hereby amended so that the same shall read as follows:—

The punishment of persons convicted of crimes in the Courts of the United States in this Empire, except in such cases as are otherwise provided for by law, shall be as follows:—murder shall be punishable by death; manslaughter shall be punishable by imprisonment for a term not exceeding ten years and a fine not exceeding one thousand dollars; all other felonies shall be punishable as provided by the laws of the United States of America, and for misdemeanors at common law the punishment shall be by fine not exceeding five hundred dollars, or by imprisonment not exceeding six months, or by both such fine and imprisonment at the discretion of the Court.

[L.S.] JNO. A. BINGHAM,
*Envoy Extraordinary and Minister
Plenipotentiary of the U. S. of
America in Japan.*

Assented to
THOS. B. VAN BUREN,
Consul General,

Kanagawa, Japan,
December 14th, 1880.

Assented to
J. STAHEL,
Consul,

Hiogo, Japan,
December 17th, 1880.

Assented to
A. C. JONES,
Consul,

Nagasaki, Japan.
December 20th, 1880.

Assented to
W. C. DAVISSON,
Consular Agent,

Hakodate, Japan.
January, 15th, 1881.

I hereby certify that the foregoing is a true copy of the record in the Legation of the United States of America at Tokai, Japan.

[L.S.] D. W. STEVENS,
Secretary of Legation.

NEW ADVERTISEMENTS.

NOTICE.

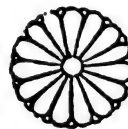
I HAVE this day handed over all outstanding affairs of the NETHERLANDS TRADING SOCIETY IN JAPAN to Mr. J. PH. VON HEMERT, who will take charge as liquidator from this date.

T. T. VAN DER POT,
Agent.

Yokohama, January 29th, 1881.

THE UNDERSIGNED has taken charge of the outstanding affairs of the NETHERLANDS TRADING SOCIETY IN JAPAN, and will sign,

J. PH. VON HEMERT,
*Liquidator for the N. T. S.
in Japan.*

**NOTICE.**

THE NATIONAL EXHIBITION OF 1881, an institution established for the encouragement of agricultural and manufacturing industries, will be opened on the 1st MARCH at UYENO PARK, TOKIO, and will remain open to the public till the 30th JUNE, 1881.

Live Stock will be exhibited from the 1st to the 15th May. Vegetables and Fruits, from the 1st to the 20th May.

CLASSIFICATION.

GROUP I.—Mining, Metallurgical products, Minerals, &c.
GROUP II.—Chemical products, Porcelain and Metallic Ware, Furniture, Clothing, Jewellery, Paper, Books and other articles necessary for educational purposes, Medical and Surgical instruments, Arms, Civil Engineering Plans, Carriages, &c.

GROUP III.—Fine Arts and lacquered ware.

GROUP IV.—Machinery.

GROUP V.—Agricultural products, animals, fish, articles manufactured from vegetables, preserved meats, textile substances (both vegetable and animal), agricultural instruments, forest products, &c.

GROUP VI.—Ornamental trees, shrubs, flowers, and stones.

Open to the public daily from—

9 A.M. to 4 P.M. from the 1st March to the 15th April.

8 A.M. to 5 P.M. from the 16th April to the 30th June.

TICKETS.

Red Tickets issued on Sundays.....	15 Sen.
White " " " Saturday	3 "
Light blue " " any other day	7 "

**NATIONAL EXHIBITION
DEPARTMENT,**

Uyeno Park, Tokio.

Yokohama, January 18th, 28M

1w.

MISCELLANEOUS.

IMPORTANT

—FOR—

WATCHMAKERS!

IMPORTANT

FOR

EVERYBODY!

THE Rodanow Manufacturing Company (Limited—Capital \$2,000,000), Boston (America), will forward, hereafter, even one single Watch to any part of the world at wholesale prices, i.e., 35 per cent cheaper than any watchmaker, as none of them is manufacturing Watches himself, but only buying them from here. We call the particular attention of every one intending to purchase a first-class reliable Watch to our following price list:—

Key-winding Watches.

SILVER WATCH.	£	s.
Crystal glass, seconds hand.....	0	10
Hunting case, engraved, highly finished..	0	14
Skeleton movement, extra jewelled, stout double cover.....	1	00

GOLD WATCH.

Jewelled, maintaining power, crystal glass.	1	10
Half hunter, enamel or gold dial, lever escapement	1	16
Hunting case, superior nickel movement, best quality with all the latest improvements, two gold covers	2	03

Keyless Watches

(Stem-Winders.)

The keyless mechanism to a watch is one of the great modern improvements in Watch work, it does away with the old-fashioned key, with which so many persons have ruined their Watches. The Watch is wound by turning a knurled knob, placed on the handle or bow, instead of by the ordinary means; the hands are set in the same way. The advantages of these improvements are obvious, the case, which never need be opened in winding, is made airtight and dust-tight, thus preserving much longer the fluidity of the oil, and greatly prolonging the intervals between the necessary cleaning of the Watch.

SILVER KEYLESS WATCH.

	£	s.
Lever movement, flat, jewelled, crystal glass	0	17
Double cover, enamel or ornamented silver dial	1	05
Superior skeleton movement, extra jewelled, stout double cover	1	15

GOLD KEYLESS WATCH.

Open face, lever escapement, ten jewels...	2	05
Half hunter, best movement, all latest improvements, fifteen jewels.....	3	00
Two stout gold covers, chronometre. movement with centre seconds hands, a splendid Watch for presentation	3	15

MISCELLANEOUS.

GOLD KEYLESS CHRONOMETER.

Three gold covers, movement of finest workmanship, centre seconds hands, repeating hours and quarters.....	8	10
Imperial Chronometer, showing days, date, weeks, and month on dial, repeating hours, quarters, and eighths, three heavy gold covers, warranted for five years, and without doubt the best and handsomest Watch in existence..	15	00

OBSERVATIONS.

1.—All the above Watches can be had in smaller size to suit for ladies' wear at the same price. Monograms, initials, arms, etc., engraved on the back of the Watch free of charge.

2.—All our Watches are thoroughly finished and ready for immediate use, and will be sent securely packed in morocco case, *post free*, to any part of the world, together with spare mainsprings, glasses, and keys, these being a great convenience, as in many out-of-the-way places, it is almost a matter of impossibility to replace one of those articles.

3.—Every watch is accompanied by a written warranty, guaranteeing the regularity and superiority of its workmanship for three years, during which time no charge will be made for repairing if the watch is returned *post free*.

4.—All our gold cases are eighteen carat gold; the silver cases are of the best sterling silver.

5.—Six per cent discount will be allowed on orders for six and more Watches.

6.—All our Watches have compensation balance, which renders them equally accurate in either hot or cold climate.

7.—All Watches may be ordered without seconds hand, with engraved, plain polished, or engine-turned cases, without difference of price.

8.—No orders from abroad filled unless accompanied by a remittance to cover the amount, or a reference on a Boston house.

Persons residing in any part of the world need not hesitate to forward their orders to this establishment as they may rely upon receiving the exact Watch ordered by them, which if not approved, will be exchanged free and safe by post, or money refunded. The best means of sending money is by draft on New York, Paris, or London, which can be procured at any banker and everywhere,—or enclose the amount in bank-notes, gold coins, or postage stamps of any country of the world. All orders, the smallest as well as the most important, will receive the same particular attention and will be forwarded without delay. We respectfully ask for a trial order.

THE

Rodanow Manufacturing Company,

5 and 7, Portland Street, Boston, U. S. of America.

J. J. GARGAN,
ENGINEER AND MACHINIST,Boiler-maker, Black-smith, Copper-smith,
and Tin-smith.

House Building & Repairs & General Contractor.

No. 88, Creek Side,

YOKOHAMA.

Yokohama, November 22nd, 1880.

MISCELLANEOUS.

NOTICE TO MARINERS.

No. 127.

CHINA SEA.
S WATOW DISTRICT.

BREAKER POINT LIGHT-HOUSE.

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that the Light on Breaker Point was exhibited for the first time at sunset on the 8th December, 1880.

The illuminating apparatus is a First Order Dioptric Occulting Light alternately showing for *eight seconds* and suddenly disappearing for *two seconds*. It shows *white* from S. 55° W. round by W. to N. 53° E., and *red* in shore of both these bearings as far as the land. The bearings are magnetic and taken from seawards.

The light is elevated 152½ feet above the level of the sea, and in clear weather it should be visible at a distance of 19 nautical miles.

The tower is round, of iron, 91 feet high, with a total height from its base to the lantern vane of 120 feet.

The tower is painted in black and white horizontal bands, and the dwellings and boundary wall white.

Approximate position—Latitude.....N. 22° 56' 30".

Longitude....E. 116° 28' 10".

By order of the Inspector General of Customs.

DAVID M. HENDERSON,

Engineer-in-Chief.

Imperial Maritime Customs,

Engineer's Office,

Shanghai, 9th December, 1880.

THE GREATEST

WONDER OF MODERN TIMES
HOLLOWAY'S PILLS.

Persons suffering from weak or debilitated constitutions will discover that by the use of this wonderful medicine there is "Health for all." The blood is the fountain of life, and its purity can be maintained by the use of these Pills.

SIR SAMUEL BAKER,

in his work entitled "The Nile Tributaries in Abyssinia," says, "I ordered the dragoman Mahomet to inform the Faky that I was a Doctor, and that I had the best medicines at the service of the sick, with advice gratis. In a short time I had many applicants, to whom I served out a quantity of Holloway's Pills. These are most useful to an explorer, as possessing unmistakable purgative properties they create an undeniable effect upon the patient, which satisfies him of their value."

SIMPLE, SAFE AND CERTAIN!
HOLLOWAY'S OINTMENT.

Is a certain remedy for bad legs, bad breasts, and ulcerations of all kinds. It acts miraculously in healing ulcerations, curing skin diseases, and in arresting and subduing all inflammations.

MR. J. T. COOPER,

in his account of his extraordinary travels in China, published in 1871, says—"I had with me a quantity of Holloway's Ointment. I gave some to the people, and nothing could exceed their gratitude; and, in consequence, milk, fowls, butter, and horse-feed poured in upon us, until at last a tea-spoonful of Ointment was worth a fowl and any quantity of peas, and the demand became so great that I was obliged to lock up the small remaining stock." Sold by all Chemists and Medicine Vendors throughout the World May 17th, 1878.

MISCELLANEOUS.

"HIGHEST AWARD & PRIZE MEDAL PHILADELPHIA EXHIBITION, 1876."

OAKLEY'S
WELLINGTON KNIFE POLISH

PREPARED EXPRESSLY FOR THE PATENT KNIFE-CLEANING MACHINES, INDIA RUBBER AND BUFF LEATHER KNIFE BOARDS. KNIVES CONSTANTLY CLEANED WITH IT HAVE A BRILLIANT POLISH EQUAL TO NEW CUTLERY. FACETS 3D. EACH; AND TINS, 6D., 1S., 2S. 6D. AND 4S. EACH.

OAKLEY'S
INDIA RUBBER KNIFE BOARDS

PREVENT FRICTION IN CLEANING AND INJURY TO THE KNIFE. OAKLEY'S WELLINGTON KNIFE POLISH SHOULD BE USED WITH HIS BOARDS.

OAKLEY'S
SILVERSMITHS SOAP

(NON-MERCURIAL), FOR CLEANING AND POLISHING SILVER, ELECTROPLATE, PLATE GLASS, &c. TABLETS 6D. EACH.

OAKLEY'S
WELLINGTON BLACK LEAD

IN SOLID BLOCKS—1D., 2D., & 4D. EACH, & 12. BOXES.

JOHN OAKLEY & SONS
MANUFACTURERS OF
EMERY, BLACK LEAD, CABINET GLASS-PAPER, &c.
WESTMINSTER BRIDGE ROAD, LONDON, ENGLAND.
July, 1879.

THE SPECIAL NUTRIMENT FOR
CONSUMPTION, WASTING, &c.
PANCREATIC EMULSION.
RESTORES DIGESTIVE POWER, STRENGTH, WEIGHT, &c.
SAVORY & MOORE, NEW BOND STREET, LONDON,
And of all Chemists and Storekeepers throughout the world.
December 1880.

VAN LISSA BROTHERS,
No. 10, Bund.

Yokohama, January 4th, 1881.

MISCELLANEOUS.

ANDW. HANDYSIDE & Co.

Limited.

32, Walbrook. London.

BRITANNIA IRON WORKS, DERBY.

Manufacture all kinds of

IRON WORK,

Structural & Ornamental.

BRIDGES of every description. Girder Bridges. Arch Bridges. Suspension Bridges.

A. H. & Co. make every year for Foreign Countries some thousands of Tons of Bridges.

| LANDING-PIERS AND JETTIES.

ROOFS AND BUILDINGS. MARKETS

*Illustrated Catalogue (A) free on Application.***ORNAMENTAL IRONWORK, ETC.***See Large New Illustrated Catalogues (B. & C.) with 1,300 designs.*Railings. Balcony Panels.
Gates. Street Posts.
Lamp-pillars. Lamp-brackets.
Balusters. Newels.
Ornaments. Terminals.Columns. Column Capitals.
Brackets. Gratings.
Windows. Casements.
Fountains. Drinking Fountains.
Vases. Pedestals.


Conservatories. Band-Stands.

SMITH'S HEARTHS & PORTABLE FORGES

12 Shapes and Sizes.

*Catalogue (D) free on Application.***Andw. Handyside & Co., Limited,
LONDON.**

26 ins.

	JOSEPH GILLOTT'S STEEL PENS.	Gold.
	JOSEPH GILLOTT'S STEEL PENS.	Medal.
	JOSEPH GILLOTT'S STEEL PENS.	Paris.
	JOSEPH GILLOTT'S STEEL PENS.	1878.

April, 1880.

MISCELLANEOUS.

SAVORY & MOORE'S Datura Tatnia Inhalations
FOR ASTHMA

SAVORY & MOORE'S BEST FOOD
FOR INFANTS

SAVORY & MOORE'S PANCREATIC EMULSION
MEDICINAL FOOD

SAVORY & MOORE'S
IN CONSUMPTION
AND
WASTING DISEASES

ROYAL NURSERIES.
THE MOST DISCREET,
CONTAINING
THE HIGHEST AMOUNT OF
NOURISHMENT IN THE
MOST CONVENIENT FORM.
In the 1st, 2nd, 3rd, and 4th.
Bottles 8s. 6d., 4s. 6d., and 2s.

143, NEW BOND ST., LONDON, and of Chemists, &c., everywhere.

August 2, 1879.

26780

TRADE



MARK.

ELLWOOD'S

PATENT AIR CHAMBER

HATS AND HELMETSTHE ONLY EFFECTUAL PROTECTION
AGAINST SUN STROKE.To be obtained of all respectable Hatters and Outfitters
and Wholesale only of**J. ELLWOOD & SONS,
LONDON.**

Beware of Useless Imitations.

DINNEFORD'STHE BEST REMEDY FOR ACIDITY
OF THE STOMACH, HEARTBURN,
HEADACHE, GOUT AND INDIGESTION.**DINNEFORD & Co., Chemists
London,****N.B. ASK FOR DINNEFORD'S MAGNESIA.**

April 10, 1880.

**FLUID
MAGNESIA.**And of Druggists and Storekeepers throughout
the World.

1y.

MISCELLANEOUS.

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CELEBRATED OILMEN'S STORES.***Five Prize Medals, Paris, Vienna and Philadelphia.*

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Printed and published for the Proprietor, by the Manager
A. HERBERT BLACKWELL, at the "Japan Mail" Office, 16,
Rand, Yokohama.

THE Japan Weekly Mail,

A WEEKLY REVIEW OF
JAPANESE COMMERCE, POLITICS, LITERATURE, AND ART.

VOL. V. No. 5.]

Yokohama, February 5th, 1881.

[\$24 PER ANNUM.]

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The Japan Weekly Mail.

'FAIS CE QUE DOIS; ADVIENNE QUE POURRA.'

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It is particularly requested that all letters on business, relating to Advertisements, Job-printing, or Accounts, be addressed to the MANAGER.

And that literary contributions of every description be addressed to the EDITOR.

YOKOHAMA: SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 5TH, 1881.

JAPANESE ERA 2541, MEIJI 14TH YEAR, 2ND MONTH, 5TH DAY.

A good deal was said the year before last about a probable transfer of the Tokiyo-Yokohama railway from official to private ownership. The price then named was three and a half millions of yen, and it was understood that a company of nobles had been formed with the intention of purchasing. At the last moment, however, when all the preliminaries had apparently been arranged, the affair miscarried, no doubt because it was deemed advisable that the Government should retain direct control over the main lines throughout Japan, a principle which would of course apply to the Joshiu railway also. It will probably occur to our readers that the reason is scarcely sufficient. There could be no difficulty in accompanying the transfer with conditions calculated to render the Government virtual masters of the line in the event of certain contingencies, and that it would be worked more economically if not more efficiently under private management, is tolerably certain. At any rate the project fell through, but the projectors were not finally discouraged by their failure. Renewed application has now been made to the authorities, on the strength of the late proclamation on the subject of state industrial undertakings, and report says that the transfer will this time probably be consummated. A slight increase of price—some three hundred thousand yen—is mentioned. This probably represents the value of improvements carried out

in the interim, for it is obviously much too insignificant a sum to cover the loss from currency depreciation. Indeed even if it were otherwise, we should be sorry to think that a fall in the value of the medium circulated by state authority, would be included in any calculation such as that under consideration. This would scarcely be just and certainly undignified. It has been suggested however that this transaction affords a favorable occasion for drawing into the Treasury some of the ancient coins of which the nobles are known still to possess considerable hoards. These solid gold alabi, and other precious but unwieldy tokens of old fashioned wealth, would certainly be better employed in producing a fat revenue for their owners, than in lying side by side with unused armour and neglected curiosities as at present; while at the same time it might be craftily brought home to the nobles that having disencumbered their godowns of these metallic superfluities, the hoarding of paper money as a substitute would be equally profitable to themselves and much more beneficial to the state.

Some conception of the losses entailed by the terrible fire of the 26th ultimo may be gathered from the fact that in one street alone—Higashi-moto-machi—a cluster of thirty-two rice godowns were completely destroyed. The grain they contained was the property of the Duke of Bishiu, and its value is estimated at two hundred thousand yen, approximately.

It is generally almost impossible to perform any accurate calculation of the aggregate loss entailed by a conflagration in Japan, but in the present case there is very little to place on the credit side of the account, for the leap which the flames took over the river was so unexpected that no time was left for preparation, and a large proportion of the godowns on the eastern bank were consequently burned. Pecuniary disasters do not, however, excite our sympathy so much as the sufferings of those unfortunates, who, separated by a very frail barrier from cold and famine at the best of times, find themselves, after a calamity like this, brought suddenly face to face with their implacable enemies. Under the Tokugawa administration the wealthier citizens made a habit of lodging in the public treasury such sums of money as they could conveniently spare from time to time, and these contributions constituted a fund for the relief of the poor in seasons of fire and famine. The habit was an excellent one and its abandonment seems particularly to be regretted. Occasionally indeed we are disposed to think that some other codes and customs obtaining in those bygone days might be revived with advantage. Philanthropists would no doubt be sadly shocked at the idea of punishing arson with crucifixion or the stake, but if human life has become too precious to be placed at the disposal of the law, it seems scarcely logical to deny the practice of deterring, by any process however revolting, crimes that destroy life wholesale and entail upon hundreds sufferings more miserable than even death itself. The

penal code in force under the Shogun's Government contained many items irreconcilable with Western creeds, but if we are charitable in our penalties, we should be equally so in our suppositions, and refrain from accrediting inhuman instincts with the enactment of laws that had their origin in social conditions. It must at any rate occur to every thinking man that the sociological education of Japan's rulers may possibly have outstripped the progress of her people, and that in copying the homeopathic practice of modern governments, she may have rejected certain indispensable antiseptics. We may be very well assured that a country stands in serious need of some moral tonic when every unoccupied house in its capital is such a source of terror to the citizens, that they will even subscribe to pay a tenants' rent rather than leave so much temptation in the incendiary's way.

Meanwhile the question of building reform seems to be receiving official consideration. On the 29th ult. a meeting of aldermen—representing fifteen different wards—was held at the Municipal Bureau in Tokiyo, for the purpose of considering the advisability of widening the streets and improving the character of the dwellings to be erected in the area devastated by the late fire. Special attention was directed to the Kanda district, which, being inhabited by the poorer classes, is notably deficient in everything capable of resisting or preventing such disasters, and it was ultimately decided that various reforms should be made both in the general plan and in the details of construction hereafter adopted. The necessary money will be provided from the residue of the Relief Fund accumulated under the Tokugawa administration and by subscriptions from the several wards. It is impossible to exaggerate the importance of this question, and if the present Governor of Tokiyo has really appreciated the immense responsibility that devolves on him at such a crisis, he may count on something more than common gratitude. For our own part we have indicated elsewhere the only method we believe to be at once feasible and efficient. We are well aware of the grave embarrassments its adoption would entail, but they are as nothing compared with the results, and certainly no national need can possibly be more urgent than that of guarding the people against the recurrence of such annihilating disasters.

An examination of Japanese mining industries, made during the past year, shews that in the whole empire there are only four provinces without discovered mines. Those four are—Oki, Kadzusa, Shimosa and Awa. However small the outcome of these mines may be at present, it is not difficult to conceive what an important factor in the national wealth they might become under skilled management and with proper appliances.

Intelligence from the south says that six of the Russian ships lately anchored at Nagasaki have sailed for a cruise in the sea near Shanghai and Corea, and that the native residents of the settlement are anxiously awaiting the departure of the remaining five. The Chinamen especially seem to have had a pretty rough time of it, for the Muscovite men-of-war's men are said to have anticipated the declaration of war, treating all the long-tailed Celestials they encounter as veritable belligerents. Thus we hear of sundry castigations and chuckings into the sea endured patiently by the unhappy Celestials, who are now inspired by such a wholesome dread of everything resembling a Russian sailor, that at the very aspect of a blue-jacket they scamper off helter skelter, justifying their precipitancy by a cry of "Hi-ya,

that piece man he makee spoilum my pidgin!" It would perhaps be unreasonable to look for any great exercise of forbearance on the part of the expectant invaders under the circumstances, and while condoling heartily with the Chinamen's sufferings, we can only offer them this consolation, that probably their "pidgin" has but just escaped very much more serious detriment than any inconveniences it can possibly be called on to endure in chance encounters with Muscovites at Nagasaki.

The new issue of one, five and ten yen sats, to replace those of one and two yen now in circulation, will, we understand, be immediately commenced by the Finance Bureau. The reason of this change is that there are considerable differences of thickness and sundry imperfections of engraving in the old notes, so that it is considered advisable to change them for others of a better and more uniform quality. There is no warrant whatever for supposing that any addition to the amount of the inconvertible currency is contemplated.

What with conjectures of suspicious well-wishers (?) in Tokiyo, and intrusions of inquisitive politicians from the country, the Ministers at Atami are reported to be passing anything but a profitable time. So tormented are they indeed that rumours of their speedy return are already beginning to be bruited abroad, in which case they will have derived no more benefit from the hot springs than the raven in the proverb did from his ablutions. So say the Japanese at any rate, but for our own part we doubt whether the Atami trip was dictated by any very serious purpose. It is conceivable that men whose every movement is watched—perhaps misinterpreted too—at home, and whose pet projects are often balked by the obstructiveness of an uninitiated colleague, may be disposed to devote even such an occasion as a country trip to the discussion of reforms requiring unanimity and thorough ventilation, but we fail to see why rational people should be consequently betrayed into conduct not unlike that of Mr. and Mrs. Brass, at the door of the single gentleman, when he was closetted with Richard Swiveller. If these busy-brained Ministers have only begun to discuss a tithe of the mysteries surmise has depicted since their departure, they well merit more rest hereafter than even the perfect Nirvana to which Shakka himself has attained.

It is somewhat difficult at first sight to appreciate the relation that exists between an ability for adapting Japanese historical scenes to the French stage and a capacity for conducting commercial transactions directly with foreign countries. Nevertheless the cause of those who advocate this latter policy is said to have been immensely strengthened of late by the accession of Mr. Mayeda Masana, a gentleman erstwhile resident in France, and distinguished as the author of a play called the "Forty-seven Ronins," which was acted with some success in Paris. The supporters of this direct commerce principle—or *jiki-boeyeki*, as it is called—have not hitherto been very numerous, nor did their ideas excite much comment, but they seem now to have secured that desideratum so potent in the effective inception of all schemes, access to the ear of certain influential officials. Whether—which the wise gods forefend—any certain prospect of Government patronage has consequently dawned upon their design, there can be no doubt that its popularity has been considerably augmented, and we now find no less a man than Mr. Godai, president of the Osaka Chamber of Com-

merce, taking a prominent part in the affair. That Japanese merchants, either directly or indirectly, should realise all the gains legitimately accessible, is an issue every one of us most heartily desires. Their prosperity is indissolubly bound up with our own, and that any possible path to profit should be wittingly hidden from them, or selfishly monopolized, were repugnant alike to good-sense and equity. But we seriously doubt whether this project has been properly digested, or its difficulties appreciated, and we have not a shadow of hesitation in declaring that its consummation ought to be entirely independent of official patronage. Such commercial enterprises may indeed be forced into premature existence, but like delicate exotics, they will inevitably sicken and die in the presence of the rude influences to which they will be exposed, and against which they have no innate strength to struggle. The affair has not as yet passed its embryo stage, and we therefore refrain from adducing arguments which, for the rest, would be liable to misconstruction, but we repeat most emphatically, that if there be any permanent vitality in the project, it must be left to develop itself, and that any State interference will ultimately tend to stifle rather than to animate the spirit of enterprise and co-operation we all desire to see flourish in Japan.

In consequence of the extreme inclemency of the weather, the Yokohama Choral Society's Concert was postponed from Thursday last until Monday night next, the 7th instant, at nine o'clock. The concert promises to be one of exceptional excellence. We believe it is no breach of confidence to state that the full rehearsal, last Wednesday evening, was perfectly satisfactory; and that Madame Zappe will sing the magnificent Scena ed Aria "Wir nahen mir der Schlummer" from Weber's *Der Freischütz*. This last announcement alone, should secure the attendance of every German-speaking or music-loving person in the whole community. We look for a full house and a glorious success.

A building destined to fulfill the twofold purpose of an exhibition hall and a *salle des festins* has lately been erected for the Agricultural Bureau at Yetai-bashi, on the western side of the Sumidagawa. The idea of the undertaking probably dates from the days when economical reform was deemed less imperative than it is at present, for both the internal and external decorations suggest anything but narrow-necked money bags. The house is of brick, relieved by cut stone cornices, and standing in an angle beside the bridge, has an environment of vacant space just sufficient to admit some tastefully disposed rockeries and shrubs. We can conceive that the architect had no little difficulty in designing something consistent with the twin character of his instructions, but however this may be he has succeeded admirably, for the structure has just enough solidity and sobriety to prepare one for the commercial sundries—such as furs, hard woods and agricultural implements—displayed in the lower chambers, while at the same time an sentiment of incongruity is excited when one passes by a handsome but unobtrusive flight of steps to the luxuriously furnished suite of apartments overhead, where smoothest lacquer replaces vulgar paint; panels disposed after quaint and ingenious devices supplant plastered ceilings; wall papers of rich texture and charming patterns supersede conventional fans and Greek frets, while dados and parquetry borders make their appearance for the first time in a Japanese public building. The rooms in this upper story are four, one for reception, one for dining, one for sleeping and one for billiards. Who may be

the destined occupant of the bed-room, it is not easy to divine, but no one will deny that the provision of a couch in the neighbourhood of a banqueting hall attests an unwonted refinement of hospitality. As for the billiard room, we are not surprised that it should have been reckoned an essential adjunct, for if there be one Western pastime which fits Japanese fancy more than another, it is the game of ball and cue.

We had not, however, purposed to dwell upon these details, but rather to record the fact that the completion of the building was marked by a reception on Monday last (8th instant), when Colonel Crawford, Messrs. Yasuda, Nakamura, Nakai, Dyer, Conder, (by whom the building was designed) Korscholdt, James and others, were entertained at luncheon by General Kuroda, Chief of the Agricultural Bureau and Governor of Yezo. The sale rooms below-stairs were thrown open to the public on the same days. They are not yet of course thoroughly stocked, but none the less a visit will well repay intending purchasers of furs or other articles furnished by Yezo and its environs.

We learn with regret that the injury caused to the iron plates of H. I. J. M. S. *Fusokwan* by the galvanic action lately set up, may possibly necessitate her return to England for repairs. Nothing can effectually resist the mischief but a solid sheathing of wood, and though this might be very well fitted on at Yokosuka, the operation would probably require at least six months, a longer period, it appears, than the dock-authorities can conveniently devote to one ship. At the same time it must be confessed that the occupation of the dock for half a year scarcely seems a sufficient evil to outweigh the expense and delay of a voyage to England, and we strongly counsel the Admiralty to bring a little gentle pressure to bear upon the Yokosuka folk before consenting to the latter alternative.

We publish elsewhere the minutes of the Tokio Cricket Club's annual meeting. This Club, though a very infant in years, has proved itself pretty virile in point of achievements, as its Yokohama confrères can amply testify, and it is with great pleasure that we note its flourishing financial condition as well as its secretary's predictions of undiminished activity in the coming season. Nevertheless we take the opportunity of pointing out to our friends in the Capital, not that they are attempting more than their abilities warrant, but that they are achieving less than their attempts deserve. The foreign community of Tokiyo is not by any means large, while the section of it available for club purposes is disproportionately small. We say 'disproportionately,' because, while under ordinary circumstances we might fairly look to see such matches posted as, the T.C.C. against the Universities, or the Military and Engineering Colleges against all comers, the quota actually furnished by the professorial section is infinitesimally minute. This of course is irremediable. National habit and individual prejudice are stubborn factors to eliminate in mid age, and we are not prepared to deny that to abstain from these unproductive foibles may be synonymous with the choice of the better part. At any rate the upshot is that but a very few are found to support anything in the shape of a common amusement, and the natural inference, that all subdivision of that few should be carefully avoided. Yet what are the facts? Tokiyo, which but three years ago scarcely possessed a single festive association of any sort, has now a Billiard club, a Cricket club, a Tennis club, and a Whist club, not to speak of sundry other semi-organized societies that trifle with ivories and "antes," and each one of these clubs is an

independent institution, requiring separate subscriptions, separate appurtenances, separate positions, and separate secretaries; which last is by no means the least drawback consequent upon so divided a system. Now it is not to be supposed that men's propensities will be diverted from their ordinary grooves by any combination of opportunities. Cricket, tennis, and billiards, would severally elicit the same amount of devotion from their respective devotees whether they were carried on in the same or in different places, but it is beyond question that an union of resources must immensely augment the possibilities of pursuing each pastime pleasantly and effectively. Could a man, for example, fielding at mid-off on the Tokiyo cricket ground, reasonably hope to complete a two days' match without some bruised bone or crippled limb? We doubt it. And we are very sure that the possibility of playing a comfortable rubber at the Rurikoji Billiard Club, depends altogether on the state of the thermometer and not on the capabilities of the room. Yet a member of the Cricket, Billiard, and Tennis Clubs pays an annual subscription of more than forty yen in the aggregate, for which sum, we submit, he might reasonably expect to be provided with a luxurious whist room, an unimpeachable wicket, and a tennis ground where one could always get a game without the necessity of "spinning out" every set. The fact is that our friends in the Capital need some Mrs. Chick to reiterate the necessity of an effort. A native speculator might easily be persuaded by the guarantee of a moderate monthly rent to build a billiard room and lay out a cricket and tennis ground beside it. The expenditure would be trifling. A thousand yen would amply cover everything, and there would be no necessity to interrupt play in the interim, since the old grounds would be available until the new was ready for use, after which the turf at Shimbashi and Azabu might be removed at leisure. This is the time to inaugurate improvements such as we have indicated, and we hope the spring will not be suffered to pass without some attempt to provide better opportunities for the development of the material Tokiyo certainly possesses.

The exhibition of antiquities at Nara is to be opened on the first of next month (March). Various inducements are offered to attract visitors, the most notable being a new circular staircase, by the aid of which it will be possible to circumvent the Great Buddha (Daibutsu) in every sense of the word. The programme of amusements includes direct friction of his sacred visage, insertion of one's head into his nostrils, and sundry other gymnastic antics proportionate to the worshipper's zealous piety. We trust that no absurd religious scruples will deter our readers from seizing this unique occasion to establish intimate relations with the august divinity.

We have to acknowledge the kindness of the President and Council of the Asiatic Society in placing at our disposal such papers as are likely to be of general interest previous to their appearance in the Transactions of the Society. We publish the first of this series to-day. Our readers will see that it is the second chapter of Mr. Aston's history of the invasion of Corea by the Japanese, an event which is often cited as one of Taiko's greatest military achievements, though in truth the success of his armies was due rather to the skill and intrepidity of their generals than to any strategic combination of the Regent himself. Japan's social condition has been so largely influenced by her intercourse with Corea that every incident connected with the relations of the two countries is of importance to the student, and

Mr. Aston's carefully compiled history will amply repay perusal.

The various political associations throughout Japan promise to be more than usually active this year, and in all probability we shall presently have to record a repetition of the intemperate lectures and shallow harangues that have already not a little retarded the material progress of the nation by diverting men's minds from the pursuit of more wholesome objects. Despite the variety of their titles these associations comprise the advocates of two and only two distinct principles, radicalism and conservatism; not radicalism and conservatism such as they exist with us, in name only and not in fact, but two diametrically opposed creeds; the one advocating thorough and instantaneous adoption of foreign political institutions, and the other enjoining deliberation always, quiescence sometimes, and occasionally perhaps, retrogression. Among the most notable adherents of the former persuasion are the "Free Thinkers" (Risshisha), the "Parliamentarians" (Kokkaijoguansha) and the "Patriots" (Aikokusha). Their members are for the most part young men of scanty means and no immediate expectations; students, unemployed officials, aspirants after offices and needy gentlemen, together with a drift of discontented waifs, who have no defined faith whatsoever, but merely desire the overthrow of everything established, hoping to pick up something solid amongst the debris. Naturally the newspaper editors have cast in their lot with this motley crowd, for the sake of obtaining literary material quite as much as a change of polity, and the consequence is that constant "slinging of ink" and sounding of trumpets gives the movement an air of bustle and impetus it does not really possess. On the conservative side are ranged almost all the men of position and property in the country. The undemonstrative nature of their cause gives it the semblance of lacking support, but it possesses elements of stability very much more reliable than the fictitious verve of its rival, and there is little doubt which of the two will ultimately prevail. Meanwhile, we are not prepared to go quite so far as a certain member of the last assembly of prefects, who compared the popular effect of these radical rantings to that produced upon the mind of an innocent girl by the perusal of a licentious romance. Within certain limits the honest discussion of political or social problems exercises a bracing, rather than a demoralizing, influence upon public morals, and thinking men will agree that the absence of such mental activity were a more dangerous symptom than its superabundant presence. Each added year, too, tends to obliterate old impressions, and the Government will probably see its way before long to a more tolerant policy than has hitherto been possible. That the country is fit, or anything like fit, to furnish the materials for a representative government we do not, however, for a moment believe. Neither is there evidence of any sort to show that the Emperor or his Ministers desire to retard the people's aptitude for a share in the functions of state, but it is certainly their province to provide against any abnormal forcing of that aptitude and against the evils such precipitancy must entail, more especially when—as is too often the case at present—stimulators of public impatience are known to be actuated by a spirit of disaffection rather than of reform.

Men are ready enough to saddle official inefficiency with every contempt of law and order that shows itself, but they seldom remember to ascribe the absence of such things to a firm and authoritative rule, nor does political criticism appear less prone to this injustice here than elsewhere.

We have been requested to state that the next general meeting of the Asiatic Society will be held on Tuesday, 8th instant, at 3 p.m. at the house of the President, Dr. Ed. Divers, Kobu-dai-gakko, Tokiyo, when a paper on the History of Japanese Ceramics will be read by Captain Brinkley, R.A. After the lecture a collection of illustrative specimens will be exhibited in the Museum of the College. Members are invited to introduce their friends.

A comparison of the native industrial efforts and achievements that belong to the histories of 1880 and 1879 respectively, exhibits very solid grounds for congratulation. Thus a rough retrospect of the past year shows us:—the Sapporo railway built; the two smelting furnaces at Kama-isi (in the Iwate prefecture) fairly at work, and delivering an output of some seven or eight hundred tons of iron per mensem; the works at the harbour of Nobiru (Miyagi prefecture) almost completed, and the navigation of the Kitakami, with all the resultant advantages to the trade of Sendai, assured; the weary tunnel at Kariyasu in Uzen at last carried through, and the "breath of the South allowed to inflate the cramped lungs of the North;" the great aqueduct from the Inawashiro lake (province of Iwashiro) achieved, and an immense area of country thereby irrigated and rendered arable; the building of ships on western lines at the two dockyards of Kawasaki and Hirano (Tokiyo) carried on with increased industry; silk-reeling establishments erected in the three prefectures of Hiroshima, Aichi and Shizuoka; the port of Mikuni (Ishikawa prefecture) opened to shipping; the works on the Tsuruga Railway progressing vigorously; the outcome of the coal mines in Kinshiu considerably augmented; the docks of Tategami (Nagasaki) unceasingly occupied; the works done at the Yokosuka dockyard always on the increase; a new vessel launched by the Kosak'-kiyoku at Hiogo and a number of old ones repaired; mining industries, whether those carried on by the State or in private interests, exceptionally active, as for example the mines of Sado, Ani, Inami, Ikuno, &c. in the first category, and in the second, the copper mines of Beashi (Iyo province), Unokautoge (Idzumo province), Osarazawa (Nambu) and various others; while correspondingly favorable reports come from the several manufactories of porcelain, bronze, dyed and woven stuffs, lacquers and so forth all through the provinces.

On the whole, therefore, there seem to be fair grounds for congratulating Japan on the industrial history of 1880, and if we need any proof of the perseverance her people can display in the presence of difficulties, it is furnished by the story of the Kariyasu tunnel. This work was undertaken by Mishima, Prefect of Yamagata, with the consent of the late Mr. Okubo, Minister of the Interior. Its object was to open a road between the provinces of Uzen and Iwashiro by tunnelling through the impassible mountains that divide them. It used to be said of these precipitous peaks—crossed only in two places by paths soldiers sometimes traversed, but traders never—that they were the teeth dividing the lips of the north and south, for at Wakamatz men breathed the breath of Tokiyo, and at Yonezawa, that of Hakodate. Nobody could fail to foresee the immense advantages that would accrue to the two places could a reasonably practicable route be opened between them, but at the same time nobody seemed to contemplate the possibility of such an undertaking. It was not till a native of Satsuma—a tint nursery of pluck and energy—came to govern in Yamagata, that the project began to be seriously entertained. Official sanction and

official aid were, however, necessary, and neither one nor the other could be obtained at first, for not unnaturally it was difficult to imagine that if an object so palpably desirable were really within the reach of ordinary resources, it would have been so long relegated to the region of fruitless desires. At last Mr. Okubo, Minister of the Interior, was induced to give his assent. A sum of money was advanced by the Treasury, and with this—largely supplemented indeed by contributions from the wealthy farmers and tradesmen of the district—the Governor set to work, scarcely perhaps himself foreseeing a tithe of the troubles that lay before him. For when giant rocks had been pierced, never-ceasing springs diverted and innumerable land-slips overcome, the most fatal misfortune of all occurred—the assassination of the one man whose large minded sagacity had appreciated at once the advantages and difficulties of the undertaking. After Mr. Okubo's death everything went wrong. The Government grew uneasy at the almost certain prospect of failure, and withheld the supplies: the farmers themselves refused to work, and the very mountain seemed to rebel at such persistent effort, for each day exposed new and unanticipated engineering obstacles. Still the Governor held resolutely to his purpose. "If the attempt falls through," he said, "I only ask to be buried in the tunnel," and very few indeed were sufficiently sanguine to predict any other end for the stout-hearted man. One day last November, however, a telegraphic message reached Tokiyo. The receiving clerk paid little attention to its terms, for the Kariyasu tunnel had long passed out of men's memories, or come to be regarded as an ancient phantasy of the murdered Minister. But the official to whom the message was addressed seemed to be very differently influenced. Scarcely waiting to don his robes of ceremony, he hastened off without a moment's delay, not to the Home Office, nor to any other haunt of sentient beings, but to a cemetery in the suburbs of the city, where, kneeling before the grave of one who had met the fate great men are sometimes doomed to meet, he told the dead statesman's spirit, that the work his aid alone had made possible was at last completed, and that the prayers of two provinces were that day ascending to the gods on his behalf. After all there is more romance than one might fancy in the hard realities of this world of ours.

We may look forward to a plentiful supply of ice this summer. Both at Hakodate and from the Tanigawa, in Hiogo prefecture, large quantities have been obtained and successfully stored. *Apropos* of this, we have often wondered why no attempt has hitherto been made to bring salmon packed in ice from Hakodate for sale in Tokiyo. The operation is so simple and so inexpensive, if properly managed, that it could scarcely fail to be profitable; and surely there ought to be no doubt about finding a good market for the fresh fish in the Capital.

Considerable numbers of Seals have been taken, it appears, in the vicinity of Kayabe on the Hokkaido. Their skins are now selling at prices ranging from three and a half to five yen. In the Kunichitose river also, the unusual thickness of the ice has forced the salmon to collect in certain places, and the consequence is that their capture in such quantities that a hundred are only valued at about forty cents.

We have to acknowledge the receipt of "A Grammar of the English Language for Japanese students," by Mr. W. D. Cox. We regret that want of space prevents us from publishing a review of the work this week.

A NEW RAILWAY.

OUR readers are no doubt aware that the Government of this country some time ago formed the resolution of constructing a railway from Tokiyo to Mayebashi in Joshu, that a survey of the proposed line was in part completed, a portion of the required material purchased, and in short, that the project had actually passed the stage of practical inception. Financial considerations, however, subsequently interfered. Amongst retrenchments, necessary no doubt in the main, the abandonment of this design was included, to the very great disappointment, as it may well be supposed, of the provincial manufacturers and producers. For the benefits the line would confer upon Joshu, and less directly on all the remaining seven provinces of the Kanto, are indisputable. Thus the goods traffic alone between Mayebashi, Takasaki and Tokiyo, amounts to fifteen hundred thousand yen per annum; while the number of passengers is on the average two and a half millions and the carriage of merchandise to Yokohama gives an outlay of one and a half millions. Even without taking into consideration the portage connected with the internal trade of the Hakkakoku, there is therefore ample reason to predict a prosperous future for such a railway, while its general effect upon the condition of the surrounding districts can scarcely be overrated. Nevertheless the disappointment connected with the postponement of the undertaking was not altogether unmitigated. It is admitted that railways are amongst the few commercial undertakings in which the substitution of official action for private enterprise is economically tolerable, but the data upon which this conclusion is based require to be considerably modified in the case of Japan, where experienced contractors, capable of effectively carrying out large public works, do not exist at all, and where the unfortunate "Nunky pays" system is extended to all the details of every proceeding inaugurated by the State. A railway, constructed on the plan hitherto adopted, can never be a financial success. That it would have entailed any serious loss in the particular instance under consideration is not at all likely, but it would certainly have afforded a fresh opportunity for procedures which may be venal under certain social codes, but which are assuredly neither commendable nor beneficial. Considered in this light therefore, the temporary abandonment of the scheme, even on the score of economy, was not entirely to be regretted, and subsequent events rather incline us to regard it as a matter for congratulation. For it appears now very probable that the work will be undertaken by the inhabitants of the Kanto themselves. They seem at any rate to be thoroughly in earnest about it, and the petition they have forwarded to the Home Office through Messrs. Kadori and Shirane, prefects of Gumma and Saitama, embodies a reasonable and sufficiently practical scheme. They propose that the Government should advance them a million yen on the security of certain lands, the title-deeds of which are immediately forthcoming. This sum will form a nucleus to be supplemented by subscriptions already promised, the whole representing a fund sufficient for the completion of one section of the line. So soon as any portion is in working order, it will be handed over to the authorities as security for a further loan amounting to three-fifths of the total expenditure on the completed section, and by continuing this process, it is expected that the whole

work will be accomplished economically and without any undue strain on the State finances.

With the exception of some faint opposition on the part of the Public Works Authorities, this proposition may be considered to have received official sanction. It does in truth merit a particularly favorable reception as being almost the first genuine evidence of that spirit of private enterprise so much needed in Japan. The Government has done more than enough, and it is now the people's turn to make an effort, unless the country is to pause completely in the path of progress. It is not at all surprising that the attempt lately made to dispose of the various industries now carried on officially, should have failed. A losing business does not easily find a purchaser, and unfortunately almost all the businesses under State control in this country are palpably losing concerns in a pecuniary sense, or have been so hitherto at any rate. Not that their conception is faulty or their capabilities incompatible with gain, but they have been subject to the most paralyzing influences in the details of their conduct, and they are also, it must be admitted, a little premature in character. Statistics prove, moreover, that private enterprises—not excepting those justly accredited with giant results—have almost always been developed from Lilliputian germs. In the most progressive communities tentative and cautious steps generally precede large strides, and shrewd men will pause long before they invest capital and energy in a business saddled with all those expensive excrescences that grow up under pecuniarily irresponsible control, and more especially when, as in this country, the law supplies no adequate instrument for the construction and control of trading companies. It would have been most unreasonable to expect any immediate response to the propositions lately put forward by the Government, but at the same time it would be most unwise to regard the people's apparent reluctance as a conclusive evidence of inability. The State must recognize definitely that its efforts up to the present have not, or ought not to have, been directed by a mere commercial desire for profit, but by the moral necessity of developing a spirit of private enterprise and a capacity of co-operation among the units of the nation at large. The presence or absence of this capacity and that spirit, may be tolerably well gauged by the amount of concession to which the State will be compelled to submit before exchanging places with its subjects in these matters of industrial undertaking. It will not be wise or politic to limit that concession. Whatever momentary sacrifice may seem to be entailed, it is absolutely essential that the national funds should no longer be absorbed for the support of industries which, however praiseworthy in motive, have now drifted into grooves that manifestly diverge from public benefit. For our own part, indeed, we do not anticipate that the transfer of responsibility will be ultimately attended with much embarrassment. Indications are not wanting that the requisite attributes exist generally, and we have ocular demonstration of their successful development in particular cases. The desired result will no doubt be attained. But the process must be slow, and amongst the influences most likely to retard it, is the people's erroneous estimate of the State's legitimate functions. That error has perhaps been fostered by the Government's too precipitate assumption of a rôle not altogether suited to it, but as we have demonstrated in a previous article—many circumstances combine to deprecate censure in this matter.

Now, however, an opportunity occurs of dispelling the illusion in some degree, and while the policy of granting every possible facility to the Jōshin capitalists is unquestionable, it is most sincerely to be hoped that no pernicious guarantees of State protection will be afforded. Some such idea as the advisability of securing the company against loss of interest on paid up capital, may be suggested and perhaps entertained, but the effect could only be prejudicial. The undertaking has in itself adequate elements of success, and the least undue official patronage would inevitably result in a greater or less development of those conditions that have hitherto proved so fatal to profit. The project if carried to completion, cannot fail to benefit foreign trade, and its progress is consequently a matter of the greatest importance both to the Japanese and to ourselves; but for all that we have no hesitation in saying, that any unnecessary support from the State, though it may have the immediate effect of accelerating this undertaking, must ultimately tend to defer any healthy independence of private enterprise, and so prove injurious not to the country alone, but to us also whose interests are inseparable from those of the people amongst whom we live.

BUILDING REFORM.

WINTER after winter, bursting in upon the gay festivities of the New Year in Japan, comes the dread monster of devastation, spreading ruin in his flaming course and flinging his ashen pall of misery over erst-while happy households. While the frosts are sharpest and the winds most piercing, Tokio again and again witnesses this wild disordered flight and homeless wretchedness of her inhabitants. So frequent and regular indeed are these conflagrations that, like earthquakes or storms, they have come to be regarded as a part of the inevitable, and now excite a large share of the superstitious dread with which the uneducated behold all alarming natural phenomena.

The constant recurrence of such ruin and desolation and the resultant feeling of insecurity to person and property, necessarily exercise a very discouraging influence upon effort and enterprise, and tend to induce improvidence among those who are their most frequent victims. To a nation thus rendered more or less nomadic in its habits, the endearing associations and instigation to industry conveyed by such names as "hearth and home" cease to exist. Not merely the deliverance of thousands from yearly misery and the prevention of much loss to public property, but also a considerable advance in political prosperity may undoubtedly be looked for when Japan shall have replaced her wooden cities by others of a more solid and permanent character, and it is clear that a matter so vital to private comfort and public progress calls loudly for State interference.

We have before us a pamphlet written by Mr. Katayama, a young Japanese architect—who has received a foreign education—in which he attempts to indicate the nature of certain regulations (based upon European building acts) which might be applied to future house-construction in Tokio and other large cities throughout Japan. Those suggestions have received the approbation of the governor of Tokio, and the subject being at present under discussion by the Municipal Authorities, all rebuilding upon the site of the recent large fire has been for the moment officially interdicted. That permanent constructions in brick or stone are the only

erections worthy of the name of Architecture, and the only kind suitable for the official institutions of the government or for the residences of the wealthy, is fully acknowledged by the majority of the enlightened Japanese. The only obstacle to their more extensive adoption for such purposes, is their comparative costliness; and the only argument against them is the unproven one of a few earthquake alarmists. Every year however sees some new solid structure arise, and there is little doubt that the example of their endurance will, in time, lead to a wider imitation. These isolated instances are, however, but little security against the wide-spread ruin which is meanwhile repeatedly overtaking the more crowded dwellings of those who have neither the wealth nor the enterprise to alter the long established style of their cheap and ephemeral habitations. It is to such erections as the latter that the provisions of all building acts wisely apply with most vigour, attaching less importance to the question of suburban residences, whose detached character largely mitigates their mutual peril.

In a word, principles of prevention are best applied at points where destruction finds its widest range, and it is plain that what is required, in order to arrive at the root of the evil, is a code of regulations governing buildings of the street class, and applied in such a fashion as to conflict least with demands of climate, comfort and prejudice. Limited and initial in its character at the outset, a Tokio building act could not fail ultimately to lead by its inevitable success to speedy extension and improvements.

That the plausible theories of outsiders are ridiculously at variance with what is practicably possible, is a reproach often levelled at soi-disant advisers by men possessing a more familiar knowledge of the complicated machinery which has to be handled. Lest we should render ourselves liable to similar censure, we shall only put forward here such suggestions as seem perfectly feasible without unjust oppression of purses or prejudices.

It appears that the idea of prohibitive laws with regard to the nature of buildings within the capital is not an entirely new one in Japan. More than a century back an attempt was made to lessen the constant destruction from fire, by forbidding the employment of thatched roofs in city dwellings. If this edict be now in force it is not very rigorously observed in spirit at least, for a large proportion of the street dwellings are covered at present with thin wooden shingles, which, dried to tinder by the sun, are not less inflammable than thatch. A strict prohibition of the use of any material but slate, tile, or metal, might well be included in any new regulations, and the projecting eaves of all wooden buildings should also be covered with a coating of stucco.

The idea of dividing the city into detached blocks, screened from each other by large fireproof walls, is one which, apart from the extreme unsightliness it suggests, would in our opinion scarcely possess the sole advantage claimed for it by its advocates, namely that of opposing an effectual barrier to the spread of a conflagration. Experience has proved that the light flaming embers of Japanese structures once fairly on fire, are invariably carried by the wind to a height and a distance considerably beyond the effective reach of any screen walls possible to ordinary resources. The evil must be taken at its origin in the individual house, and it is to some reform in the construction of each independent dwelling that we must look for a prevention of general disaster. A scheme must be devised for confining

the flames to the spot where they break out, in which case we should obtain a result such as that exhibited near the Main Street to-day by the remains of a brick house, which stands, a black carcase, itself destroyed indeed, but with its neighbours untouched. The brick buildings in and around the Main Street of the capital,—putting aside their merits or demerits as specimens of street architecture,—are, however, hardly suitable for the requirements of the Japanese public, and it may be seen that not one of them has been found habitable, without extensive backing and other alterations not at all compatible with the original design, while for the moment, at any rate, it would certainly be vexatious legislation that prescribed so large an increase of outlay as that necessary for the erection of structures completely of brick.

The suggestion before us, which we think must recommend itself as most feasible, is one that permits the construction of street dwellings on the Japanese style as at present, but makes imperative the addition of brick parting walls on the two sides facing adjoining or neighbouring houses. The wide open fronts, with wood and paper slides so necessary to the display of goods and to the habits and comforts of the inmates, would be still preserved before and behind, while the interior arrangements would be entirely the same as hitherto, the brick party walls, projecting forward and backward beyond wooden eaves and other overhanging woodwork, being carried upwards in a coping above the roof, so as entirely to cut off the inflammable portion of one building from that of its neighbour. In the case of buildings actually attached, the wall common to the two should have no recess or opening of any kind, whilst in buildings slightly detached, with narrow alleys in their intervals, the side walls might be permitted to have small doors or windows of limited area, all woodwork, however, being thoroughly retired from the external face of the wall. The thickness of these walls and their foundations, properly fixed according to their heights and lengths, would form part of the details of the regulating laws. The advantages of this system seem to be that the style of dwelling suitable to native requirements would be left almost intact, while the addition of the dividing walls would call for no very extravagant expenditure.

Such rules must needs be enforced gradually, so as to affect at first new buildings alone, or those undergoing very extensive repairs. Should it be deemed advisable to afford Government assistance to persons pecuniarily incapacitated from supporting the small increased expense of such structures, the best plan would perhaps be for the State to undertake the erection of the divisional walls alone, letting out the interior spaces, and allowing speculative builders to erect cheap houses in the intervals, with, however, the rigidly enforced proviso—that all parts of the structures should be kept within and below the fireproof screens.

It is impossible here to indicate all the points of detail which must of necessity be included in any act for the maintenance of public safety in building matters, and we have therefore confined ourselves to pointing out the practicability of cheap measures suitable to the lower class dwellings, whose construction is, of course, beset with most difficulty. Rules for the more secure construction of all exposed parts in so-called European buildings would form important clauses, so that the accidents so often resulting from the improper introduction of stoves and fire-places

might be prevented, and, whatever the rules fixed, their observance would have to be enforced by competent inspection.

But in urging the adoption of a building act for the larger cities of Japan, there are other points to be considered besides the dangers of conflagrations. The winter with its cry of fire does not come more certainly than the heat of summer with its wail of epidemic and all those pertinent questions of defective hygiene. Sanitary matters demand extensive reforms in the details of city buildings, and adequate attention to principles, now universally recognized in such affairs, would require something more than the initial measures we have designated as immediately practicable and comparatively inexpensive. But with this point we are not for the moment concerned, nor does it, for all its importance, weigh much in the presence of the awful catastrophes we are now daily called on to record. The Japanese may have some powers of patient endurance to which we are strangers, but let him be ever so philosophical, his sufferings in this matter of fires deserve the sympathies of all thinking men, and call for something more than suggestion or legislation on the part of the State.

HIDEYOSHI'S INVASION OF KOREA.

CHAPTER II.—THE RETREAT.

BY W. G. ASTON.

[Read January 11, 1881.]

It was on the 6th day of the 1st month of the Chinese year corresponding to A.D. 1593 that the Chinese army advanced against Pingshang. The Japanese garrison had little time for preparations of defence. It was too late for them to call to their assistance their countrymen stationed in the surrounding district, but they made a skilful use of the means at their command, strengthening their position by constructing palisades and throwing up breastworks loopholed for musketry. The attack was maintained for two days. Both sides fought with great determination, but the Chinese were far superior in numbers,¹ and the Japanese were at last forced back within the citadel, having sustained a loss of about sixteen hundred men. The Chinese general was too discreet to drive a beaten enemy to make a desperate resistance. He remembered the proverb, "When the rat is hard pressed and cannot escape, it has been known to overthrow the cat," and on the evening of the second day's fight he withdrew his army without the walls of Pingshang, purposely leaving one side unguarded. During the night, the Japanese crossed the river on the ice, and a few forced marches placed them beyond all immediate danger of pursuit. Indeed, there was little disposition shown to follow them closely: Weary, foot-sore, and starving from cold and hunger, they pursued their way southward unmolested. Ri Joshō made no attempt to follow them, and notwithstanding that the Korean generals who occupied positions near the Japanese line of march were strongly urged to cut off their retreat, none was found bold enough to attack the dreaded invaders even in their present well-nigh desperate condition. They had, however, the satisfaction of capturing and beheading some sixty unfortunate stragglers who, from sickness or fatigue, were unable to keep up with the rest of the army.

The fall of Pingshang was the turning point in the Japanese invasion of Korea. If the Chinese and Koreans had followed up their victory with greater energy, the consequences to the Japanese would have been utterly disastrous, but even as it was they were sufficiently grave. It became necessary for them to evacuate the whole pro-

¹ The Japanese writers talk of of 200,000 Chinese, but the Korean historian of the war, who was a high official of his government, and must have been well informed, gives the more sober estimate of 40,000. It should be remembered, however, that there was a large auxiliary force of Koreans, whose numbers are nowhere stated.

vince of Hwanghaido (黃海道), where they had numerous garrisons, and to concentrate their forces at some point further south. In the dead of winter, and in a country desolated by the war, this operation was accompanied by great hardships. It was at first intended to make a stand at Kaishūng, but for strategical reasons this plan was abandoned, and the capital itself selected as the rendezvous for all the Japanese troops stationed to the north of this city. Among the generals whose position was rendered untenable by the reverse at Pingshang was Kiyomasa, who, along with Nabeshima, held the north-eastern province of Hankiūngdo. Several castles in the south-eastern province which were garrisoned by his men had been attacked by the newly raised Korean levies, which was another reason for Kiyomasa to abandon his position in the north. He marched direct to their assistance, but was too late to prevent a disaster which rendered the situation of the Japanese in Korea still more precarious than before. The Koreans, who had flocked in numbers to the standard of a new and popular general, had already succeeded in capturing several of the most important strongholds² in this province, and as this was the first success of any consequence which the land forces of the Koreans had achieved, its moral effect was of no small importance. They even ventured to intercept Kiyomasa himself on his march southward, but he cut his way through, and effected a junction with Kouishi at Hanshiūng.

After some delay, caused by the want of supplies, the badness of the roads and Ri Joshō's disposition to magnify these difficulties, the Chinese army, with their Korean auxiliaries, at length moved southwards, and on the 24th day of the 1st month arrived at Pachiung (義州), one day's march from the capital, where on the same day a council of war was being held by the Japanese commanders. Most were in favour of retreating to Fusan, but Kiyomasa and a other bold spirits could not bear to relinquish without a struggle fruits of their victories, and it was ultimately resolved to make a stand and give battle to the Chinese. Fearing that, when they were engaged with the enemy without the walls, there might be an outbreak among the remnant of a native population which still inhabited the capital, the Japanese had recourse to a cruel measure, which was only too characteristic of the warfare of the age. They massacred all the Korean townspeople except a few who were useful to them as porters and camp-followers, and destroyed by fire all that remained of the city.

Near Pachiung, the Chinese and Japanese met for the first time in the field. A bloody skirmish, in which a party of Chinese and Koreans had the advantage, had encouraged Ri Joshō to assume the offensive. He advanced with a considerable force towards the capital, a little distance to the north of which he was encountered by a division of the Japanese army. In the engagement which followed, the Chinese were repulsed with great loss, the success of the Japanese being due partly to their superior tactics, and partly to their weapon, the famous *katana*, which to us needs no description. The Korean historian of the war informs us that in this battle "the Chinese had no firearms—only short blunt swords. The Japanese, on the other hand, were foot-soldiers, armed with swords three or four feet long. With these they stabbed and slashed, so that none could stand before them." Many of Ri Joshō's personal followers were slain in this engagement, and he was himself so much discouraged that he at once withdrew to Tongpa and from thence to Kaishūng. In his despatches to his government he reported that the Japanese were 200,000 strong, and requested that a successor might be appointed to him, as he was in weak health, and could not longer endure the hardship of the campaign. At Kaishūng, a rumour reached him that Kiyomasa was on the march from the

province of Hankiūngdo to attack the city of Pingshang. He was glad to have so good an excuse for increasing his distance from the Japanese, and fell back on Pingshang, leaving a few hundred men to occupy Kaishūng.

Our historian, Rin, was at this time charged with the thankless office of conducting the relations of his government with the Chinese. It was his business to superintend the supply of provisions, and he also felt it his duty to urge their generals to a more active prosecution of the war. Any short-coming in the matter of supplies,—any remonstrance against inactivity or cowardice, exposed him to insult and ill-usage, and on more than one occasion he narrowly escaped with his life. He had not even the satisfaction of knowing that he was doing his country good service. The food obtained with great difficulty for the Chinese army was wrung from his starving countrymen, while the invaders seemed as far from being expelled as ever. Korea was indeed in a pitiable condition. Weighed down by the burden of maintaining two foreign armies, of which the ally was scarcely less oppressive than the enemy, the population were reduced to the greatest straits for subsistence. Many thousands died of famine, and Rin's lodgings were besieged by crowds of famishing wretches, to whom he doled out a mixture of one part of rice-flour with ten parts of a powder made by pounding down the leaves of the fir.

With the country in this exhausted condition, and with the roads rendered impassable by the winter rains, military operations had become well-nigh impracticable, and the Chinese and Japanese armies remained for a time inactive. The position of the latter, however, became daily more untenable, as the country became more destitute of resources, and the Korean irregular troops, who swarmed on all sides of them, became daily bolder, until at last the Japanese had to content themselves with what store of provisions they had laid up within the city, not venturing to send out forage parties into the surrounding country. Disease was rife in both armies, and large numbers of the horses of both camps were carried off by an epidemic.

Both Chinese and Japanese were now anxious for peace. One of the Japanese generals having intimated a desire to come to terms, Ikei, notwithstanding his previous treachery, had the courage to venture once more into the Japanese camp, and to recommence the work of negotiation. Among the points discussed on this occasion are said to have been following: Peace between China and Japan;—recognition or investiture of Hideyoshi as King (王) of Japan;—cession of Korean territory to Japan;—tribute payable by Korea to Japan. There was also talk of a Chinese princess being given in marriage to the Kōtei, i.e., the Mikado, of Japan. We have little means of judging how far these proposals were seriously considered. The points mainly insisted on by Ikei were the surrender of the captive Korean princes and high officials, and the withdrawal of the Japanese to Fusan, which was to be accompanied by the simultaneous retirement of the Chinese army from Korea. But there were serious obstacles to the success of these negotiations. Kiyomasa was unwilling to give up his prisoners without express authority from Hideyoshi, and Rin, burning with a revenge for his country's wrongs which no hardship and no humiliation could quench, steadily urged Ri Joshō to make no terms with the brigands from Japan. Nor had either party the least confidence in the good faith of the other—a difficulty which Ikei was not exactly the man best fitted to remove. He was accordingly recalled, and other envoys were sent in his place, but they had little better success. The only tangible result of the negotiation was the stipulation by the Japanese to evacuate the capital on the 19th day of the 4th month, and this they would probably have soon been compelled to do in any case. The Chinese army entered the city on the following day. They had been gradually drawing nearer during the progress of the negotiations.

There was probably also some understanding in the nature of an armistice between the Chinese and Japanese, for we find that the latter, in spite of Rin's remonstrances, were allowed to retire peaceably to the neighbourhood of Fusan, where they entrenched themselves in fortified camps, and that they were accompanied by Ikei and his colleagues, who were on their way to Nagoya (now Karatsu), where Hideyoshi was then staying. The Chinese army followed the Japanese some weeks later, and took up

² The following incident, which occurred at one of these sieges, shows that bomb-shells were used in this war by the Koreans. "A man called Ri Chō-son invented a cannon called *Shin-ten-rai* or Heaven-shaking-thunder, which by his art he secretly brought to the foot of the castle. It was put in operation and shot into the castle, where it fell in the courtyard. The Japanese troops were ignorant of its construction, and rushed forward to see what curious missile had been shot at them by the enemy, when all of a sudden the gunpowder poison burst forth, with a noise which made heaven and earth tremble, and it broke up into splinters of iron, which caused instant death to any one whom they struck. More than thirty men were killed in this way, and even these who were not hit were flung to the ground."

their quarters at Kioshō (居昌) and other places in the same vicinity.

The Chinese ambassadors arrived at Nagoya on the 23rd day of the 5th month, and were received by Hideyoshi in the most friendly and magnificent manner. During their stay, which lasted till the beginning of the 7th month, the chief nobles of his court vied with each other in their attentions to the strangers. Every day saw some fresh entertainment in their honour. Hideyoshi set the example himself by inviting them to a banquet as soon as they arrived, when the ceremony of exchanging wine-cups—the neglect of which was complained of by the Korean envoys—was not forgotten. Presents of silk-stuffs, robes, money and swords were lavished on them. They were greatly delighted with the scenery of the neighbourhood (to the beauty of which the present writer can bear personal witness)—with its winding inlets and wooded bluffs rising steeply from the water's edge, and they composed verses in its praise which have been preserved to us in the Japanese histories. To add to their enjoyment, Hideyoshi entertained them with a *fête*, of which the principal feature was a procession of boats, a minute description of which has been handed down to us. "Several hundred barges, with the ensigns and pennons of the various *damios* waving to the breeze, rowed past in order over the surface of the sea. The chief boatmen and their mates chanted a song as they plied their oars, and the loud voices of the crews, numbering many hundreds, echoing far over the sea, arose to the clouds and mingled harmoniously with the sound of the breaking billows. Hideyoshi shared the same barge with the ambassadors. It was adorned with the utmost elegance and splendour. Two hundred lances with tiger-tail sheaths and tens of halberds inlaid with gold were set up on the bows. Three hundred foot-soldiers, all clad alike in scarlet jackets, formed a guard of honour. *Sake* was served, and the pleasure of the day was enhanced by the presence of singers of the two famous schools of Kwanze and Komparu."

It has been stated that a Treaty of peace was concluded on this occasion, but an apparently authentic account of the interview at which Hideyoshi discussed political matters with the Chinese envoys, shows that no definite terms of peace were made. Both parties exchanged the most friendly assurances, and agreed to throw the blame of all that had happened on the Koreans, who, as usual, were kept in the dark about everything which passed. This embassy had, however, one important result. Hideyoshi, as an earnest of his willingness to make peace with China, consented to release the Korean princes and grandees who had been made captive by Kiyomasa, and Ikei returned to Korea in advance of his colleagues, bearing instructions that they should be given up. That nothing more was intended by this friendly measure is shown by the fact that almost simultaneously the Japanese army, by Hideyoshi's orders, advanced against Chinchiu (晉州), a castle about fifty miles west of Fusan, which they had already made an unsuccessful attempt to take. The Koreans assembled a large force at a town east of Chinchiu and endeavoured to check the advance of the Japanese, but, to use the words of one of their generals, they were more like a flock of birds than an army, and offered but a feeble resistance. They were defeated with great slaughter, and the Japanese immediately afterwards invested the castle. At this siege Kiyomasa is said to have used a testudo made of ox hides stretched on a framework, which was pushed forward on wheels to the base of the castle wall. Under its protection, the corner stones were removed by crow-bars, and the wall fell, leaving a breach by which the Japanese effected an entrance. The Korean losses here and at the battle which had just been fought amounted, according to Riu, to 60,000 men, the greatest which they had suffered since the war began. This was the last fighting of what has been called the first invasion. The Japanese levelled the castle with the ground, and then returned to their former quarters in Fusan and its neighbourhood, where they awaited the result of the negotiations with China.

TOKIO CRICKET CLUB.

The annual General Meeting of the Tokio Cricket Club was held at the Seiyoken Hotel, on Thursday, the 27th January. Present: J. G. Kennedy, Esq. (in the chair), Messrs. Holtham, Kenny, Playfair, Ramsay, Strange, Trevithick and Ward. The Minutes of the last meeting were taken as read, and the Honorary Secretary and Treasurer then presented the Report of the Committee.

To the Members of the Tokio Cricket Club:

Your Committee have the pleasure to report that during their term of office, now concluded, the Club has been able to survive a series of difficulties and to maintain its number of members notwithstanding many resignations. At the last Annual Meeting, held in October, 1879, it was resolved that in view of the apparent impossibility of forming competing crews, boating should cease to be the chief pursuit coming within the scope of the Tokio Recreation Club, as it was then called, and that greater prominence should be given to cricket. The Committee were therefore authorised to sell the racing boats, the pleasure boats only being retained for the use of members. Two of the three pleasure boats were however stolen by a servant of the Club who had received notice of dismissal, and the boat-house itself, containing some property of individual members, was destroyed by fire in December 1879, only a dinghy being saved. The Japanese police have not, so far, been successful in recovering the stolen boats, or in apprehending the thief. A further loss was sustained in February 1880, when the cricketing gear purchased from Messrs. Lane, Crawford and Co. was burnt; and the Club commenced the active year with only the small boat above mentioned (of which no use has since been made,) a small patch of turf laid down the previous summer for cricketing practice, and the cash resulting from the sale of the racing boats and subscriptions to date, as possessions.

At a General Meeting held on the 5th April, the Committee were however empowered to purchase further cricketing gear, and to lay down additional turf on the practice ground in order to devote the energies of the Club to cricket solely: and at a subsequent Meeting, held on the 23rd of June, new Rules drafted by a Committee specially appointed for that purpose at the previous meeting were submitted and approved with such alterations as appeared necessary; and the Club thenceforward became the Tokio Cricket Club.

The change in the objects of the Club, with other causes, led to the resignation of several members, fortunately succeeded by new recruits, and after the summer holidays cricketing practice was commenced and actively kept up. A first trial of strength with the Yokohama Cricket Club took place on the 23rd October, resulting in a hollow defeat for the Tokio Club, which however was redeemed by the decisive success of the Tokio team, with only ten batsmen, in the return match against a somewhat weaker eleven of the Yokohama players, on the 3rd November. Both these matches were played at Yokohama, by the courtesy of the Yokohama Cricket Club, to whom thanks are due for their assistance in supplying the Tokio Club with some spare gear, without which little could have been done during the past season. A final game was arranged for the 14th November, on the practice ground at Shinbashi, but the expected adversaries, a team from H. M. S. *Comus*, not being able to appear, a scratch match, with the assistance of some visitors, was made up. The Committee have to acknowledge the kindness of the Imperial Naval Department in lending tents for this occasion.

The accounts of the Honorary Treasurer show a balance in hand sufficient to provide a handsome surplus after payment for the new gear already ordered from England, through the Yokohama Cricket Club. This is owing chiefly to the accession of new members, paying entrance fees; and the Committee trust that their successors will meet with a general support equal to that accorded to themselves during the past season.

The chief disadvantages from which the Club suffers are, first, a scarcity of playing members, which it is hoped may be remedied; and second, the want of a better ground, that at Shinbashi being only adapted for practice, and moreover only held from year to year by courtesy of the Railway Authorities, so that it may not be worth while to expend a large sum upon improving it. Even under these condi-

tions, the events of last season show that it is possible for members to obtain good practice at the game, to meet friendly adversaries with a fair share of success, and to find on all hands the good-will that is happily associated with the game of cricket, here as elsewhere.

L. P. WILLAN,
F. H. TREVITHICK,
EDMUND GREGORY HOLTHAM.

The Honorary Secretary and Treasurer also presented the Balance Sheet as subjoined.

RECEIPTS.

By Balance from J. Morris, Esq.....	Yen 0.70
" Sale of Racing Boats	" 85.00
" Subscriptions for 1879	" 42.00
" Entrance Fees and Subscriptions for 1880...	" 338.00

Total of ReceiptsYen 465.70

Note.—All Subscriptions paid to Dec. 31st, 1880.

EXPENDITURE.

To Rent of Bouthouse, November, 1879	Yen 7.50
" Wages of Attendant	" 6.00
" Expenses of Cricket Ground, 1879	" 2.40
" Lane, Crawford & Co., for Cricketing gear..	" 46.29
" Laying down turf on practice ground.....	" 115.50
" Cost of Practice Net.....	" 8.50
" Expenses of Cricket Ground, 1880.....	" 39.96½
" Stationery Postages, &c., 1880.....	" 7.88½
" Yokohama Cricket Club, for Cricketing gear ..	" 37.13
" Postages, 1881.....	" 0.10

Total Expenditure.....Yen 271.27

Balance in hand..... " 194.43

Yen 465.70

Note.—Liability on account of Cricketing gear for 1881, ordered through the Yokohama Cricket Club (approx.) Yen 100.

EDMUND GREGORY HOLTHAM,

Hon. Sec. and Treasurer.

It was proposed by Mr. Strange, and seconded by Mr. Playfair "That the Report and Accounts be adopted," which was carried.

The Meeting then proceeded to elect officers for the ensuing year, and the ballot resulted as follows:—

Captain.....F. H. TREVITHICK.

Hon. Sec. & Treas.F. W. PLAYFAIR.

Member of CommitteeF. W. STRANGE.

The Meeting was terminated by a vote of thanks to the Chairman.

YOKOHAMA GENERAL CHAMBER OF COMMERCE

The adjourned annual meeting of the Yokohama Chamber of Commerce was held yesterday, in the rooms of the Association, at 2.30 p.m. Present:—Messrs. D'Ifanger (chairman) Macpherson, Stiebel, Taylor, Wolff, Brent, Dunlop, Watson, Grosset, Rickett, Dodds, Merian, Wilkin, Reed, and Mollison.

Mr. D'Ifanger read the notice calling the meeting.

It was then proposed by Mr. Mollison and seconded by Mr. Macpherson, "That the minutes of the last meeting be taken as read, and confirmed." Carried unanimously.

Mr. Dunlop then proposed that the Report of the Chamber should be taken as read, with the exception of the headings of items.

Mr. Dodds seconded the motion.

The Chairman complied with the request, inviting comments on each item as he read it out.

REPORT OF THE YOKOHAMA GENERAL CHAMBER OF COMMERCE, FOR THE YEAR 1880.

The long pending question of the REVISION OF THE TARIFF has again been the most important subject which has occupied the attention of the Chamber during the past year.

A Tariff purporting to be proposed by the Japanese Government, which was printed in the *Japan Herald* on 5th February, 1880, received the attention of the Committee, but in the absence of any official communication as to its authenticity, it was decided not to

offer an opinion upon it, until—without in any way vouching for its correctness—H. B. M.'s *Chargé d'Affaires*, on 19th June, invited from the Chamber comments on the proposals as they appeared in the journal above named.

In response to this, a special committee was appointed to report on the matter, and at the same time expressions of opinion were invited both from members, and subscribers to the Chamber's Market Report, who were furnished with copies of the tariff and the correspondence relating to it; with the result that but one reply was received.

After much consideration, a reply, as printed and circulated amongst members at the time, was addressed to H. B. M.'s *Chargé d'Affaires* on 23th September, 1880, accompanied by a request that it should be communicated to the Ministers of the other Treaty Powers, which was complied with.

Nothing further has transpired in the matter, nor—without some definite tariff on which to offer criticisms—do the Chamber see anything to add to this, and the exhaustive report of 2nd July, 1879.

P. & O. POSTAL CONTRACT.—The reply received from H. B. M.'s *Chargé d'Affaires* on 10th June, was printed at the time in the newspapers; being to the effect that when renewing the P. & O. Postal Contract it had been decided by the Government to discontinue the subsidy for the Japan line, and that though it might be probable that under the present arrangements the mail service by Eastern route would be less regular and frequent than before, the Postmaster-General declined to recommend the Treasury to incur the expense of reestablishing the branch service between Hongkong and Japan.

It is satisfactory in face of this to be able to add, that so far the mails have, as a rule, been delivered expeditiously by the steamers of the Mitsui Bishi, Pacific Mail, and Occidental and Oriental Steamship Companies.

NEW TELEGRAPH REGULATIONS.—The reply of the Eastern Extension Company to the memorial addressed to them on 13th January, alluded to at the last General Meeting, was received on 26th April, and printed in the newspapers.

On the 24th July, the Chamber again addressed the Directors of Imperial Government Telegraphs on the subject of the delay and inconvenience attaching to the recovery of sums paid for the repetition of mutilated messages, and at the same time protested against the charge of \$10 for registering cypher addresses.

The reply of Mr. ISHII, although it shows that the grievance complained of does not emanate from the administration in Japan, and cannot be remedied locally, can yet hardly be deemed satisfactory to those concerned, and it is to be hoped that the efforts spoken of by the Director-General, either to shorten the delay in recovering the refund, or to make it payable here at once, may be successful.

The custom, as it at present exists, is certainly very unjust to the receivers of mutilated messages, whose transactions are thereby alone sufficiently interfered with, without need of further vexation.

DEPRECIATION OF THE NATIVE CURRENCY.—On 30th October a letter was received from H. B. M.'s *Chargé d'Affaires*, enclosing copy of a memorial from the Hiogo and Osaka Chamber of Commerce, relative to the injurious effects to trade from the fluctuations in Native Paper, and requesting any further statements on the matter which this Chamber might be able to make. This was replied to, and a copy circulated among members. A subsequent letter was received from Mr. KENNEDY on 3rd December, detailing the result of his interview with Mr. OKUMA.

The policy enunciated by the Finance Minister, of endeavoring by economy in all branches of administration so to add to the specie reserve as in time to bring the paper currency to a par with silver, is much to be commended, and it is to be hoped it will be adhered to; but against the assertion that the depreciation in paper at present existing is due entirely to the balance of trade being against Japan, the Chamber again records its protest.

In connection with this subject the Secretary read the following letter, being the reply of H. B. M.'s *Chargé d'Affaires* to the Chamber's letter of the 26th November.

British Legation, Yedo,
December 3rd, 1880.

Sir,

With reference to your letter of the 26th ultimo I have the honor to state that I yesterday called by appointment on the Minister of Finance and discussed at length with His Excellency the actual financial and commercial position of Japan, more especially dwelling on the disastrous result to trade of the violent fluctuations in the value of the paper currency.

Mr. Okuma, while deploring the present stagnation in foreign trade, assured me that he had used his utmost efforts to provide a remedy. His Excellency asserted that during the past two years the Japanese Government had destroyed paper money to the amount of twelve millions and had placed an equal sum in specie on the market, that as these operations involved an exhausting drain on the Government silver resources without any corresponding advantage to trade, the government have adopted another system and propose by strict economies in every department, by sale of Government Industries, by the recovering of sums lent to private enterprise, and by steadily adding to the specie reserve to bring the paper money to a par with silver.

On this point His Excellency stated that the Specie Reserve which three years ago amounted to over thirty millions had now diminished to about twelve millions in specie with about thirty millions in paper and a further seven millions which had been advanced in various quarters; that within ten years His Excellency hoped to raise the specie reserve to about fifty millions, and to keep the currency in circulation to a hundred millions, which amount was required for the wants of the country.

With regard to the arguments alluded to by your Chamber respecting the Balance of Trade, His Excellency expressed the opin-

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difficulty to signallers. In place of them, however, they now allowed barbarously awkward words, no doubt belonging to languages, but far more incomprehensible than any proper name could be. As to refunds, the present system was simply a premium on mistakes, and, it must be the experience of every one that, somehow, mistakes and mutilations were far more frequent than they used to be, now that repetitions prove lucrative to the Telegraph Company.

On the subject of the import of chemicals, Mr. Macpherson said that all chemicals had to be sent for examination to the Government inspection building, which was situated in the Japanese quarter. The greater part, it was true, were sent by buyers, which did not affect foreign merchants; but if the importer had to send them, he had no guarantee against the risk of fire; he considered some action should be taken to rectify this.

Mr. Macpherson next proposed "that the accounts and report should be adopted, printed and circulated as usual."

Mr. Mollison seconded the motion, which was carried unanimously.

The next business was the election of a Chairman and Vice-Chairman to serve for the ensuing year.

The Chairman said he was sorry that he would be unable again to act either as Chairman or Vice-Chairman. A ballot resulted in the election of Mr. Heimann as chairman, while Messrs. Dunlop and Wilkin tied for vice-chairman. Each of these gentlemen however, expressed his inability to serve. The next three names were called, viz: Messrs. Mollison, Taylor and Macpherson, but each expressed his inability, owing to want of time.

After some little conversation, however, Mr. Mollison agreed to accept the post.

The following gentlemen were elected to serve on the Committee. Messrs. D'Ifanger, Stiebel, Taylor, Wilkin, Wolff, Reed, and Gay.

Mr. Macpherson said it was evident that currency was not depreciated by the excess of imports, but owing to utter want of reliance felt in it. He proposed that the Minister should request Mr. Okuma to give his attention to the recently published statistics, in which it was shown that exports at present exceeded imports. Now lately imports had been very small and exports large, but nevertheless *satsu* did not improve but on the contrary fell, which was a contradiction to the views of Mr. Okuma.

Mr. Wilkin said the Committee had again and again brought the subject to the notice of the Ministers and had pointed out that their views are diametrically opposed to those of Mr. Okuma. Last year the depreciation put thirty per cent. on the value of all imported articles. Now it was seventy per cent. and everything was tending to produce distress. It was well known that all staples such as rice, &c. were dearer, and that the depreciation of *satsu* affected all the classes. An immense amount of gambling was done now in *satsu*: every dealer participated which showed what a bad state trade was in. He thought that there were many measures which the Japanese Government might take to help their people. He referred to the losses sustained by fire, and the want of better roads. Attention to this would do more to help the country than these fictitious attempts to prove that the balance of trade affected the currency, and quite surpassed the question of a 5 or 10 per cent tariff.

Mr. Dunlop said that roads and tramways were being constructed; it would be better to congratulate the Government on what they had done already.

Mr. Watson said that as to the statement that no satisfactory results had occurred from the excess of exports over imports, this had only happened in the last two months, and it must be remembered that natives as a rule buy under contracts for delivery, for which they have to provide. He had no doubt that if trade continues on its present basis a marked improvement would soon be visible. Mr. Okuma appeared to recognise that the evil affected foreigners and Japanese equally, which was a hopeful sign that remedial measures would soon be taken; in fact he had reason to believe they were under weigh already.

The Chairman said that while on the subject he would again

draw attention to the statement of Mr. Okuma that the depreciation of paper currency was due entirely to the balance of trade having been lately so much against Japan. It was evident from the speeches of the Ministry that they were endeavouring to foster this belief among their countrymen and that acting on it themselves would try all in their power to interfere with the Import Trade. Although it could not be denied that the excess in Imports over Exports had to some extent affected the currency, the real cause of its depreciation lay in the reckless manner in which it had been issued without any regard to a specie reserve and to the consequent want of confidence felt in it. He took the opportunity of emphatically protesting against the situation being entirely ascribed to foreign trade (Hear, Hear).

Mr. Watson was sorry to differ, but he considered that the balance of trade had something to do with the depreciation. It was his belief that the paper currency was not too much, but that it was even scarcer than the precious metals. The drain of the latter conclusively showed that the balance of trade was against the country. We know that this depletion is due to foreign trade, though the articles imported benefited the country. As to the depreciations of the currency, Government had in this a serious source of discomfort, prejudicial both to home and foreign trade. But on the other hand, what advantages had the Government obtained? Before the issue of the paper currency the country was hopelessly insolvent. But now the whole debt was centralized and extinguished in a manner which must eventually prove beneficial. Pensions which had been granted ages ago continued from father to son, and might have done so until doomsday, but they were commuted, in some instances for a tithe of their amount, and in a way that could never have been done in any other country. For that issue of paper currency Government had already a good equivalent to show, and it was now in its power to foster trade.

Mr. Wilkin remarked that the action of Government in commuting pensions in the manner described seemed to him to be more a smart stroke of business than a clever financial operation; any one with similar powers could have done it. If Mr. Okuma's programme were carried out, it might possibly succeed, but it would appear that while talking of economies Government was actually assisting the various newly-started Trading Companies. If the country were bankrupt before the issue of the paper currency, as asserted by Mr. Watson, it was certainly just as bankrupt now.

Mr. Watson explained that in his opinion Mr. Macpherson's proposal was premature. It would be far better to wait and see, as he had suggested before, whether the improvement in exports was to be permanent: to see how contracts were made for the future.

Mr. Macpherson said that it must be well-known to all the importers in the Chamber that just now it was impossible to get the native dealers to make contracts. In fact, many goods previously contracted for were lying unclaimed in godowns. One day traders say that they cannot take delivery as *kinatsun* have fallen, and the next they ask one to wait as *kinatsun* have risen and are still going up. If Government were to give a distinct pledge to redeem *satsu*, even at a discount, it would obviate the difficulty now experienced.

Mr. Watson replied that quite recently the Government did this, practically, by issuing specie bonds bearing interest, and redeemable in a fixed time. Yet, although a high rate of interest was offered, few applications for these bonds were made, which bore out his previous statement that the paper currency was far from being too large for the requirements of the country. Paper money commands a high rate of interest now, while many native bankers will not advance on gold or silver.

Mr. Macpherson said that that was very likely, because at the time of advancing, *satsu* might be 170, while when the time of redeeming came they might have fallen to 200.

The motion was put to the vote and carried.

Mr. Macpherson then proposed that the price of the circulars should be reduced for members only. From a rough calculation based on the accounts, he believed this could be done. The price to be charged could be fixed afterwards.

The motion was seconded by Mr. Stibel, and carried unanimously.

Mr. Wilkin asked if it were in the province of the Chamber to take steps against the combinations of native traders. If one-half or one-third of the leading foreign firms would do the same, he would promise to refuse to sell to anyone connected with these combinations.

Mr. Macpherson said that his own experience taught him that such combinations are never successful amongst Europeans; it was also following the bad example set by natives. Moreover, it would be impossible to tell if a man were buying for himself or the combination: if for the latter, he could easily do it through a broker. It would be far more important, if possible, to obtain news as to whether the Government is really supporting the Trading Companies.

In reply to a question from Mr. Dunlop, the Chairman said that nothing further had been heard from the Hongkong Chamber of Commerce as to the question of legalising the Japanese yen in Japan.

Mr. Dodds said that there was a feeling that the Chamber of Commerce telegram was wanted again. It was abolished last year, but several members thought it might be renewed and he considered the feeling of the Chamber should be ascertained. He would put his suggestion in the form of a motion.

Mr. Macpherson said that this was the first year for a long period that the funds had been in a prosperous state, and this was due to the discontinuance of the telegram.

Mr. Watson seconded Mr. Dodds' motion. The telegrams came from an independent source at home, and could thus be well relied upon. They were worth the money for the news they brought, and were most useful in checking private advices.

Mr. Reed proposed an amendment to the effect that if any members wished for a telegram they should subscribe for it themselves.

Mr. Mollison seconded this amendment, which was carried.

The proceedings then terminated with a vote of thanks to the Chairman and officers.

YOKOHAMA AMATEUR ROWING CLUB.

The Yokohama Amateur Rowing Club held its adjourned Annual meeting, at the Grand Hotel, on Wednesday last night. There was a good attendance of members including Messrs. Litchfield, (Captain) Wood (Hon. Sec.), Hepburn, Playfair, F. A. Cope, Bennett, Gordon, Lewis, Symes, Sutter, Maxwell Bernard, Rev. E. C. Irwin, Boag, Walter, Dore, Glennie, Rickett, Bernard, Mitchell, Hazelwood, Lovell, Hodges, Dodds, Till, Thomson and others.

Mr. Litchfield on being voted to the chair, read the minutes of the last meeting, and then the following

REPORT FOR 1880.

In laying before the Annual General Meeting the Report and Accounts for the past year 1880, your Committee have the pleasure of congratulating members upon the fact that the club has obtained a permanent local habitation.

At an extraordinary meeting held on the 10th September, the members were informed that the club had obtained the promise of a site on the French hatoba, and your Committee are now happy to state that the lease thereof was signed on the 16th December. The lease is the usual yearly one, but contains an undertaking from the Kencho, that if the club is called upon to vacate the premises within a period of 5 years, the Kencho will reimburse to the club the yen 1,560 expended on the Bund stonework.

At the same meeting your Committee were empowered to raise by debentures the sum of \$2,500 for the purpose of building the new Club House, and they have been able to raise that amount without difficulty at 8 per cent. interest.

With the assistance of Messrs. Anderson, Dodds, and W. B. Walter, your Committee, after carefully considering several plans and estimates submitted to them, decided to accept a contract for building a bund wall from a Japanese, Watanabe Kikujiro, at yen 1,560, and another from Maruyama Hankichi, to build the Club House for \$1,750. The former is now completed, and work on the latter has been commenced, and will probably be completed by the end of February. The cost of the new Club House includes the material of the old godown.

To enable members to enjoy rowing during the Autumn months, and to have some club races, the old godown on the Hatoba was altered to meet the requirements of the club at an expense of \$105.

The races in the Autumn were fairly successful and afforded some amusement, but the committee trust that, on future occasions, the younger members of the club will take a more prominent part.

During the building of the Club House the boats and property of the club are stored in a godown kindly lent by Messrs. Mollison, Fraser & Co.

In accordance with a resolution passed at the extraordinary meeting in September, the question of bathing accommodation has been left to be decided at this, the Annual General Meeting, and it is to be hoped that members generally will be prepared to offer suggestions which may assist the new committee.

The present boats of the club are 5 four oars, 2 pair oars, 1 six-oared gig and 4 sculling boats, &c. These have all been put in thorough repair during the past year, and are now in an efficient state. A new four-oar has been ordered from Hongkong, similar to the last one, and a fresh supply of oars and sculls from London.

Your Committee have to note, with pleasure, how well the members, both active and honorary, have supported the club during the past year, in spite of the inconveniences they have been put to.

On the 1st January of 1881 there were 63 active and 38 honorary members, exclusive of absentees.

It will be noticed that the working expenses of the year are heavy in comparison with former ones, owing to the frequent changes of location, but the condition of the finances of the club may be considered satisfactory.

The Committee wish again to express publicly their thanks to the Ken Rei and the Board of Consuls for the kind assistance they afforded the club in obtaining the present site.

The term of office of your Committee having expired, they now place their resignation in your hands.

YOKOHAMA AMATEUR ROWING CLUB.

SUMMARY OF ACCOUNTS FOR THE YEAR 1880.

Cr.	
By subscriptions from members—	
Active: 1st half year ... 65 at \$ 6.....	\$ 330.00
2nd do. ... 59 at 6.....	354.00
Tokio 2 at 10.....	20.00
Entrance fees... 7 at 10.....	70.00
Honorary..... 39 at 10.....	390.00
„ sale of jerseys, ribbon, &c.....	40.00
„ material of old boathouse.....	300.00
„ interest from H. & S. Bank.....	7.44
„ 50 debentures at \$50 each.....	2,500.00
	4,011.44
Dr.	
To debit balance at 12th January, 1880.....	\$299.33
„ insurance on property.....	33.60
„ cost of shed at Benten Hatoba.....	45.00
„ cost of supply of jerseys.....	117.33
„ repairs to boats.....	154.39
„ sendo's wages.....	158.39
„ prizes.....	29.93
„ hire of bathing barge.....	75.00
„ hire of sampans, hire of coolies, candles, oil, matches, and sundry petties.....	112.82
„ repairs to stages, bathing boat, &c.....	34.25
„ advertising and stationery.....	24.64
„ collecting subscriptions.....	15.00
„ purchase of godown on French Hatoba.....	140.00
„ ground rent from 15th Dec., 1880, to 1st Jan., 1882.....	48.08
„ repairs godown.....	105.00
„ translating fees.....	20.00
„ payment for bund wall.....	936.90
„ „ account new club house.....	500.00
„ placed on fixed deposit.....	1,800.00
Balance.....	180.38
	4,011.44

E. & O. E.

G. C. WOOD,
Hon. Sec. and Treasurer.

Yokohama, 2nd February, 1881.

DEPENDENCIES.

At Debit Balance due for new club house.....	\$1,250.00
At Credit—Cash balance as above.....	\$ 180.38
„ Amount on fixed deposit.....	1,000.00
	1,180.38

The Chairman said that in the erection of the new boathouse the Committee had done their utmost to make the plans coincide with the best interests of the community and those of holders of bund lots. Mr. Heimann had stipulated that the new building should not exceed the old in length or height, and a plan had been prepared accordingly. He (Mr. Litchfield) could assure the meeting that every attempt had been made to render the building suitable, and he was sorry to hear that some dissatisfaction had been expressed on the subject, though nothing had reached him officially.

The Hon. Secretary read the correspondence with Mr. Heilmann, agreeing that the new building was to be coterminous in length and height with the old one, after which,

Mr. Bennett proposed and Mr. Gordon seconded, that the accounts should be passed, and the motion was carried *sem-con*.

The Chairman, in accordance with his notification at the last meeting suggested to add to Rule 11, the words "with power to add to their number." Mr. Rickett seconded the motion which was carried unanimously.

Some amendments to Rule 18, proposed by Mr. Hamilton on the subject of the admission of Visitors were, in his absence, read, but the first being couched in somewhat ambiguous terms was put aside. The second proposal was that if the Kobe Recreation and Athletic Club were willing to reciprocate any member of that and the Yokohama Clubs whose business kept him now in Kobe, now in Yokohama, might pay half subscription to each Club.

This was proposed by Mr. Hamilton and seconded by Mr. Walter and was carried by 16 to 3.

Mr. Wood proposed that Visitors to Yokohama, after being proposed and seconded in the usual manner, should be allowed the use of the Club house boats and property for one month, but not be allowed to compete in races.

Mr. Rickett seconded the motion, which was carried *sem con*.

The next step was to elect officers for the ensuing season which resulted in the following being chosen.

Captain	Mr. Litchfield.
Hon. Secretary.....	Wood.
Committee	Haslwood.
"	Rickett.
"	Baehr.

The Chairman said that the question of bathing still remained, and it was one which presented some difficulties. However, there was no immediate hurry and doubtless some good scheme could be hit on before the bathing season began. Any suggestion would be most gladly received by the Committee. He thought himself the most feasible plan would be to lash two lighters together and build, on the platform thus obtained, a house of adequate stability. Mr. Rickett had taken soundings which showed that sixty yards from the end of the hatoba, clear water with a good depth and no seaweed could be obtained. The old boat used to be over 200 yards from the shore.

Mr. Walter proposed that the Committee should draw up plans and estimates and submit them to a future meeting.

Mr. Mitchell seconded the motion which was carried *sem con*.

On a vote of thanks being accorded to the retiring Committee Mr. Litchfield said he must express his gratitude at the honor the members had done him by re-electing him. Now they had their boat-house he trusted that the season would be very successful, but he would remind them that they would have to work hard to ensure this.

The proceedings then terminated.

ORIOLES.

(From the Japanese.)

Over the rippling river
That wimples down the dell,
Blossomy branches mingle,
Weaving their arches well,
Weaving and interweaving,
And mirrored in its flow;
While Orioles are singing,
And Orioles are winging
Their way thro' blossom-snow,—
Ay; in the rippling river
Where shadow-branches quiver,
And phantom-flowers grow,
They're fitting, fitting, fitting,
And liting to and fro!

F. B. H.

Tokio, 4th February 1881.

SHANGHAI LETTER.

SHANGHAI, January 25th, 1881.

We are close upon China New Year now, and the natives are closing up all possible outstanding accounts, with a view to the usual annual balancing of books. Business generally has been better during the winter than was expected, owing to more favourable news about the Russo-Chinese difficulty giving buyers of imports more confidence, and there seems every likelihood of the critical new year time passing over without any great commercial crash. However, the largest native dealer in green Teas, who has been established in business here for a great number of years, had to close his doors. The excitement among the native Teamen was very considerable.

It appears that the foreign woollen trade in China is threatened with the first approach of extinction, as Tso Tung Tang's Woollen Manufactory, of Tan-chow Foo in Kan-sah, is at length in working order, and turns out already a coarse sort of cloth, with which it is intended to clothe the Northern soldiers. As yet there is nothing much to dread from the production of this factory, but the out-turn of material will no doubt increase in both quantity and quality as experience is gained and further machinery brought into work, until it has some effect upon the purchase of foreign cloth. The great safety for foreign traders is that official jobbery will interfere with the proper and economical working of the factory, but still it is not impossible that if the Tan-chow Foo factory proves a success, we shall see others established in favourable parts of the country. In Kan-sah wool can be procured for next to nothing, and so long as the local demand is maintained, the financial result should be good. Referring to an industry like this reminds me that Japanese matches may be obtained now anywhere in this province. I myself bought some in a wretched little village nearly 200 miles from Shanghai the other day, at a price that must bring them well within the means of the ordinary natives; and as the Chinese do not possess the wood wherewith to make matches, the Japanese manufacturers ought to continue to make a good thing out of this trade.

We have had another shocking shipping disaster here. It is only too true that

"When sorrows come,

They come not single spies, but in battalions,"

for we no sooner got over the burning of the *Bombay*, which followed a long list of shipping casualties, than we are horrified by the sad accident that has happened to the British barque *Chinaman*. She seems to have been for long an unfortunate vessel. When she came here in December 1879 she got on shore in the Whang-poo when on her way to Whampoa with a cargo of grain, and just as she was being towed off from the bank a China Merchants Co's steamer ran into her and damaged her so that she had to discharge her cargo and go into dock. When her repairs were finished she was leaving the dock when she was again run into by another vessel and sustained further damage. She eventually sailed for London, and on the 2nd August left again for Shanghai, and after an exceptionally tedious and boisterous passage, anchored close to the Amherst Rocks, at the mouth of the river, almost at her destination, on Friday last, the 21st instant. While at anchor she was run into by the steamer *Craiglands*, bound from this port to Nagasaki, being cut clean to the keelson. The *Chinaman* began to sink at once, and two of the crew just managed to scramble on board the *Craiglands*, when the *Chinaman* went down in about 6 fathoms of water. The majority of her crew took to the rigging, but Captain Mackenzie, his wife and three of the crew were unable to leave the deck, and were drowned. Such was the state of the weather and the force of the tide that it was impossible for a boat to reach the wreck. The boatswain and the apprentice of the barque who contrived to get on board the steamer, courageously volunteered to go off in a boat to the rescue of the captain and his wife, and in this attempt they were joined by the chief and third engineers and the second mate of the *Craiglands*, and took the life-boat for the purpose. But the boat never reached the wreck, and it was thought that she must have been capsizeed and all in her lost.

In the meantime the wretched crew in the rigging were suffering agonies from the cold, and it was actually five hours before the wreck was reached by a boat. The carpenter of the *Chiaman*, an elderly man who was suffering from three broken ribs at the time, succumbed while in this dreadful situation, and when the survivors eventually were taken off the ship, his body was left in the rigging. The *Craiglands* stayed by the wreck all Friday night and during Saturday morning, and then returned to Shanghai, without having seen anything of the missing boat. The Custom's revenue cruiser was at once sent in search of the life boat, but returned unsuccessful, and the crew of brave men were generally given up as lost. However, we this morning heard the welcome news that they had been picked up by a Chinese junk and were safe with the exception of one, as the unfortunate chief engineer, Mr. Bristow, had died from exposure.

Shooting trips are the order of the day at present, and very enjoyable they are, as the weather has been remarkably fine for several months past. Game is scarce, and the best shot find it extremely difficult to make a bag that would have been despised a few years ago.

We have now got Signor Cagli's Italian Opera Company with us again, and have three or four performances every week. This is rather too much for the community, as Signor Cagli finds to his cost, for at the representation of *Lucrezia Borgia* last Saturday, there were only about fifty people in the theatre altogether. The Company is much stronger than it was last year, and we have now two prima donna and two tenors. Among them we have our old favourites, Signor Genolini, and Signori Berjameschi and Baggiolo. I suppose the Company will be here for another three weeks, and they will be succeeded by the Loftus Dramatic Company, so that the theatre will be occupied till the middle of March, and our A.D.C. have a long holiday. If our Amateurs could only give us another piece equal to the performance of "She Stoops to Conquer" in December last, we should most heartily welcome their re-appearance.

REUTER'S TELEGRAMS.

LONDON, 3rd February, 1881.

The debate on the necessity of coercion in Ireland continues and a prolonged sitting is likely.

On the Greek frontier question affairs are more pacific.

LONDON, 22nd January.—A Chilean army has occupied Lima and Callao after two great and decisive battles, in which 7,000 Peruvians were killed.—*N. C. Daily News*.

MISCELLANEOUS NEWS.

We learn that the O. & O. steamer *Gaelic* left San Francisco for Yokohama on the 22nd January, and may be expected here about the 15th instant. The same company's steamer *Oceanic*, which left this port on the 8th of January, reached San Francisco on the 23rd idem, a very quick passage indeed.

The O. & O. S. S. *Belgic*, left Hongkong for Yokohama on Tuesday, the 1st instant.

The M. M. str. *Menzaleh*, with the European Mails to the 26th December on board, left Hongkong for this port at six o'clock on Wednesday evening.

A small coasting steamer, the *Yezo Maru*, with a number of passengers and a cargo of rice from Shimidzu, arrived on Tuesday afternoon last at about half-past one, and anchored opposite the lighthouse, Benten. Half-an-hour afterwards, when the hatches were opened, it was discovered that the vessel was on fire in the neighbourhood of the engine room, and had evidently been burning slowly for some time. The admission of air into the interior rapidly fanned the flames and it became apparent that the only way to save the hull was to beach the vessel and let water into the hold, which was done as quickly as possible. Assistance was sent from neighbouring ships and cargo boats from the shore. A few loads of rice were taken out, but the majority is damaged by the water which had been let in to within eight feet of the vessel's dock. In the course of half-an-hour the flames were got under, but not before the

interior of the steamer was badly burnt. The fire is believed to have originated in the coal bunkers.

The terrible subject of fires would, but for its seriousness, be worn threadbare ere now this winter. However accustomed to it we may be there is something appalling in a conflagration, something which impresses us with a certain feeling of helplessness, which no amount of experience can ever entirely dissipate. On Saturday and Sunday last Tokio was visited by yet another fire, and yesterday on Monday we were startled by the news of fire on the Bluff.

Investigations proved it to be at No. 63, a house, we understand, of recent construction. The fire originated in the mom-ban's quarters and though this was burnt all danger was considered over, when a spark driven by the wind alighted on the roof of the house, which at once ignited. Had there been any supply of water one or two buckets might have obviated the catastrophe. But water could not be obtained and the house was destroyed, luckily without the flames communicating to any other building.

It is not often a Chinaman gives himself a holiday. As a rule he seems to enjoy a steady plodding existence, grudging no labour for the most insignificant returns, and making money where a white man would starve. "Business first and pleasure afterwards" must surely have been originally uttered by a Chinaman. But when he does take his holiday he lays himself out to enjoy it thoroughly.

Chinese New Year began after midnight of Saturday last. It was then too late to do much, and we saw no illuminations and heard only a few crackers. All yesterday, however, one met Chinese all bound on visits to their friends houses, each one with a packet of his "cards," an oblong slip of thin red paper with his name written on it. Now is the time when all the "store clothes" are produced, some from wardrobes and boxes, many from the guardianship of "my uncle," for it is by no means unusual for a Chinaman to pawn all his best clothes from one New Year's day to the next. Be that as it may, all the Chinese we meet are gorgeous in bright silk or satin, in substantial looking cloth robes lined with lamb's wool; and in short jackets of fur or sable, a costume that has always appeared to us particularly handsome. In what we call Chinese town, there is not much appearance of gaiety. Houses are hung with lanterns, but the general style cannot be compared with the imposing show on the occasion of the Emperor of China's birthday; but then, a large part of China town is represented now by a heap of charred timbers and ashes, so that we must not expect too much. It is still the custom in the rural districts for Japanese to keep new year by the old style, which follows the Chinese calendar: nor is this custom confined to the country, as we noticed great decorations in Honcho and Bentendori, while the men-of-war in harbour displayed the Japanese flag. As we write our ears are ringing with salvos of crackers by whose assistance the evil one is to be frightened away from Celestial dwellings.

The following is a draft programme for the Spring Meeting of the present year; the days of running are not yet fixed:—

FIRST DAY.

- 1.—For Japan ponies that have never run in a race in Tokio or Yokohama. Weight as per scale. Five furlongs.
- 2.—For China ponies that have never won a race. Weight as per scale. *Bona fide* griffins, 7 lbs. allowance. Once round.
- 3.—For Half-breeds that have never won a race in Tokio or Yokohama. Weight as per scale. Five furlongs.
- 4.—For Japan and China ponies. Weight as per scale. China ponies, 10 lbs. extra. Three-quarters of a mile.
- 5.—For Japan ponies. Weight as per scale. Half a mile.
- 6.—For Half breeds. Weight as per scale. Three-quarters of a mile.
- 7.—For China ponies. Weight as per scale. Winners at the meeting, 7 lbs. extra. One and a quarter miles.
- 8.—For Japan ponies. Weight as per scale. Winners at the meeting, 7 lbs. extra. Three-quarters of a mile.

SECOND DAY.

- 1.—For Japan ponies that have never won a race in Tokio or Yokohama. Weight as per scale. Half a mile.
- 2.—For China ponies that have never won a race at a meeting of the N.R.C. Weight as per scale. Once round and a distance.

3.—For Half-breds. Weight as per scale. Winner of No. 6 on first day excluded. Half a mile.

4.—For Japan and China ponies. Weight as per scale. Half a mile.

5.—For Japan ponies. Weight as per scale. Winners of one race at the meeting, 7 lbs. extra; of two or more races, 10 lbs. extra. Once round.

6.—For China ponies. Weight as per scale. Winners at the meeting, 7 lbs. extra. One and a half miles.

7.—For Half-breds. Weight as per scale. Winners of one race at the meeting, 7 lbs. extra; of two or more races, 10 lbs. extra. Once round and a distance.

8.—For Japan and China ponies. Weight as per scale. Non-starters and winners at the meeting excluded. China ponies, 10 lbs. extra. Ponies that have never won a race, 7 lbs. allowance. Once round.

THIRD DAY.

1.—Champion Race for Japan ponies. Weight as per scale. Once round.

2.—Champion Race for China ponies. Weight as per scale. One and a quarter miles.

3.—Champion Race for Half-breds. Weight as per scale. Once round.

4.—For all Japan and China ponies that have never won a race, and are not otherwise entered at the meeting, to be ridden by members of the N. R. C. who have never had a winning mount. Weight for Japanese ponies, 11st.; for China ponies, 12nd. Once round.

5.—Consolation Race for Japan ponies. Weight as per scale. Five furlongs.

6.—Consolation Race for China Ponies. Weight as per scale. Once round.

7.—Consolation Race for Half-breds. Weight as per scale. Three-quarters of a mile.

8.—A handicap for all ponies. Once round.

JAPANESE ITEMS.

[The following Notes on various Japanese matters are chiefly derived from the native papers, occasionally supplemented from original sources of information, and are carefully collated and edited, so as make them readable and intelligible.]

COURT, POLITICAL AND OFFICIAL.

Notification No. 7 B.

To the Local Governments in Cities and Prefectures, with exception of Tokio Fu. Formerly, whenever newspapers, periodicals, or pamphlets &c. were published, two copies of them used to be forwarded to the Zushio-kioku (Board of Publication) but it is hereby notified that they shall henceforth be forwarded to the Bureau of Police.

MATSUKATA MASAYOSHI,
Minister for the Interior.

February 2nd, 1881.

The first meeting connected with the Second National Industrial Exhibition in the public gardens of Ueno, was held on the afternoon of the 27th ultimo His Imperial Highness Prince Kita-Shirakawa presiding as Chief Commissioner, and, His Excellency Sano, Minister of Finance as Vice Commissioner. Mr. Ishiwara and many other officials connected with the commission were present.

His Excellency Matsukata, Minister for the Interior, visited the Tokio Fucho office on the afternoon, of the 28th ultimo where he held a conference with the Governor and Secretaries as to the style of buildings to be re-built in those places that have been burnt down by the recent great fire, and also as to the assistance to be rendered to the poor sufferers from the conflagration. In order to consider those subjects a special meeting, consisting of Representatives from the fifteen divisions into which Tokio is divided was held in the Assembly Hall of the Fucho on Saturday last.

We take the following from a native paper:—"Not long ago Government proposed a series of questions connected with the revision of treaties for the consideration of the Osaka Chamber of Commerce. The propositions received due attention and a memorial upon them was returned, framed in such an excellent manner, that it has rendered the greatest assistance in the negotiations now under way. As this result is due to the public spirit of the merchants of Osaka, Government has sent the sum of five hundred yen to the Chamber, to be expended in a suitable manner, as a recognition of the service performed."

We notice in the *Akebono Shinbun* that His Excellency Sanjo, Prime Minister, gave a grand New Year's banquet at his

private residence for three days from the 29th ultimo, to the 2nd instant. The Junior Prime Ministers, the Privy Councillors, the leading members of the different Departments, and the Foreign Representatives &c. were invited.

His Excellency Okuma, Privy Councillor, who has been staying at the Atami hot springs for some time, left there on the 17th ultimo for Shizuoka, accompanied by Mr. Governor Shima Korekiyo of the prefecture of Iwate. His Excellency will visit Kakegawa, but his reasons for this trip are at present unknown.

A native journal states that the censorship of newspapers has lately been transferred to the Police Bureau.

The *Nichi Nichi Shinbun* says that the Presidents of the different Judicial Courts are shortly to hold a meeting in the Judicial Department, to consider the best way of enforcing the new criminal code and the code for the administration of justice. When they have decided, both codes will be enforced without delay.

The same paper says that the new premises for the Government Printing Office being completed were occupied on the 1st instant, when the opening ceremony was performed in presence of the Minister of Finance. The buildings were opened to the public at 8 a.m. the same day.

Mr. Kitagaki, the new Governor of Kioto, left for his post on the 1st instant.

Mr. Makimura, the ex-Governor of Kioto, has been offered an appointment as a member of the Senate, but it is said that he will not accept it intending to remain in Kioto, to embark in business. Mr. Asahi, sakan of the 1st class of the Kioto Fu, will shortly resign his appointment. He intends opening a large chemist's store.

The *Hochi Shinbun* says that the Foreign Department is reported to have decided that, with the view to diminish the number of officials abroad, Ministers will remain only in those countries which are brought into close correspondence with Japan, while they will, at the same time, manage diplomatic affairs in other and neighbouring countries as well. There will only be one secretary and assistant-secretary at each legation.

The *Mainichi Shinbun* says that the Prime Ministers and the Privy Councillors are shortly going to entertain Rear Admiral Baron Stackelberg, and many other officers of the Russian men-of-war now in harbour, at the Eurickwan.

NAVAL AND MILITARY.

The Japanese training ship *Rinjokwan* left for Australia on Wednesday morning, her engines having undergone a thorough testing, and all repairs &c., being completed. She has two foreign officers on board, Captain Willan and Navigating Lieutenant James, both of the Naval College, having been appointed to her. A number of Cadets form part of her crew, and her lengthy cruise should result in their becoming well instructed in their duties.

Port Admiral Nakamura went to Yokosuka yesterday morning in the *Moshukwan* to inspect the men-of-war, and he will remain there for three days.

The *Choya Shinbun* states that the Tokio and Osaka arsenals have been ordered by the Minister of War to use iron produced in Japan hereafter as much as possible, instead of imported ore.

According to a native paper the *Rinjokwan*, which left Yokohama on Wednesday morning for Australia, will spend six months on her cruise.

We learn from a native source that the War Department calculates the number of recruits required this year for the seven military divisions, (the latter being in Hakodate), as follows. For active service; infantry, 8,730 men; cavalry, 126 men; artillery, 530 men; engineers, 266 men; commissariat, 125 men and 15,000 coolies. For the reserve: infantry, 7,890 men; cavalry, 76 men; artillery, 442 men; engineers, 221 men; and commissariat 125 men and no coolies. These figures give a total of 33,521 men.

INDUSTRIES, TRADE AND FINANCE.

A native journal states that the silk trade in Yokohama has been rather active since about 26th ultimo as many foreign mercantile houses commenced to buy, and large quantities of deliveries were made. Silk, valued at \$580, under the trade mark of a Fowl, was delivered to No. 3 from Ono Son & Co.,

and some valued at \$580, under the trade mark of the Chrysanthemum, from Ikedaya. In the native town, Sage-ito and Kakedas were both purchased for the purpose of direct export.

In imports, cotton yarn is very dull, and according to the qualities of stuffs, some have declined by \$0.50 in value, and no business is done. Owing to the old Japanese New Year's day which is still observed in the interior, no business is transacted, and it therefore will be some time before the present dull condition will be improved.

The *Nichi Nichi Shinbun* says: The Sailing Ship Company, which was recently started, is getting on very well. The company only commenced their business transactions at the beginning of November, and a dividend for two months, at the rate of 35 per cent per annum has just been declared, much to the satisfaction of the shareholders.

The same paper writes as follows: "Mr. Godai Tomotatsu has been long highly desirous of conducting direct trade, and his arrangements for this step are gradually being made complete. The object of Consul Maida having been lately sent to France was chiefly to open the way for Direct Trade, and as we hear the present time is ripe for its practice, this is really a matter of congratulation."

The following is the monthly return of the exports and imports at all the open ports of Japan during the month of December last:—

Exports	yen 3,047,925.86
Imports	" 2,608,615.09
Excess of exports	yen 439,480.80
Custom House Revenue	" 236,786.14
Export of Specie	" 776,067.18
Import	" 48,143.00

Excess of export yen 727,924.18

The *Nichi Nichi Shinbun* writes as follows:—"It has been proposed that all the mines that are in possession of the Public Works Department should be worked on larger scales. In order to improve the Sado mines (silver) a steam engine of sixty horse power, and various sorts of instruments for blasting, etc., are shortly to be sent there."

According to native sources rice is rather active, and 3,600 koku of Yotshin, Yechigo, and Shonai rice have been sold at the Asakusa godowns (Government). Other grains are declining day after day. Silk is firm and no change in prices are reported. The demand for European fabrics, is not great, owing to the fact that there are not many people from the country at present visiting Tokio. There is some demand for raw cotton. Salted fish from Yesso is very dull and declining more and more. Raw lacquer has gone up in price remarkably, and now costs about eleven yen per kwan. There is no change in the price of tea, sugar, saké, or shoyu, &c. at present, but there is no large demand for them.

The *Choya Shinbun* writes as follows:—"Since January the market price of the public loan bonds has gone up so suddenly that a panic was created in the Stock Exchange. Making enquiries as to the cause of the rise, we were informed that two or three wealthy merchants in the capital, in company with the banks, and working with their friends in Osaka, suddenly commenced to purchase bonds which at once put prices up, though they will doubtless fall as rapidly. But what a fearful condition of trade does not this exhibit!"

Medals lately arrived for the successful exhibitors at the Sydney Exhibition, and will shortly be distributed among them. Of Tokio exhibitors Messrs. Okuma and Company, Kiritsu-Kosho-Kwaisha, Mitsui-Bussan-Kwaisha, Natomi, and twenty three others have been adjudged medals.

We take the following from a local native journal:—"The silk trade in Yokohama is rather active, and 552 bales were sold yesterday to foreign merchants. There are no changes in the state of Kobe trade, but sales of goods to foreign merchants are being contracted for on a large scale.

"There is some demand for tea of good quality in Yokohama, and contracts are being made, though only in small quantities: inferior kinds are almost neglected."

The *Choya Shinbun* states that there are four German in-

structors at the Senji Woollen Manufactory at present, but three of them are shortly to be dismissed, as the Japanese employes there are sufficiently adept to enable them to carry on the business without foreign assistance.

MISCELLANEOUS.

The *Mainichi Shinbun* says it is informed, that in the dispute between Russia and China, the former demands the sum of 7,000,000 taels as an indemnity. Also that the Chinese Government has ordered sixty torpedoes to be made at the Konan Arsenal before the Chinese New Year.

As the same Government intend to construct telegraph lines between Peking and Shanghai, they have entered into a contract with the Great Northern Telegraph Company. The lines start from Peking and follow the river bank, and will be over one thousand English miles in length.

Dry weather has continued in the central part of Santosho China, for so long a while that it is found quite impossible to carry on cultivation in those districts, and not even a single ear of wheat has grown in the fields during last Autumn. If there should be no rainfall before next spring it will be impossible to plant seed when spring comes, and it is therefore quite certain that the inhabitants of those districts will suffer severe famine. This district is very extensive, containing four or five cities, and several millions of inhabitants.

The *Choya Shinbun* publishes the following:—"Listening to what the inhabitants of our city have been saying each other we gather that they observe that it was always on the 26th day of a month that great fires, destroying over 10,000 houses have occurred in our city since the last Restoration. To wit: the first fire originated at the old Aizu Yashiki inside the Wadagura gate at about 10 a.m. on the 26th of February in the 5th year of Meiji (1872) by which 14,735 houses have been burnt down; the second conflagration took place at Hakuya-cho at just noon on the 26th of December in the 12th year (1879) which destroyed 15,268 houses; and a third fire has happened on the 26th of last month, by which over ten thousand houses were been burnt to ashes."

The *Hochi Shinbun* writes as follows:—"Mr. Russell, formerly an Interpreter of the Yokohama Saibansho, who has been long in Japan, and speaks our language very well, admires our country so much that he applied to the Kanagawa Kencho on the 27th ultimo, with the sanction of his Minister, to be naturalized as the Japanese subject. He intends opening a Translating and Interpreting Office at the 4th ward of Benten dori in company with a Japanese."

The *Hochi Shinbun* says that in the Yokosuka dockyard, work has been stopped for a while by Government order, but the work on the construction of the *Kaimon Kan* was continued after the termination of the New Year's holidays, and it is expected that she will be launched in the middle of June next. The bottom of the *Fuso Kwan* is being repainted, and will be completed about the 10th instant. The defective state of her plating is due, as we have stated before, to galvanic action, and we learn that to counteract this a preparation of lacquer is to be used.

The Russian man-of-war *Ermak* entered the harbour lately, and she will occupy the large dock as soon as the *Fuso Kwan* leaves.

It has been telegraphed to a native paper that His Royal Highness the Duke of Genoa arrived at Nagasaki at 5 p.m. on the 28th ultimo.

We learn from the *Akebono Shinbun* that some of the residents in the prefecture of Yamagata are taking steps to establish a railway company in an extensive scale.

Another native paper says that the aborigines who emigrated some years ago to a village named Ysuigari-mura in Iebiakri, of Yesso from Saghalien, have accumulated large sums of money every year; their last year's savings were 10,000 yen with a portion of which they have established a school built of logs in the Russian style, and they have now upwards of 70 scholars. A photograph of the school will be exhibited at the forthcoming Exhibition in Tokio.

The same journal says that an Osaka merchant in Corea has lately written to a photographer in Osaka that the Corean

Government has given an order for photographs of the higher Japanese officials and other distinguished persons; and also of the Sovereigns, Presidents and nobles of Great Britain, France, Germany, Russia, America, and other foreign countries, and that therefore those photographs will be collected and sent to Corea as soon as possible.

A Tokio daily paper states that a look-out is to be built on each station of the fire brigade in Tokio, so that a watchman may be stationed there both day and night to give the alarm in case of fire.

We are glad to learn that the town of Niigata, which suffered so severely from fire last year as to present a most pitiable spectacle, has now been rebuilt in a style which has greatly improved its appearance. The new buildings attract visitors from the country daily, which has been very good for business.

The *Choya Shinbun* states that a letter from Sapporo says that the railway having been completed, that city is in such a flourishing condition that there is not a single house unoccupied. It is now impossible to purchase a piece of land along the road leading from Kotaru to Sapporo, as it is all taken up by settlers.

We read in the *Mainichi Shinbun* that the fever known as the *gokusha-netou* or prison fever, has made its appearance in the Ishikawa gaol and numbers of prisoners have succumbed to it, amongst whom was one Yamada Mitsugi, then undergoing ten years penal servitude for complicity with the assassins of the late Minister Okubo. Precautionary measures are being adopted.

The *Nichi Nichi Shinbun* says that an American lady missionary delivered a religious address at No. 19, Sauchome, Ginza, at 8 p.m. on the 2nd instant, by request of the Christian Society. This lady has spent many years in India and is well known in religious circles, and consequently a great number of those of her own sect assembled that evening.

On the 4th instant seven Russian naval officers visited the Government Printing Office, where they inspected the various machinery &c., being afterward entertained by Mr. Superintendent Tokuno.

Mr. Tomabe, editor of the *Hochi Shinbun*, has been fined 20 yen for an offence against the law of libel.

The 11th instant, being the native festival known as *Kiga-setsu*, will be observed as a general holiday among the Japanese.

We read in the *Nichi Nichi Shinbun* that the Kwazoku of Asabu have subscribed a sum of ten thousand yen for the purpose of constructing an aqueduct. The work is to be commenced at once, and will probably be completed in six months time. The total cost is to be about 33,000 yen.

IMPERIAL GOVERNMENT RAILWAYS.

TOKEI AND YOKOHAMA SECTION.

Statement of traffic receipts for the week ending Sunday 30th January, 1881.

Passengers, parcels, &c.	Yen	8,350.01
Merchandise, &c.	"	8,37.42
Total	"	9,187.43
Miles open, 18.		
Corresponding week last year.		
Passengers, parcels, &c.	Yen	7,191.32
Merchandise, &c.	"	7,96.56
Total	"	7,987.88
Miles open 18.		

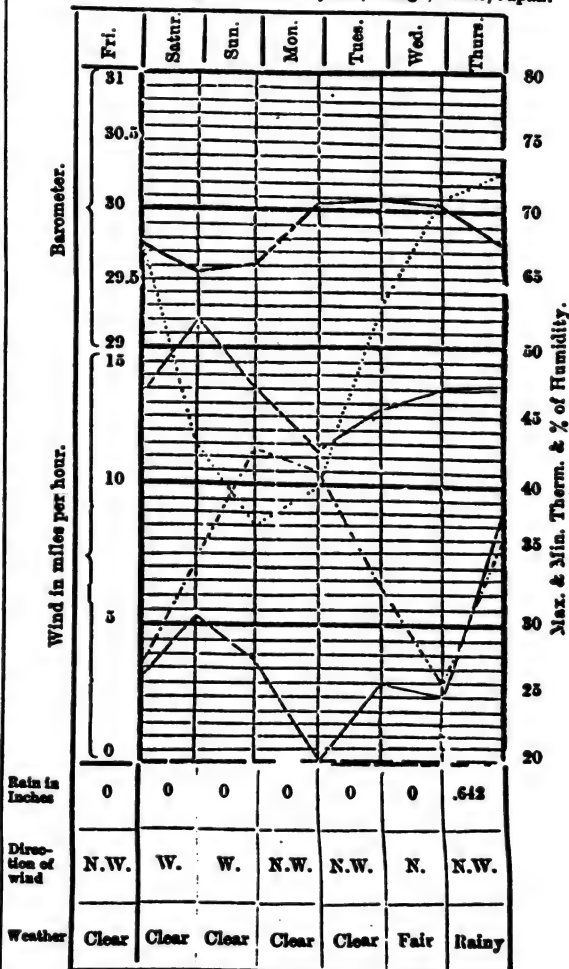
Kobe and Ootzu Section.

Statement of traffic receipts for the week ending Sunday, 30th instant, 1881.

Passengers, parcels, &c.	Yen	11,516.42
Merchandise, &c.	"	2,611.74
Total	Yen	14,128.16
Miles open 58.		
Corresponding week last year.		
Passengers, parcels, &c.	Yen	9,918.92
Merchandise, &c.	"	1,682.40
Total	Yen	11,601.32
Miles open 55.		

METEOROLOGICAL REPORT

FOR WEEK BEGINNING FRIDAY, JANUARY 28TH, 1881.
Observatory of Daigaku, Moto-Fujicho, Hongu, Tokio, Japan.



REMARKS.

Heavy line represents barometer.

Light continuous line—max. & min. thermometers.

.....represents velocity of wind.

.....percentage of humidity.

Max. velocity of wind 33.5 miles per hour on Monday at 2 p.m.

The barometer is reduced to the freezing point and to the level of the sea.

The highest reading of the barometer for the week was 30.147 inches on Monday at 11 p.m. and the lowest was 29.411 inches on Saturday at 6 a.m. The highest temperature during the week was 52.1 on Saturday, and the lowest was 19.8 on Monday. The maximum and minimum for the corresponding week of last year were 61.5 and 26.6 respectively. The minimum temperature was below the freezing point on every day of the week except Thursday. The total amount of rain was .642 inches. No rain fell during the corresponding week of last year.

NATIVE CURRENCY QUOTATIONS.

(For Week Ending 5th February, 1881.)

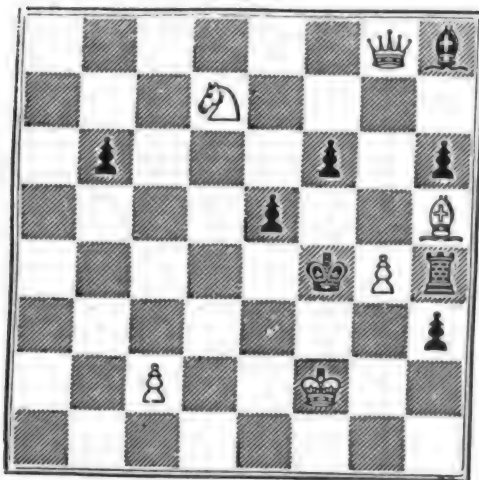
	Discount on Yen Set.			Gold Yen.	Silver Yen.	Silver Subsidiary (Aer.)	Silver Subsidiary (Old.)
	A. M.	Noon.	Closing.				
1881							
Saturday Jan.	29	72 1/2	72	73	—	—	—
Monday "	31	72 1/2	71 1/2	71 1/2	—	—	—
Tuesday Feb.	1	71	72 1/2	72 1/2	—	—	—
Wednesday .. "	2	73 1/2	73 1/2	73 1/2	—	—	—
Thursday .. "	3	74 1/2	74 1/2	75	—	—	—
Friday .. "	4	75 1/2	75 1/2	74 1/2	—	—	—
Saturday .. "	5	73 1/2	73 1/2	73 1/2	—	—	—

CHESS PROBLEM,

BY C. W. OF SUNBURY.

(From the Chess Players Chronicle.)

BLACK.



WHITE.

White to play and mate in 3 moves.

SOLUTION OF CHESS PROBLEM OF JAN. 29TH, BY N. MARACHE.

- White: 1.—Kt. to K. 5, dis. ch. 1.—K. to K. B. 5.
2.—P. to K. Kt. 4. 2.—K. takes R.
3.—B. to K. Kt. 5, mate.

Correct solutions received from Omega and Q to problems of January 22nd and 29th.

SHIPPING INTELLIGENCE.

INWARDS.

- Jan. 31, Japanese steamer *Sumida Maru*, Hubenet, 896, from Hongkong via Kobe, Mails and General, to M. B. Co.
Jan. 31, Japanese: 3 masted schooner *Awajishima Maru*, Crichton, 1,033, from Nagasaki, Coals, to M. B. Co.
Jan. 31, Japanese steamer *Wakatsukura Maru*, Christensen, 1,300, from Kobe, Mails and General, to M. B. Co.
Feb. 1, American steamer *City of Peking*, Berry, 5,079, from San Francisco, Mails and General, to P. M. S. S. Co.
Feb. 1, German schooner *Auguste Reimers*, A. Thomsen, 207, from Takow, Sugar, to E. B. Watson.
Feb. 1, Japanese steamer *Kokonoye Maru*, Dithlefsen, 1,133, for Hakodate, Mails and General, despatched by M. B. Co.
Feb. 3, Japanese steamer *Hiroshima Maru*, Haswell, 1,146, from Shanghai and ports, Mails and General, to M. B. Co.
Feb. 3, Japanese steamer *Meiji Maru*, Peters, 1,010, from S. W. coast via the Inland sea, to Lighthouse Department.
Feb. 4, American ship *Huguenot*, Nickerson, 1,181, from Cardiff, Coal, to Master.
Feb. 4, Japanese steamer, *Matsunai Maru*, —, from Hakodate, General.
Feb. 5, British steamer *Nalacca*, Cole, 1,709, from Hongkong via Nagasaki, Mails and General, to P. & O. Co.
Feb. 5, Japanese steamer *Sumida Maru*, Hubenet, 896, for Hongkong via Kobe, Mails and General, despatched by M. B. Co.

PASSENGERS.

- Per Japanese str. *Sumida Maru* from Hongkong via Kobe:—Messrs. E. F. Kilby, H. Gesline, F. K. Lyons, Capt. Choethain and 1 Japanese in cabin; and 110 Japanese and 1 Chinaman in steerage.
Per American steamer *City of Peking* from San Francisco:—G. Williamson, Miss B. F. Mitchell, Mrs. Flagg, Dr. Deas, Messrs. J. Earl, S. B. Samuels and C. Wilbrod in cabin. For Hongkong: Mr. D. H. Ward and Miss Mitchell in cabin; and 174 Chinese in the steerage.
Per Japanese steamer *Kokonoye Maru* from Hakodate:—100 Japanese in steerage.
Per Japanese steamer *Hiroshima Maru* from Shanghai and ports:—Dr. Lawrenson, Mr. and Mrs. Bohm, Messrs. O. A. Heiman, T. F. Rose, S. W. Fleming, and 3 Japanese in cabin; 1 European, 1 Chinese and 144 Japanese in steerage.
Per Jap. str. *Matsunai Maru* from Hakodate:—50 Japanese.
Per British steamer *Nalacca* from Hongkong via Nagasaki:—Mr. and Mrs. Hewitt, Mr. J. Sanjo.

OUTWARDS.

- Jan. 29, American ship *Grande*, Winn, 1,399, for Manila, despatched by Cornes & Co.
Jan. 31, British steamer *Merionethshire*, Rickard, 1,245, for London via Japan and China ports, General, despatched by Adamson, Bell & Co.

- Feb. 1, Japanese steamer *Genkai Maru*, Conner, 1,917, for Shanghai and ports, Mails and General, despatched by M. B. Co.
Feb. 1, British barque *Buston Vale*, Buckingham, 411, for Portland, General, despatched by Hudson & Co.
Feb. 1, British barque *Goodell*, Goodell, 861, for Manila, General, despatched by R. Isaacs & Bro.
Feb. 1, French corvette *Champlain*, Captain Dubrot, 1,940 tons, 10 guns, for Kobe.
Feb. 2, American steamer *City of Peking*, Berry, 5,079, for Hongkong, Mails and General, despatched by P. M. S. S. Co.
Feb. 4, British barque *George Bewley*, Hammond, 1,040, for Kobe, General, despatched by A. Reimers & Co.
Feb. 4, Russian Corvette *Craysser*, Captain Nazimoff, 1,500 tons for Atami.
Feb. 4, Japanese steamer *Shinagawa Maru*, Walker, 908, for Hakodate, Mails and General, despatched by M. B. Co.
Feb. 5, French steamer *Tanais*, Reyrier, 1,735, for Hongkong, Mails and General, despatched by M. M. Co.

PASSENGERS.

- Per Japanese steamer *Genkai Maru* for Shanghai and ports:—Mrs. Flag, Lieutenant Paracoco, Messrs. A. Reimers, E. F. Leiper Tolstieff, I. Dell'Oro, Hildebrand, Dr. Deas and 13 Japanese in the cabin.
Per French steamer *Tanais* for Hongkong:—Messrs. Davis, Wilbrod, Bruandet, Popovitch, Schraub, Van der Pot, Yermoloff, van Mastrigt, Master Geffney and 2 Chinese in cabin.
Per Japanese steamer *Sumida Maru* for Hongkong via Kobe:—Messrs. J. Colomb, R. Mulder, Denebar, Nakamura, Yomita, Otsuka, and J. Kimoto.

CARGOES.

- Per French steamer *Tanais* for Hongkong:—
Silk for London... .. 254 bales.
" Continent 486 "
Total 740 bales.
Per Japanese steamer *Sumida Maru*, for Hongkong via Kobe:—
Treasure Yen 126,000

REPORTS.

- The American steamer *City of Peking* reports:—Left San Francisco January 6th, at 2 p.m. First three days had favorable weather. Afterwards strong W. to S.W. gales with clear weather.
The German schooner *Auguste Reimers* reports:—Experienced very hard N.W. gale East of Formosa, which lasted two days, the decks being constantly filled with water. From Formosa to Lin-shan Island strong northerly winds; thence to port strong W. and N.W. winds. Arrived in Yokohama, February 1st.
The Japanese steamer *Kokonoye Maru* reports:—Left Hakodate at 3.30 a.m. 30th January. Experienced during first part of voyage strong N.W. gale, afterwards moderate N. winds with fine weather. Passage 45½ hours.
The American ship *Huguenot* reports:—Experienced very heavy weather between this and Kii Channel and sustained much damage to hull and sails. On the 27th Jan. Chas. M. Hill, third mate, fell from the fore yard arm, and in falling struck the ship's side and sank immediately, all efforts being in vain to save him.
The British steamer *Nalacca* reports:—Had fine weather throughout the passage.

NEXT MAIL DUE FROM,

AMERICA	P. M. Co.	
AMERICA	O. & O. Co.	Feb. 15th
EUROPE, via HONGKONG	M. M. Co.	Feb. 10th
HONGKONG	P. & O. Co.	Feb. 20th
HONGKONG, via KOBE	M. B. Co.	Feb. 14th
HONGKONG	P. M. Co.	Feb. 27th
HONGKONG	O. & O. Co.	Feb. 8th
SHANGHAI, HIOGO & NAGASAKI	M. B. Co.	Feb. 10th

NEXT MAIL LEAVES FOR,

AMERICA	P. M. Co.	Mar. 1st
AMERICA	O. & O. Co.	Feb. 11th
EUROPE, via HONGKONG	P. & O. Co.	Feb. 12th
EUROPE, via HONGKONG	M. M. Co.	Feb. 20th
HAKODATE	M. B. Co.	Feb. 6th
HONGKONG, via KOBE	M. B. Co.	Feb. 19th
HONGKONG	O. & O. Co.	Feb. 16th
HONGKONG	P. M. Co.	
SHANGHAI, HIOGO & NAGASAKI	M. B. Co.	Feb. 9th

The arrival and departure of mails by the "Occidental and Oriental," the "Pacific Mail," and the "Peninsular and Oriental" companies, are approximate only.

YOKOSUKA STEAMERS TIME TABLE.

LEAVE YOKOHAMA.

DAILY:—8.30, and 9.45 A.M.; 12.00, 1.30, and 4.15 P.M.

LEAVE YOKOSUKA.

DAILY:—6.45 and 9.30 A.M., and 12.00; 1.30 and 4.00 P.M.

SHIPPING INTELLIGENCE.

VESSELS IN HARBOUR.

NAME.	CAPTAIN.	FLAG AND REG.	TONS.	FROM.	ARRIVED.	CONSIGNEES.
STEAMERS.						
Hiroshima Maru	Haswell	Japanese steamer	1,146	Shanghai & ports	Feb. 3	M. B. Co.
Lord of the Isles	Felgett	British steamer	1,560	London	Jan. 27	Smith, Baker & Co.
Malacca	Cole	British steamer	1,709	Hongkong via Nagasaki	Feb. 5	P. & O. Co.
Volga	Guirand	French steamer	1,302	Hongkong	Jan. 26	M. M. Co.
SAILING SHIPS.						
Auguste Reimers	A. Thomsen	German schooner	207	Takao	Feb. 1	E. B. Watson
Awajishima Maru	Crichton	Japanese 3-m. schr.	1,033	Kurile Islands	Jan. 31	M. B. Co.
Alexander	Carson	American schooner	52	Nagasaki	Nov. 3	J. E. Collyer
Athelstan	Bayley	British barque	771	London	Jan. 9	W. J. S. Shand
Bride	Sutherland	British barque	390	Takao	Jan. 26	Jardine, Matheson & Co.
Cilarnum	Beadle	British ship	1,850	Hongkong	Nov. 8	Edward Fischer & Co.
Caroline	Voisin	French barque	—	Hamburg	Jan. 27	M. Raspe
Euler Bank	Parker	British ship	1,145	Middlesborough	Jan. 9	Hudson & Co.
Helena	Ewalt	German schooner	60	Kurile Islands	Oct. 31	Captain
Huguenot	Nickerson	American ship	1,181	Cardiff	Feb. 4	Master
Lottie	Hilts	German schooner	26	Kurile Islands	Sept. 4	Hohnholz & Co.
Mary C. Bohm	Petersen	German schooner	55	Kurile Islands	Oct. 24	P. Bohm
North Star	Johnson	Russian schooner	42	Kurile Islands	Nov. 16	H. W. Hohnhots & Co.
Otome	Hardy	American schooner	72	Kurile Islands	Dec. 13	H. Snow
Otaego	Isaacson	Russian schooner	46	Kurile Islands	Nov. 3	H. Cook
Pioneer	Maies	Russian schooner	72	Romo, via Hakodate	Jan. 17	Walsh, Hall & Co.
Scottish Fairy	Toozes	British barque	750	Put in dismasted	Oct. 10	Malcolm & Co.
Stella	Werner	American schooner	30	Kurile Islands	Oct. 11	Captain
Victoria Cross	Tweddle	British barque	668	Antwerp	Dec. 3	Boyes & Co.

VESSELS OF WAR IN PORT.

NAME.	GUNS.	TONN.	H. P.	DESCRIPTION.	WHERE FROM.	COMMANDER.
BRITISH—Albatross...	4	894	838	Sloop	Chefoo	Captain Errington
GERMAN—Veneta ...	19	2,000	—	Corvette	Kobe	Captain Zirzow
RUSSIAN—Africa ...	14	1,400	—	Cruiser	Nagasaki	Captain Aleasoff
" Ermak ...	4	375	—	Transport	Hiogo	Captain Kolfchan
" Kniaz Pojarsky ...	12	4,291	—	Ironclad	Nagasaki	Captain Tirtoff
" Minia ...	16	5,300	6,300	Ironclad	Nagasaki	Captain Nazimoff

VESSELS ON THE BERTH.

DESTINATION.	NAME.	AGENTS.	TO BE DESPATCHED.
San Francisco ...	Belgie	O. & O. Co.	Feb. 11th
Hakodate ...	Kokonoye Maru	M. B. Co.	Feb. 6th
Shanghai and way-ports ...	Hiroshima Maru	M. B. Co.	Feb. 9th, at 4 p.m.
Australia ...	Hungarian	Jardine, Matheson & Co.	About Feb. 17th
Hongkong via Nagasaki ...	Malacca	P. & O. Co.	Feb. 11th, at 1 a.m.
Hongkong via Kobe ...	Niigata Maru	M. B. Co.	Feb. 19th, at 4 p.m.

COMMERCIAL INTELLIGENCE.

IMPORTS.—Since the holidays there has been a small business in *Yarn* at lower rates. *Shirtings* nothing doing and prices weaker. Other *Cottons* unchanged. *Woolens* stagnant.

COTTON YARNS :—

Nos. 16 to 24, Common to Medium ...	per picul	\$29.50 to 31.25
" " Good to Best... ..	"	\$31.75 to 33.50
Bombay, No. 20 do.	"	\$29.25 to 31.25
Nos. 28 to 32, Common to Medium ...	"	\$33.75 to 34.75
" " Good to Best... ..	"	\$35.75 to 36.75
" 38 to 42	"	\$39.75 to 40.75

COTTON PIECE GOODS :—

Grey Shirtings :—7 lb. per piece 28½ yds. 39 in.	\$1.25 to 1.65
" " 8½ lb. " 38½ " 39 in.	\$1.50 to 2.00
" " 9 lb. " 38½ " 45 in.	\$1.95 to 2.35
T. Cloths :—7 lb. ... 24 yds. 32 in. per piece	\$1.52½ to 1.67½
Drills, English :—14-15 lb. 40 " 30 in.	\$2.50 to 2.70
Indigo Shirtings :—12 " 44 in.	\$1.47½ to 1.67½
Prints :—Assorted ... 24 " 30 in.	\$1.40 to 2.60
Cotton Italians & Sateens Black 32 in.	\$0.09½ to 0.15½
Turkey Reds : 2 to 2½ lb. 24 yds. 30 in.	\$1.55 to 1.75
Do. 2½ to 2½ lb. 24 " 30 in.	\$1.70 to 1.85
Do. 3 lb. 24 " 30 in.	\$1.85 to 1.95

COTTON PIECE GOODS :—Continued.

Velvets :—Black ... 35 yds. 22 in. per piece	\$7.00 to 8.75
Victoria Lawns ... 12 " 42/3 " "	\$0.76 to 0.77
Taffeta-las :— ... 12 " 43 " "	\$1.70 to 1.90

WOOLLENS :—

Plain Orleans ... 40-42 yds. 32 in.	4.50 to 6.00
Figured Orleans ... 20-30 " 31 " ...	3.50 to 4.25
lastings ... 29-30 " 31 " ...	10.00 to 11.00
Italian Cloth ... 30 " 32 " ...	0.22 to 0.31
Camlet Cords ... 29-30 " 22 " ...	4.50 to 5.75
Mousselines de Laines :—Crape 24 yds. 30 in.	0.16½ to 0.17½
do. Itajime 24 " 30 " ...	0.22 to 0.29
do. Yusen 24 " 30 " ...	0.35 to 0.45
Cloths, all wool plain or fancy... 48 in. to 52 in.	0.80 to 1.50
Pilots... 54 " to 56 " ...	0.32½ to 0.47½
Presidents... 54 " to 56 " ...	0.60 to 0.65
Union ... 54 " to 56 " ...	0.32½ to 0.60
Blankets, green, 6 to 8 lbs. ... per lb. ...	0.37 to 0.41

SUGAR.—The *A. Reimers* and *Bride* have come in with new crop, some sales of which have been made at quotation—old sugar also shows a decline. Stock 46,000 piculs of all kinds Formosa.

SAIGON RICE.—No sales. Stock is still 24,000 piculs.

KEROSENE.—Five thousand cases have found buyers at lower prices, the and market is weaker at the close. Stock 435,000 cases.

Sugar :—Takao in bag New ...	per picul	\$4.55
" " Old... ..	"	\$4.37
" Taiwanfoo in bag... ..	"	\$4.35
Ching-pak and Ke-pak ...	"	\$7.75 to \$9.00
China No. 4-5, Kongfun & Kook-fah...	"	\$6.50 to \$8.75

Japan Rice ...	per picul	\$2.80 to 3.30
Japan Wheat ...	"	\$2.00
Saigon Rice [cargo] ...	"	\$1.80
Kerosene Oil... ..	case	\$1.90

EXPORTS.

SILK.—During the past week a large business has been done in silk. About 750 shipping bales have changed hands, many of which consisted of filatures and re-reels. The good qualities of hanks are now very scarce and business in this class of silk has been therefore more restricted. Prices are very firm indeed, but show little change; filatures and re-reels being a trifle higher.

Stock 4,200 shipping bales.

	Exchange 3/8½	Exchange 4/76
Hanks.—No. 1 & 2	\$560 to \$565 = 18/	to 18/2 = fca. 49/20 to fca. 49.50
" " 2	\$550 =	17/8 = " 48.90
" " 2½	\$530 =	17/2 = " 47.00
" " 3 & infra.	\$500 =	16/2 = " 44.80
Filatures.—Extra	\$640 to \$650 = 20 11	to 21/3 = " 57.90 to " 58.70
" " 1	\$590 to \$610 = 19/4	to 19 11 = " 56.10
" " 2	\$590 =	19/4 = " 53.50 to " 55.30
" " 3	\$540 to \$550 = 17/9	to 18/1 = " 49.10 to " 50.00
Kakodas.—Best	\$600 to \$620 = 19/8	to 20/4 = " 55.40 to " 55.60
" Medium & Good	\$570 =	18/8 = " 51.80
Re-Reels Medium to Best	\$580 to \$600 = 19/	to 19/8 = " 52.20 to " 54.00

TEA.—There has been more business passing, and settlements for the week amount to some 1,750 piculs. Prices have advanced for all kinds, but more especially for grades from Fine upwards, of which we have but a small supply. Present Stock only 4,500 piculs.

Common ...	\$10 to \$13	Fine ...	\$22 to \$24
Good Common ...	\$15 to \$16	Finest ...	\$26 to \$28
Medium ...	\$17 to \$19	Choice ...	\$30 to \$32
Good Medium ...		Choicest ...	\$24 upward.

EXCHANGE AND BULLION.

EXCHANGE.—Owing to the Banks being closed during the first part of the week, on account of the China New Year, there has been but little change in rates. A few Continental bills have been sold for the French mail; quotations close ½ firmer.

STERLING—Bank 4 months' sight	3/8½	ON SHANGHAI—Bank sight	72
" Bank Bills on demand	3/7½	" Private 10 days' sight	72½
" Private 4 months' sight	3/8½	ON NEW YORK—Bank Bills on demand	88½
" " 6 " " "	3/8½	" Private 30 days' sight	89½
ON PARIS—Bank sight	4.63	ON SAN FRANCISCO—Bank Bills on demand	88½
" Private 6 months' sight	4.74	" Private 30 days' sight	89½
ON HONGKONG—Bank sight	½ % prm.	KINSAITZ	66½ dis.
" Private 10 days' sight	½ % disct.	GOLD YEN	380 nom.

SHIPPING.

SHIPPING.—The *Hugenot* has put in on her way to Kobe, whither she will proceed again after some repairs. The *Lord of the Isles* is the only disengaged foreign merchant steamer in port.

NEW ADVERTISEMENTS. SEVENTH DRAWING.

CHINESE IMPERIAL GOVERNMENT LOAN OF 1877.

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN, that in conformity with the stipulation contained in the Bonds of this Loan, 1146 Bonds of £100 sterling each—£114,600, to be paid off at par, on the 28th of February next, when the Interest thereon will cease, were this day Drawn at the Offices of the HONGKONG AND SHANGHAI BANKING CORPORATION, 31, Lombard Street, London, E.C., in the presence of GEORGE HENRY BURNETT, Esq., Accountant of the said Corporation, and of the undersigned Notary Public.

FOR THE HONGKONG AND SHANGHAI
BANKING CORPORATION,

(Signed) GEO. H. BURNETT,
Accountant.

Countersigned,

W. W. VENN, Jun.,
Notary Public,

2, Pope's Head Alley, Cornhill, E.C.

London, 13th December, 1880.

The Numbers of Bonds Drawn can be ascertained on application at this Office.

For the HONGKONG AND SHANGHAI
BANKING CORPORATION,

JOHN WALTER,
Manager.

Yokohama, February 5th, 1881.

"HIGHEST AWARD & PRIZE MEDAL PHILADELPHIA
EXHIBITION, 1876."

OAKEY'S
WELLINGTON KNIFE POLISH
PREPARED EXPRESSLY FOR THE PATENT KNIFE-
CLEANING MACHINES, INDIA RUBBER AND BUFF
LEATHER KNIFE BOARDS. KNIVES CONSTANTLY
CLEANED WITH IT HAVE A BRILLIANT POLISH EQUAL
TO NEW CUTLERY. PACKETS 3D. EACH; AND TINS,
6D., 1/-, 2/6 AND 4/- EACH.

OAKEY'S
INDIA RUBBER KNIFE BOARDS
PREVENT FRICTION IN CLEANING AND INJURY TO
THE KNIFE. OAKLEY'S WELLINGTON KNIFE POLISH
SHOULD BE USED WITH HIS BOARDS.

OAKEY'S
SILVERSMITHS SOAP
[NON-MERCURIAL].
FOR CLEANING AND POLISHING SILVER, ELECTRO-
PLATE, PLATE GLASS, &c. TABLETS 6D. EACH.

OAKEY'S
WELLINGTON BLACK LEAD
IN SOLID BLOCKS—1D., 2D. & 4D. EACH, & 15. BOXES.

JOHN OAKLEY & SONS
MANUFACTURERS OF
EMERY CLOTH LEAD CABINET GLASS PAPER
&c.
WELLINGTON EMERY & BLACK LEAD MILLS
WESTMINSTER BRIDGE ROAD, LONDON, ENGLAND.
JULY, 1879.

MISCELLANEOUS.

THE GREATEST WONDER OF MODERN TIMES HOLLOWAY'S PILLS.

Persons suffering from weak or debilitated constitutions will discover that by the use of this wonderful medicine there is "Health for all." The blood is the fountain of life, and its purity can be maintained by the use of these Pills.

SIR SAMUEL BAKER, in his work entitled "The Nile Tributaries in Abyssinia," says, "I ordered the dragoman Mahomet to inform the Faky that I was a Doctor, and that I had the best medicines at the service of the sick, with advice gratis. In a short time I had many applicants, to whom I served out a quantity of Holloway's Pills. These are most useful to an explorer, as possessing unmistakable purgative properties they create an undeniable effect upon the patient, which satisfies him of their value."

SIMPLE, SAFE AND CERTAIN! HOLLOWAY'S OINTMENT.

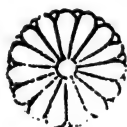
Is a certain remedy for bad legs, bad breasts, and ulcerations of all kinds. It acts miraculously in healing ulcerations, curing skin diseases, and in arresting and subduing all inflammations.

MR. J. T. COOPER, in his account of his extraordinary travels in China, published in 1871, says—"I had with me a quantity of Holloway's Ointment. I gave some to the people, and nothing could exceed their gratitude; and, in consequence, milk, fowls, butter, and horse-feed poured in upon us, until at last a tea-spoonful of Ointment was worth a fowl and any quantity of peas, and the demand became so great that I was obliged to lock up the small remaining stock." Sold by all Chemists and Medicine Vendors throughout the World May 17th, 1873.

SAVORY & MOORE'S
ASTHMA
DATURA FOR DIFFICULT BREATHING
TATULA & CO.
Cigars, Cigarettes or Tobacco, also Pastilles and powder for Inhalation.
SAVORY & MOORE, NEW BOND STREET, LONDON,
And at all Chemists and Storekeepers throughout the world.
December 1880.

H. MacARTHUR,
SHIP-BROKER AND CUSTOMS
AGENT,
NO. 70, Yokohama,
(Opposite the Old British Post Office).
Yokohama, 4th May, 1880.

MISCELLANEOUS.



NOTICE TO MARINERS.

No. 1 of the 14th Year of Meiji, (1881)

KAGENO SIMA LIGHTHOUSE.

ENTRANCE TO NAGASAKI HARBOUR.

THE GOVERNMENT OF JAPAN hereby gives notice that, on the night of the 1st day of the 3rd Month of the 14th Year of Meiji (1st March, 1881), and every night thereafter, from Sunset to Sunrise, a Fixed Red Light of the 6th Order will be exhibited from the tower built on the Northern point of Kageno Sima, at the Entrance to the harbour of Nagasaki, in the province of Hizen.

According to the Japanese Admiralty Chart No. 108, and the British Admiralty Chart No. 2415, the Lighthouse is situated in latitude 32 degrees 42 minutes 42 seconds North, and in longitude 129 degrees 49 minutes 37 seconds East of Greenwich.

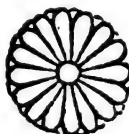
The Tower is built of stone, and is 15 feet 8 inches high from the base to the center of the lantern.

The Light will have an arc of visibility of 206 degrees, the cut off bearings being N. 81° 30' W. and S. 65° 30' E. Bearings true.

The total elevation of the Light above the sea will be 40 feet, and its range of visibility, in clear weather, about 8 Nautical miles.

YAMAO YOZO,
Minister of Public Works.

Tokai, February 3rd, 1881.



NOTICE TO MARINERS.

HIKU-FLAT BUOY.

WESTWARD ENTRANCE OF SIMONOSEKI STRAITS.

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN, that the Buoy Moored on the Shallow called HIKU-FLAT, at the Westward entrance of SIMONOSEKI STRAITS, has broken adrift from its moorings.

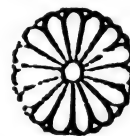
The buoy will be replaced in its position on an early date, of which due notice will be given.

Lighthouse Establishment,
Benten,

Yokohama, 25th January, 1881.

BY ORDER.

MISCELLANEOUS.



NOTICE TO MARINERS.

SHIMONOSEKI STRAITS BUOYS.

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN, that KANABUSE BUOY and MIDDLE GROUND BLACK BUOY, which were advertized as having broken adrift from their moorings, have been replaced.

BY ORDER.

Lighthouse Establishment,

Benten,

Yokohama, 17th January, 1881.

NOTICE TO MARINERS.

No. 129.

CHINA SEA.

SHANGHAI DISTRICT.

WRECK NEAR THE AMHERST ROCKS.

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that the British Bark *CHINAMAN* lies sunk in 5 fathoms of water 7 miles to the S. 87° W. of the Amherst Rocks. The iron masts are at present visible.

By order of the Inspector General of Customs.

DAVID M. HENDERSON,
Engineer-in-Chief.

Imperial Maritime Customs,

Engineer's Office,

Shanghai, 24th January, 1881.

NOTICE.

I HAVE this day handed over all outstanding affairs of the NETHERLANDS TRADING SOCIETY IN JAPAN to Mr. J. PH. VON HEMERT, who will take charge as liquidator from this date.

T. T. VAN DER POT,
Agent.

Yokohama, January 29th, 1881.

THE UNDERSIGNED has taken charge of the outstanding affairs of the NETHERLANDS TRADING SOCIETY IN JAPAN, and will sign,

J. PH. VON HEMERT,
*Liquidator for the N. T. S.
in Japan.*

MISCELLANEOUS.

IMPORTANT

—FOR—

W	A	T	C	H	M	A	K	E	R	S	!
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IMPORTANT

FOR

EVERYBODY!

THE Rodanow Manufacturing Company (Limited—Capital \$2,000,000), Boston (America), will forward, hereafter, even one single Watch to any part of the world at wholesale prices, i.e., 35 per cent cheaper than any watchmaker, as none of them is manufacturing Watches himself, but only buying them from here. We call the particular attention of every one intending to purchase a first-class reliable Watch to our following price list:—

Key-winding Watches.

SILVER WATCH.		£	s.
Crystal glass, seconds hand.....		0	10
Hunting case, engraved, highly finished..		0	14
Skeleton movement, extra jewelled, stout double cover.....		1	00

GOLD WATCH.

Jewelled, maintaining power, crystal glass.	1	10
Half hunter, enamel or gold dial, lever escapement	1	16
Hunting case, superior nickel movement, best quality with all the latest improvements, two gold covers	2	03

Keyless Watches

(Stem-Winders.)

The keyless mechanism to a watch is one of the great modern improvements in Watch work, it does away with the old-fashioned key, with which so many persons have ruined their Watches. The Watch is wound by turning a knurled knob, placed on the handle or bow, instead of by the ordinary means; the hands are set in the same way. The advantages of these improvements are obvious; the case, which never need be opened in winding, is made airtight and dust-tight, thus preserving much longer the fluidity of the oil, and greatly prolonging the intervals between the necessary cleaning of the Watch.

SILVER KEYLESS WATCH.

SILVER KEYLESS WATCH.		£	s.
Lever movement, flat, jewelled, crystal glass		0	17
Double cover, enamel or ornamented silver dial		1	05
Superior skeleton movement, extra jewelled, stout double cover		1	15

GOLD KEYLESS WATCH.

Open face, lever escapement, ten jewels...	2	05
Half hunter, best movement, all latest improvements, fifteen jewels..	3	00
Two stout gold covers, chronometer movement with centre seconds hands, a splendid Watch for presentation	3	15

MISCELLANEOUS.

GOLD KEYLESS CHRONOMETER.

Three gold covers, movement of finest workmanship, centre seconds hands, repeating hours and quarters..... 8 10
Imperial Chronometer, showing days, date, weeks, and month on dial, repeating hours, quarters, and eighths, three heavy gold covers, warranted for five years, and without doubt the best and handsomest Watch in existence..... 15 00

OBSERVATIONS.

1.—All the above Watches can be had in smaller size to suit for ladies' wear at the same price. Monograms, initials, armes, etc., engraved on the back of the Watch free of charge.

2.—All our Watches are thoroughly finished and ready for immediate use, and will be sent securely packed in morocco case, *post free*, to any part of the world, together with spare mainsprings, glasses, and keys, these being a great convenience, as in many out-of-the-way places, it is almost a matter of impossibility to replace one of those articles.

3.—Every watch is accompanied by a written warranty, guaranteeing the regularity and superiority of its workmanship for three years, during which time no charge will be made for repairing if the watch is returned *post free*.

4.—All our gold cases are eighteen carat gold; the silver cases are of the best sterling silver.

5.—Six per cent discount will be allowed on orders for six and more Watches.

6.—All our Watches have compensation balance, which renders them equally accurate in either hot or cold climate.

7.—All Watches may be ordered without seconds hand, with engraved, plain polished, or engine-turned cases, without difference of price.

8.—No orders from abroad filled unless accompanied by a remittance to cover the amount, or a reference on a Boston house.

Persons residing in any part of the world need not hesitate to forward their orders to this establishment as they may rely upon receiving the exact Watch ordered by them, which if not approved, will be exchanged free and safe by post, or money refunded. The best means of sending money is by draft on New York, Paris, or London, which can be procured at any banker and everywhere,—or enclose the amount in bank-notes, gold coins, or postage stamps of any country of the world. All orders, the smallest as well as the most important, will receive the same particular attention and will be forwarded without delay. We respectfully ask for a trial order.

THE

Rodanow Manufacturing Company,

5 and 7, Portland Street, Boston, U. S. of America.

NOTICE.

No. 31, } COMMERCIAL DINING ROOMS. { No. 31,
 Water Street. } Water Street

ON and after this date, the following prices will be charged:—

BOARD	per month	\$25.00
BOARD AND LODGING	" "	35.00

Very comfortable bed-rooms,

With European fire-places, and very comfort guaranteed.

WM. CURTIS.

Yokohama, November 9th, 1880.

MISCELLANEOUS.

ANDW. HANDYSIDE & Co.

Limited.

32, Walbrook. London,

BRITANNIA IRON WORKS, DERBY.

Manufacture all kinds of

IRONWORK,

Structural & Ornamental.

BRIDGES of every description. Girder Bridges. Arch Bridges. Suspension Bridges.

A. H. & Co. make every year for Foreign Countries some thousands of Tons of Bridges.

LANDING-PIERS AND JETTIES.

ROOFS AND BUILDINGS. MARKETS

*Illustrated Catalogue (A) free on Application.***ORNAMENTAL IRONWORK, ETC.***See Large New Illustrated Catalogues (B. & C.) with 1,300 designs.*

Railings. Balcony Panels.

Gates. Street Posts.

Lamp-pillars. Lamp-brackets.

Balusters. Newels.

Ornaments. Terminals.

Columns. Column Capitals.

Brackets. Gratings.

Windows. Casements.

Fountains. Drinking Fountains.

Vases. Pedestals.

Conservatories. Band-Stands.

SMITH'S HEARTH'S & PORTABLE FORGES

12 Shapes and Sizes.

*Catalogue (D) free on Application.***Andw. Handyside & Co., Limited,**
LONDON.

26 ins.

**JOSEPH GILLOTT'S STEEL PENS.** Gold.**JOSEPH GILLOTT'S STEEL PENS.** Medal.**JOSEPH GILLOTT'S STEEL PENS.** Paris.**JOSEPH GILLOTT'S STEEL PENS.** 1878.

April, 1880.

MISCELLANEOUS.

SAVORY PANCREATIC SAUVE & BEST FOOD FOR INFANTS MOORE'S MEDICINAL FOOD	SAVORY PANCREATIC SAUVE & BEST FOOD FOR INFANTS MOORE'S MEDICINAL FOOD	SAVORY PANCREATIC SAUVE & BEST FOOD FOR INFANTS MOORE'S MEDICINAL FOOD	SAVORY PANCREATIC SAUVE & BEST FOOD FOR INFANTS MOORE'S MEDICINAL FOOD
IN CONSUMPTION AND WASTING DISEASES IMPROVES THE APPETITE Increases Strength and Weight. Bottles 1s. 6d., 2s. 6d., 4s. and 10s.		ASTHMA & DIFFICULT BREATHING promptly relieved and paroxysms averted by Datura Tatula Inhalations Testimonials accompanying each box of capsules. One of the most valuable remedies in the economical treatment of Asthma, and also in powder form of tobacco, and also in powder for burning, from 1s. 6d. to 5s.	

August 2, 1879.

26780

TRADE MARK.

**ELLWOOD'S**

PATENT AIR CHAMBER

HATS AND HELMETSTHE ONLY EFFECTUAL PROTECTION
AGAINST SUN STROKE.To be obtained of all respectable Hatters and Outfitters
and Wholesale only of**J. ELLWOOD & SONS,**
LONDON.

Beware of Useless Imitations.

DINNEFORD'STHE BEST REMEDY FOR ACIDITY
OF THE STOMACH, HEARTBURN,
HEADACHE, GOUT AND INDIGESTION.**DINNEFORD & Co., Chemists**
London,**N.B. ASK FOR DINNEFORD'S MAGNESIA.**

April 10, 1880.

**FLUID
MAGNESIA.**And of Druggists and Storekeepers throughout
the World.

1y.

MISCELLANEOUS.

**CROSSE & BLACKWELL'S
CELEBRATED OILMEN'S STORES.***Five Prize Medals, Paris, Vienna and Philadelphia.*

PICKLES AND SAUCES,
JAMS AND JELLIES,
ORANGE MARMALADE,
TART FRUITS, DESSERT FRUITS,
PURE SALAD OIL,
MUSTARD, VINEGAR,
POTTED MEATS AND FISH,
FRESH SALMON AND HERRINGS,
HERRINGS A LA SARDINE,
YARMOUTH BLOATERS,
BLACKWALL WHITEBAIT,
PREPARED SOUPS, IN TINS,
PRESERVED VEGETABLES,
HAMS AND BACON, IN TINS,
PRESERVED CHEESE,
OXFORD AND CAMBRIDGE SAUSAGES,
BOLOGNA SAUSAGES,
YORKSHIRE GAME AND PORK PIES,
TONGUES, GAME, POULTRY,
PLUM PUDDINGS,
LEA AND PERRINS' WORCESTERSHIRE
SAUCE.

*Fresh supplies of the above, and numerous other table
delicacies, may be had from most Storekeepers.***CAUTION.**To prevent the fraud of refilling the bottles or jars
they should invariably be destroyed when empty.Goods should always be examined upon delivery, to
detect any attempt at substitution of articles of inferior
brands.*All genuine goods bear the names of Crosse & Blackwell
on the Labels, Corks and Capsules of the Bottles,
Jars and Tins.*

CROSSE & BLACKWELL,
PURVEYORS TO THE QUEEN,
SOHO SQUARE, LONDON.

July, 1878.

ADOLPHUS SINGTON & CO.,

5, St. PETER'S SQUARE,

MANCHESTER,
ENGLAND.

CONTRACTORS, CIVIL ENGINEERS, AND
EXPORTERS

OF ALL DESCRIPTIONS OF

MACHINERY.

May 4, 1878.

MISCELLANEOUS.

**J. & E. ATKINSON'S
PERFUMERY,**celebrated for nearly a century past, is of the very best English
manufacture. For its purity and great excellence it has
obtained the following

EXHIBITION PRIZE MEDALS,
LONDON, 1862. PARIS, 1875. CORDOBA, 1872. LIMA, 1874.
VIENNA, 1883. PHILADELPHIA, 1876.
GOLD MEDAL, PARIS, 1878.

**ATKINSON'S CHOICE PERFUMES FOR
THE HANDKERCHIEF.**

White Rose, Frangipanne, Ylangylang, Stephanotis,
Opopanax, Jockey Club, Ess Bonquet, Trevel,
Magnolia, Jasmijn, Wood Violet, Gold Medal Bonquet,
and all other odours, of the finest quality only.

**ATKINSON'S
GOLD MEDAL EAU DE COLOGNE**is strongly recommended, being more lasting and fragrant than
the German kinds.**ATKINSON'S
OLD BROWN WINDSOR SOAP,**celebrated for so many years, continues to be made as hereto-
fore. It is strongly Perfumed, and will be found very durable
in use.**ATKINSON'S WHITE ROSE TOILET VINEGAR,**a new and indispensable Toilet accompaniment, and most
refreshing Perfume for the Handkerchief.**ATKINSON'S WHITE ROSE TOOTH PASTE,**and other Specialties and general articles of Perfumery may be
obtained of all dealers throughout the World, and of the
manufacturers

J. & E. ATKINSON,
24, OLD BOND STREET, LONDON, W.

PRICE LIST FREE ON APPLICATION.

CAUTION.—Messrs. J. & E. ATKINSON manufacture
their articles of one and the best quality only. Purchasers are
cautioned to avoid counterfeits by observing that each article
is labelled with the firm's Trade Mark, a "White Rose" on a
"Golden Lyre."

ESTABLISHED 1799.

**SCOTTISH IMPERIAL
INSURANCE COMPANY,**
For Fire & Life.

**TRANSATLANTIC
Fire Insurance Company
OF HAMBURG.**

C. ILLIES & CO.,
Agents.

Yokohama, 9th October, 1880.

THE BEST REMEDY FOR INDIGESTION.

TRADE



MARK.

CAMOMILE PILLS are confidently recommended as a simple Remedy for Indigestion, which is
the cause of nearly all the diseases to which we are subject, being a medicine so uniformly grateful
and beneficial, that it is with justice called the "Natural Strengtheners of the Human Stomach."
"Norton's Pills" act as a powerful tonic and gentle aperient; are mild in their operation, safe
under any circumstances, and thousands of persons can now bear testimony to the benefits to be
derived from their use, as they have been a never-failing Family Friend for upwards of 45 years.
Sold in Bottles at 1s. 1½d., 2s. 9d., and 11s. each, by all Medicine Vendors throughout the World.

CAUTION.

Be sure and ask for "NORTON'S PILLS," and do not be persuaded to purchase an imitation.

November 11th, 1878.

MISCELLANEOUS.

BUGS, SELF, A MOTHS, BEETLES,

and all other insects are destroyed by

KEATING'S INSECT POWDER,

which is quite harmless to Domestic Animals.

In exterminating Beetles the success of this Powder is extraordinary, and no one need be troubled by those pests. It is perfectly clean in application.

Ask for and be sure to obtain "KEATING'S POWDER," as Imitations are Noxious, and fail in giving satisfaction.

SOLD BY ALL CHEMISTS IN BOTTLES, 1/- & 2/6 each.

KEATING'S WORM TABLETS,

A PURELY VEGETABLE SWEETMEAT, both in appearance and taste, furnishing a most agreeable method of administering the only certain remedy for **INTESTINAL** or **THREAD WORMS**. It is a perfectly safe and mild preparation, and is especially adapted for Children.

TESTIMONIAL.

Medical Hall, Gildersome, Nov. 28th, 1876.

MR. KEATING,

Dear Sir,—I think it nothing but my duty to inform you of the immense sale I have for your Worm Tablets, which I may justly say is enormous, and in every case gives the greatest satisfaction. I have now in stock two bottles containing the Round Worms brought me during the last few days by customers, one Worm 40 yards long. I dare not be without the remedy.—Yours respectfully,

M. A. WALKER.

SOLD IN BOTTLES, BY ALL CHEMISTS AND DRUGGISTS.

Proprietor—THOMAS KEATING, London.

REWARD AND CAUTION.—Whereas fraudulent imitations of this unsurpassed remedy have been sold, I hereby request anyone knowing of the vendor of the same to communicate with me, on conviction of the offender a liberal reward will be paid.

April, 1880.

E. P & W. BALDWIN,

WILDEN WORKS.

STOURPORT ENGLAND.

SHEET IRON,

BRANDED

"BALDWIN—WILDEN," AND "SEVERN."

TIN PLATES,

BRANDED "EP & WB" "WILDEN," "UNICORN,"
WH
"ARLEY," "STOUR."

Stamping Sheets, Button Iron, Sheet Iron, Pickled, Cold Rolled, and Close Annealed.

Export Agents—

Brooker, Dore & Co., 2, Road Lane, London, E.C.
April, 1880.

THE "HIOGO NEWS."

PUBLISHED AT HIOGO EVERY MORNING,
(Sundays excepted).

SUBSCRIPTION \$24 per Annum, payable half-yearly in advance.

Terms for Advertising can be obtained at

"JAPAN MAIL" OFFICE.

Yokohama, February 12, 1874.

11.

MISCELLANEOUS.

HONGKONG AND SHANGHAI BANKING CORPORATION.

PAID-UP CAPITAL \$5,000,000.
RESERVE FUND... .. \$1,600,000.

Head Office: HONGKONG.

COURT OF DIRECTORS.

Chairman—The Hon. W. KESWICK, Esq.
Deputy Chairman—ALEX. McIVER, Esq.

E. R. Belilio, Esq., M. I. Dalrymple, Esq., H. Hoppius, Esq.,
Wilhelm Reinera, Esq., F. D. Sassoon, Esq., W. S. Young, Esq.,
H. de Courcy Forbes, Esq.,
Chief Manager—THOS JACKSON, Esq.

LONDON COMMITTEE.

A. H. Phillpotts, Esq., Director of London and County Bank.
E. F. Duncanson, Esq., of Messrs. T. A. Gibb & Co.
Albert Deacon, Esq., of Messrs. E. & A. Deacon.
Manager—DAVID McLEAN, Esq.

Bankers—LONDON AND COUNTY BANK.

SHANGHAI.

Manager—EWEN CAMERON, Esq.

BRANCHES AND AGENCIES.

New York, London, Bombay, Calcutta, Foochow, Shanghai, Hiogo,
Hankow, Saigon,
Amoy, San Francisco, Manila, Singapore.

YOKOHAMA BRANCH.

Interest allowed on Current Accounts at 2 o/o on Daily balances.
On Fixed Deposits, for 12 months, at 5 o/o
" " " " 6 " " 4 "
" " " " 8 " " 3 "

LOCAL BILLS DISCOUNTED.

Credits granted on approved Securities, and every description of Banking and Exchange business transacted.

Drafts granted on the Chief Commercial places in Europe, India, Australia, America, China and Japan, and Circular Notes issued for the use of Travellers.

JOHN WALTER, Manager.

Yokohama, 25th August, 1880.

The "Japan Mail,"

A Daily, Weekly, and Fortnightly Journal,

ESTABLISHED, 1865.

TERMS OF SUBSCRIPTION.

WEEKLY EDITION. The "Japan Weekly Mail," a Weekly Review of Japanese Commerce, Politics, Literature and Art.—Per annum, \$24; Six months, \$13; Three months, \$7.

FORTNIGHTLY EDITION, being a Summary of the foregoing, is published for transmission by the American Mail Steamers via San Francisco. Per annum, \$12; Six months, \$7; Three months, \$4.

THE JAPAN DAILY MAIL is published every morning (Sundays excepted) and contains the Arrivals and Departures of all Shipping, Passenger lists, Cargoes, Vessels on the Berth and in Harbour &c. &c. Also the latest Telegrams, Japanese news, Reports of Trials in the Courts of Law, Meetings of public bodies, and all matters of interest to the Community. Special attention is called to this Journal as a medium for circulating local advertisements. It has a large and constantly increasing circulation, its low price bringing it within the means of all classes of the community. It therefore affords exceptional advertising advantages, and secures to all announcements the utmost publicity, the object aimed at by advertisers.

SUBSCRIPTION PER MONTH—ONE DOLLAR.

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Printed and published for the Proprietor, by the Manager,
A. HERBERT BLACKWELL, at the "Japan Mail" Office, 16,
Bund, Yokohama.

SUPPLEMENT TO THE JAPAN WEEKLY MAIL.

YOKOHAMA, SATURDAY, 5TH FEBRUARY, 1881.

ARRIVAL OF THE AMERICAN MAIL.

TELEGRAMS.

Dublin, January 5th.—The President, Treasurer, Secretary, and two other members of the Trade Branch of the Land League were arrested at the weekly meeting of the Branch to-day, on a charge of sedition, and having resolved at the last meeting to a Boycott a man named Cants.

One of the rioters wounded in the encounter with the police near Claremorris, last night, has died.

At the trial of the traversers, the examination of stenographers and the reading of the notes was continued to-day. Counsel for defence endeavored to destroyed the value of the short-hand notes taken by Constable Stringer, by a question suggesting that they had been altered since being taken, but failed to shake the witness. From the line of cross-examination, it is evident that one point of the defence will be that nearly all the meetings at which the traversers spoke were sanctioned or presided over by the Catholic clergy. Parnell, Dillon and Sullivan were not present in Court to-day, having contrary to expectations, gone to attend the opening of Parliament.

Dublin, January 5th.—The officers of the Trade Branch of the Land League, who were arrested to-day, have been remanded, bail being refused. A large force of police escorted the prisoners to jail. A crowd assembled and threatened the police, but military with fixed bayonets joined the police.

All the traversers who are members of Parliament, except Healy, who is to attend a Land League meeting at Forney on Thursday, have gone to London. A. M. Sullivan, M. P., who was engaged in the State trials as one of the counsel for the defence, also remains at Dublin.

Dublin, January 5th.—At the Omagh Assizes to-day, farmer Graham was convicted of shooting Bailiff Mulholland, near Cookstown, on the 8th of December, and sentenced to penal servitude for life.

The officers and members of the Land League arrested at Tralee are Harrington, proprietor of the *Kerry Sentinel*, President of the League; Lyons, Treasurer; O'Rourke, Secretary; Kelly, a draper, and Brassil, proprietor of the *Kerry Independent*. They are charged, with other evil-disposed persons, with having on divers occasions during the month of December illegally held a Court in Tralee and exercised coercive jurisdiction.

London January 5th.—The *News*, editorially, says: 'The Queen's speech will state that a bill will be introduced for establishing County Boards on an elective basis in Ireland. This is an important measure. If, as we believe, it gives popular government in counties, it will do something to remove the semblance of the grievance which stimulates the Home Rule movement. The Irish counties will thus get what English counties have vainly looked for.'

London, January 5th.—A Military Commissioner of high rank, who has been making investigations in Ireland, has forwarded to the Government a full report of the observations and opinions, of which the following is a synopsis:

First—No actual organized rising is feared at present. A determined leader might have incited a rising, but the precautionary measures of despatching extra forces throughout the country, which have been adopted, have greatly lessened the probability of such an occurrence.

Second—There is no occasion to fear that the presence of additional forces will aggravate the disorder.

Third—If Her Majesty's Government at once takes strict measures for the repression of lawlessness, a peaceful solution of the present difficulties and the cessation of outrages and disturbances may be looked for with confidence. People well acquainted with the intentions of the Land League, state that a rising was never intended, at least not at present.

Liverpool, January 5th.—The steamship *St. Albans*, from Baltimore, lost 94 cattle on the passage, and the steamer *Enrique*, from the same port, lost 126. The *Brazilian*, recently wrecked, lost 40 head.

New York, January 5th.—The American Panama Canal Committee have received the following cablegram from Paris: A preparatory expedition, composed of engineers

and skilled mechanics, left Havre to-day for Panama direct, to commence a survey and operations immediately. A large number of mechanics and laborers, a quantity of machinery and a large supply of provision, have been ordered in New York and New Orleans, for immediate shipment to the scene of operations.

Havana, January 5th.—*El Triunfo* comments unfavorably on the King's speech at the opening of the Spanish Cortes, and says reforms in Cuba must remain subject to reciprocity treaties and protection, and therefore there can be no reforms. Spain cannot pay the Cuban debt incurred before 1878. It declares that the Cuban Liberals oppose the present law for the abolition of slavery, and want immediate abolition, unconditionally, without monetary compensation.

London, January 5th.—Premier Gladstone, replying to a letter relative to Transvaal; says: "I am assured that when full information is presented to Parliament, the Government's desire to act with impartial regard to the interests and rights of all parties concerned will be appreciated."

Paris, January 5th.—Vignaux says he will agree to Slosson's challenge for a return match, if he is allowed to practice four hours daily for a fortnight on the table which Slosson brought over and on which the last match was played. Vignaux says he thinks a suitable table can be found in Paris, without sending to New York. Vignaux declines Slosson's offer of expenses to New York, as if he went to America, he would appeal to nobody for his expenses.

Paris, January 5th.—The funeral of Blauqui took place to-day. A procession of 30,000 persons followed the remains to the cemetery, and an enormous crowd of spectators lined all the streets through which the procession passed. No disturbance occurred. Funeral orations were delivered over the tomb. Louise Michel was one of the principal speakers, and after leaving the cemetery she received an ovation from the populace. Henri Rochefort attended, but quitted the cemetery before the speeches were delivered.

Lyons, January 5th.—The value of exports from the Lyons consular district to the United States during December was 85,000,000 francs, being an increase of 1,000,000 francs over the amount for December, 1879. The total exports for the year were 60,000,000 francs, an increase of 11,000,000 francs compared with 1879.

London, January 5th.—An official despatch from Pietermaritzburg, dated to-day, says that Captain Lambert, lately a prisoner at Wiedelburg, has just arrived. He was released on parole, with Captain Elliott. Both were sent to the Orange Free State unarmed, but when crossing the Vaal River the Boers who accompanied them fired on them, and Captain Elliott was killed. Sixty-two prisoners of the 94th Regiment, released by the Boers, are on their way down.

Captain Lambert gives the following amount of the disaster, to the 24th, on the road from Pretoria to Lydenberg: The detachment was met by two men with a letter summoning the Colonel to surrender, allowing two minutes for decision. The Colonel refused to comply with this demand, and formed his men, on which fire was immediately opened on all sides. The officers were almost instantly shot down and the force disabled. The Colonel then ordered a surrender. Eighty-six men were buried on the field and 26 have since died.

Captain Lambert estimates the number of Boers at Heidelberg at 4000. He met large numbers of Boers going in from the Orange Free State.

The commanding officer at Newcastle reports that 300 Boers had entered Natal and taken up a strong position on the road to Transvaal, about five miles, within the border. They are pushing patrols to a point 10 miles from Newcastle.

Utrecht, Holland, January 5th.—Prof. Harting announces that 5000 persons have signed his address to the English people in regard to the independence of Transvaal. Copies of the address will be sent to the United States and other countries.

Agram, January 5th.—There was another violent shock of earthquake to-day.

Copenhagen, January 5th.—It is feared that the steamer

Oscar Dickson, with an exploring party, has been lost in the Siberian Polar Seas.

London, January 5th.—A book containing an entry regarding the steamer *Farnley* has been found on one of the bodies washed ashore on Jutland.

London, January 4th.—The commander of the ironclad *Lord Warden*, Guardship of the Frith of Forth, denies the story that a torpedo has been found beneath the bows of that vessel.

Dublin, January 4th.—The proceedings, to-day, in the State trial, principally consisted of cross-examination of two members of the constabulary, who had been employed as Government stenographers, on their evidence concerning speeches delivered by Parnell, Dillon, Biggar, Boyton, and Sexton, recommending the refusal of rents, Boycotting, etc. The cross-examination was very effective. The witnesses admitted that they were unable to make verbatim reports. One admitted that it was barely possible that he omitted sentences which might have qualified or explained those reported. He said he once falsely represented himself to be a newspaper reporter. Parnell was cheered as usual on leaving the Court.

London, January 4th.—A despatch from Birmingham states that inquiries have been made at leading gunmakers there, and the replies received confirm the reports of the exportation of arms to Ireland. Large orders have been, and are now being, executed. There has been, also, a brisk demand for revolvers. One of the principal gunmakers states that more revolvers have been sent to Ireland from Birmingham in the past two months than during the preceding two years.

London, January 4th.—Lord Dufferin has published a paper on the Irish land question, in which he strongly condemns "the three F's" system—fair rents, free sales, and fixity of tenure—pointing out that the sale of tenant interests has a tendency to saddle holdings perpetually with double rent, and he says the system, if granted, would only further encourage a new set of agitators to endeavour to dispossess landlords of the remaining vestiges of their rights. Lord Dufferin favours a system copied from that adopted at the enfranchisement of the Russian serfs, namely, the buying up of a large portion of the land in Ireland, and the conversion of rents into land charges payable to the State. For the chronically poverty-stricken districts of the West, he recommends that the State aid emigration to Manitoba and the northwest of Canada, to be worked with the co-operation of the Dominion Government. He points out that as the Catholic Church is supreme in those parts, the clergy of Ireland will not oppose emigration thither, as they do emigration to the United States.

The Times remarks that Lord Dufferin's suggestions, although interesting, do not forecast the Land Bill, as the Government will not make grants from the Exchequer or pledge the credit of the country.

Dublin, January 4th.—The Land League meeting which was to take place at Magherafelt, County Londonderry, on Thursday, and a counter demonstration thereon on the same day, have been prohibited.

The Gazette publishes a proclamation offering a reward of £500 for the discovery of the persons who fired at Rev. Canon Fleming, Rector of Ballinakill, last week.

London, January 4th.—The War Office has issued circulars to the officers commanding the volunteers in London and the provinces, advising them to take precautions against attacks on their armories.

London, January 4th.—Dr. Schliemann has presented his collection of Trojan antiquities to the Emperor of Germany, to be placed in the Museum in Berlin.

New York, January 4th.—The *World's* London special says: The Queen's speech was submitted to the Cabinet to-day, and will be signed by her Majesty to-morrow. Almost all the members of Parliament have arrived, and Lord Beaconsfield is said to be very active in his movements among them previous to the opening of the session. It seems to be conceded that Parnell is not allowed to leave Ireland. Justin McCarthy will take his place as leader of the Home-Rule party in the House of Commons.

Constantinople, January 4th.—The foreign Ambassadors refused to accede to the proposal of Tissot, the French representative, to send a collective note to the Porte in favor of arbitration, but have individually urged arbitration.

Berlin, January 4th.—The Emperor has received a report

on the excesses of partisans of the anti-Jewish agitation on New York's eve, and has expressed a desire that most stringent measures be taken against their repetition.

London, January 4th.—A despatch from Athens says that war seems unavoidable. The preparations of Greece, though exceeding her means, cannot be stopped unless a proper solution of the question is found.

Paris, January 4th.—A duel with swords has taken place between Graux and D'Iuffreville, a nephew of Madame de Brémont, in consequence of the letter of Madame Graux to Laisant in connection with the charges against Emile de Girardin. Graux was wounded.

London, January 4th.—A despatch from Lisbon says that the news that England has requested Portugal to allow British troops to pass through Portuguese territory to the Transvaal is correct. The Government must consult the Cortes, as the treaty bearing on that subject has not yet been ratified. As the Dutch Government thinks the Boers ought to be considered belligerents by the Powers, Portugal, being a neutral State, is in a difficult position.

The transport steamer *Queen* takes to the Cape 30 officers, 429 men and 357 horses. The *Hankow* take 6 officers 360 men and 210 horses. The *Ararat* take 5 officers, 187 men and 112 horses. These troops included dragoons, infantry and men of the army, hospital and navy service corps. A steamer sailed for the Cape yesterday with a million cartridges and other stores.

Durban, January 4th.—A despatch dated Newcastle, to-day, reports that a force of Boers have entered the territory of Natal, and intend to oppose the advance of the British from the Natal side of the Drakensburg.

The President of the Orange Free State has refused to permit rebel Basuto chiefs to obtain ammunition in his territories.

London, January 4th.—A despatch from Berlin states that the summoning of the Governor of Poland from Warsaw is believed at St. Petersburg to be connected with the alleged intention of the Czar to confer equality of civil rights on the Poles.

Dublin January 3rd.—On the resumption of the State trials this morning, the Court was crowded, though the proceedings were uninteresting, simply consisting of the reading of stenographers' notes of the speeches of the traversers. The Court to-day decided that the speeches delivered in favor of the traversers at various meetings throughout the country be read by their counsel. It is expected that this decision will considerably protract the trials.

A more repulsive and terrible year has never come upon the country. Its history may be written in two words: "Distress—Disturbance." It came in a begging box and has gone out with bludgeons. It will take many years to reconstruct the social system now in ruins, and few can be sanguine enough to hope the task will be accomplished in the present generation.

One of the largest land meetings ever held in Connaught took place at Loughrea, County Galway, Sunday. Davitt was the principal speaker. Several thousand persons were present.

The police patrol in Sligo county, last night exchanged shots with an armed party. It is supposed one of the parties was wounded. There was one arrest.

Cork, January 3rd.—Daniels, the man who was shot and dangerously wounded by the party of men who visited his house, persistently refuses to tell the police who the men were that fired upon him or for what reason they attacked him.

London, January 3rd.—It is stated that 1,000 guns are sent to Ireland surreptitiously from Birmingham weekly, and that within the last three weeks 5,000 Enfield rifles have been sent there from Birmingham shops.

There is small basis for rumors that the Fenians intend to seize arms in the north of England. Precautions are, however, being taken.

Dublin, January 3rd.—The counsel for the traversers took advantage of the decision of the Court permitting the reading of speeches, made in favor of the traversers, to take evidence concerning the speech of Richard O'Shaughnessy, with a view to showing that the Limerick meeting was not characterized by the violent tone that the Crown sought to attribute to it. Nolan, counsel for the traversers, also had read various long speeches. Judge Fitzgerald thereupon

remarked that they were a long rigniarole, without any bearing on the issue of the trials, and if they had any, in his judgment, it would be one prejudicial to the traversers. If the defence persisted in such a course, he said, the Court would have to sit from 10 o'clock till 6.

The Proceedings, except for this incident, consisted of reading extracts of speeches by Parnell, Bigger, Dillon, Sexton, Brennan and O'Sullivan, showing that the traversers had encouraged tenants to hold farms and pay no rent. If reduced rent was not accepted, telling them that the land question in Ireland would soon be settled as it had been in Germany, by their becoming the owners. At the rising of the Court Parnell was loudly cheered by a crowd in the hall of the Four Courts.

London, January 3rd.—A scheme to blow up the ironclad *Lord Warden*, guard-ship of the Firth, is supposed to have existed for the past week. A torpedo has been found beneath the bows of the vessel. A large torpedo has consequently been buoyed around the ship to keep boats or torpedoes off, and other precautions have been taken. The *Lord Warden* is an armor-plated steamship of 7800 tons, and carries 18 guns. She is in the coast guard service.

London, January 3rd.—The *Pall Mall Gazette*, in its editorial, says: There is too much reason to think that inquiry into the annexation and subsequent administration of the Transvaal would bring to light facts which would make all Englishmen indignant. If annexation be maintained, it will turn against us the enmity of every Dutchman in South Africa. The reasons usually assigned for not giving up the country are little else than shadowy.

New York, January 3rd.—A cable special to the *World* from London of the 2nd says: The Land-Leaguers who are now on trial in Dublin are claiming that eight of the jury-men are on their side, and they openly boast that there will be no conviction, as the jury will either disagree or declare the traversers not guilty. This has been the opinion of sensible people from the beginning. I am told by persons who are generally well informed in political matters that a fourth party, of which Lord Randolph Churchill is the acknowledged leader, will join with the Parnellites in their opposition to coercion, if by doing so they can see a chance of defeating the Government. This seems strange in connection with Lord Salisbury's patronage of the new party. The Ministry expect a prolonged opposition to coercion measures, and are prepared to meet it. An urgent whip has been sent round to all their supporters, and they will doubtless present their full strength when it comes to debate.

The Land Leaguers of Drogheda, finding that the authorities were determined to prevent them from holding a meeting to-day, held a meeting yesterday, taking the Government by surprise. Michael Davitt was hurriedly summoned from Dublin, and he made a telling speech of an hour's length.

T. M. Healy, member of Parliament from Waterford, who was passing through Drogheda, stopped over long enough to address the meeting. He was in the middle of his speech when the constabulary arrived under arms, and dispersed the assemblage. The riot act was read by a magistrate. There was also to have been a Land League meeting at Clontarf to-day, and an immense crowd turned out to attend it. They found the platform guarded by constabulary and dragoons, and no attempt was made to organize a meeting or to make speeches. Instead of this, fully 10,000 people formed in procession and were not interfered with by the military.

Twenty thousand people were present at a Land-League meeting in Youghal, county Cork. A striking feature of the assemblage was a body of 2000 mounted farmers. It does not appear that the authorities interfered with this meeting in any way.

The Queen will hold a Cabinet Council on Wednesday, at which Irish affairs will be fully discussed.

Cork, January 2nd.—A party of men have visited the house of a man named Daniels and shot him, inflicting dangerous wounds. The affair is believed to be connected with Fenianism.

Dublin, January 2nd.—A Land League meeting was held to-day near Killarney at which 800 persons were present.

In order not to come in contact with the police, a meeting which was called to take place at Drogheda on Sunday, and

which was prohibited, was held there on Saturday. After Healy and Davitt had made speeches, two magistrates summoned the Chairman to stop the meeting and the Riot Act was read. The people dispersed quietly. Ten thousand persons were present.

A monster Land League meeting took place at Balley Castle on Saturday, and a meeting at which 30,000 were present was held the same day at Killally. A collision is reported at Tuam between the soldiers and the crowd, during which stones were freely thrown.

A meeting which was to have been held at Clondalkin to-day was prohibited, because the authorities had reason to believe that it had been summoned for the purpose of interfering with the administration of the law and a fair and impartial trial of the traversers.

A troops of dragoons, a company of infantry and a large force of police surrounded the platform to prevent the meeting at Clontarf. Although a large number of people were present no attempt was made to hold a meeting.

London, January 2nd.—A dispatch from Constantinople says the Porte is informed that Greece is introducing arms on the mainland from Corfu and Santa Mauro in foreign vessels. The Porte proposes to notify the Powers of this violation of the treaties, which guarantee the perpetual neutrality of the Ionian islands.

London, January 2nd.—A dispatch from Berlin says: Dervish Pasha has arrested four more chiefs of the Albanian League, who will be sent to Constantinople.

Paris, January 2nd.—Despite the unfavourable declarations of the Porte and Greece relative to arbitration, the Powers have not abandoned negotiations for a compromise between the two countries.

Paris, January 2nd.—Slosson has sent a fresh challenge to Vignaux to-night for publication in the *Gaulois* and *Figaro*.

Madrid, January 2nd.—The Minister of the Netherlands to Spain was found dead in his bed this morning.

Rio Janeiro, January 2nd.—During the Senatorial elections in Ceava there was fighting between the various factions, and thirty-five persons were wounded.

London, January 2nd.—A Durban correspondent says: It is reported that if troops are sent from England to fight the Boers the Dutchmen in the free States will make common cause with the Boers.

The Premier of the Cape Government telegraphs on December 31st that the colonials have gained a signal success over the Tambookies, eighty rebels being killed and 8000 cattle and 5000 sheep captured.

Toulou, January 1st.—The ironclad *Richelieu* is still smouldering, and the firemen find it difficult to enter her without danger of suffocation. Some of the smaller guns will be recovered.

London, January 1st.—A Paris despatch says: The diplomatic relations of France are, as the year goes out, highly satisfactory.

New York, January 1st.—A Paris correspondent of the *Tribune* ridicules De Lesseps' methods of raising the wind by his Isthmus Canal operations. The real purpose, the "true inwardness," of the scheme lies in the 19th articles of the contract, or Notarial act of association, constituting the company. This states that ten per cent. of the shares are to form a privileged series of shares of stock for the founders of the company. If the whole stock should be realized this privileged proportion would amount to about 20,000,000 francs, or \$6,000,000. Was there ever a more bare-faced announcement? In truth, De Lesseps is a flash man. His pecuniary needs are great. He not only wants money, but he wants much of it. His liabilities are great, but I am much mistaken if he has not this time torn off rather too much of the veil which has hitherto hung over his schemes.

London, January 1st.—The *Daily News*, in a leading editorial yesterday, says: The Cabinet Council Thursday considered the Irish land scheme.

Two constables have started for Ireland with Hennelly, who was arrested at Tipton, England, for complicity in the murder of Lord Mountmorris.

A despatch from Cork says: The want of employment is felt everywhere, and nowhere more keenly than in those districts where the agitation has taken the greatest hold. Extraordinary meetings are being held in different parts of the country for the purpose of starting public works.

Dublin, January 1st.—Parnell, who was apparently indifferent while the case for the Crown was being stated, developed much watchful industry in regard to the witnesses, making copious notes and passing them to his counsel. It is a curious fact that one of the traversers, Gordon, has not up to the present even come to Dublin, and the Crown has never once inquired after him. It is stated that he is ill in the western part of Ireland.

The Crown does not trouble itself in regard to the whereabouts of the defendants. This has given the traversers much satisfaction, and it is probable that Bigger and others will go to the meeting of Parliament.

The reason assigned for the prohibition of all Land League meetings on Sunday, is that the meetings are calculated to excite ill feeling among Her Majesty's subjects.

Paris, January 1st.—A band of forgers of bonds and receivers of stolen bonds have been arrested in Milan. They belong to an organization comprising Italians, Frenchmen, Englishmen, Poles and Americans, having branches and agents in the chief cities of Europe, and were selling forged or stolen French bonds in Italy, Italian bonds in France and so on. An extensive robbery in Turin a few weeks ago has been traced to them, and other famous robberies between Paris and London are also attributed to the same parties. The prisoners will be taken to Turin.

New York, January 1st.—Charles Becker and George Angleton, forgers of unusual note, have been arrested and locked up in the Tombs to await extradition to Italy, where they are charged with obtaining large sums of money on forged bills of exchange. This capture breaks up a band of the most noted forgers, who have been the terror of the continent for years. Becker is well known to the police as the man who perpetrated the \$64,000 forgery on the Union Trust Company in 1873. They were arrested on a despatch from Consul Crosby, at Florence, being charged with forgeries there, and they will be held for extradition papers, which have been forwarded.

Rome, January 1st.—In order to avoid the repetition of misrepresentations in regard to the state of Ireland in Catholic newspapers, the Pope has requested all Catholic journals to submit their articles on Ireland to the Vatican authorities.

London, January 1st.—Alfred New has failed. He was the proprietor of extensive iron works at Trowell, near Nottingham. His liabilities are heavy. James Brierly & Co., cotton-spinners of Rochdale, have failed. Liabilities, £23,000.

London, January 1st.—The gross revenue of the United Kingdom for 1880 was £83,290,390. The receipts from customs decreased during the year £482,000, and from excise duties £507,000. The receipts from stamps increased £964,000 in consequence of the changes in the probate dues devised by Sir Stafford Northcote in his last budget. The Post Office revenues show an increase of £257,000, and the receipt from the telegraph £185,000.

London, January 1st.—The steamship *Alvetia*, which arrived yesterday, had been in collision. Her portquarter was considerably damaged and the afterhold was filled with water. She will be docked at Birkenhead for repairs.

Paris, January 1st.—Claude Joseph Cassimere Gaillardien, a French historian, and Signor Mauro Macchi, an Italian writer and rhetorician, are dead.

London, January 1st.—Haulan and Ross, the oarmen, have issued a challenge to any two men in the world for a double-scutt race for £500 or £1,000 a side the race to take place in the early part of the ensuing season. They will allow a portion of the stakes for expenses in going to America to row. Haulan and Laycock did good work yesterday. Both are in excellent health.

Paris, January 1st.—President Grèvy held the usual New Year's reception to-day. The Papal Nuncio conveyed the good wishes of the diplomatic body. President Grèvy replied that he was deeply touched by the warm tone of the sentiments expressed. He afterwards cordially thanked the Ambassadors individually. The receptions were more numerously attended than those last year.

London, January 1st.—The *Army and Navy Gazette* says: The army estimate in the new Budget will exceed twenty million pounds.

Dublin, January 1st.—Should Parnell and the other traversers who are members of the House of Commons decide to go to London, there is nothing in the law under

which they are indicted, to render their presence in Court necessary, and the case of Gordon indicates that no restraint will be put upon them. It is considered probable, in view of the announcement that the Government with precede the Land bill by measures of coercion, that Parnell and his colleagues will attend, to oppose this policy.

London, January 1st.—To-day the Employers' Liability and Grain Congress bills, passed at the last session of Parliament, came into operation.

London, January 1st.—All the prisoners for debt in Scotland were released at midnight, in pursuance of an Act passed at the last session of Parliament.

London, January 1st.—William Perry, alias "The Tipton Slasher," formerly a well known pugilist, died on Christmas Eve.

London, January 1st.—Boyd has informed Haulan that he will not go to Toronto to meet him. A match between Ross and Boyd on the Thames next August will probably be arranged after the Haulan-Laycock race.

London, January 1st.—The report of Blanqui's death seems to have been a rumor. Special correspondents at Paris say he is hopelessly ill and that his death is hourly expected.

London, January 1st.—The *Times*, in its financial column, says: A telegram has, we believe been received from Peru, stating that the Chileans had arrived within twenty miles of Lima, December 23rd.

London, January 1st.—A despatch received from Bombay yesterday says: It is reported that the One Hundred and Tenth Regulars of Bengal Lancers (natives) has volunteered for service in South Africa.

The Boer's account of the affair with the 94th Regiment is that Commandant Jaubert, with a patrol of 150 men, met the troops and requested the officers to await Colonel Lanyon's orders, but the officers insisted on going on. Commandant Janbert then commanded a charge, and in fifteen minutes fifty of the British were killed and many wounded, and then the remainder surrendered.

Cape Town, January 1st.—The Triumvirate have issued a proclamation defending their action and offering pardon to all opponents. They agree to retain the present officials, to admit a British Consul, and to indemnify Great Britain for her expenditure on behalf of the Transvaal. The Triumvirate have proclaimed martial law. Gov. Bellaires at Potchefstroom is closely besieged. His position causes great apprehension here. Colonel Lanyon, British Administrator for the Transvaal, is still at Pretoria. He has been summoned to surrender. The excitement throughout the Cape Colony is intense. Communication with the Transvaal, except through the Orange Free States, is entirely interrupted.

New York, January 1st.—A London cable special to the *World*, dated December 31st, says: I learned to-night on the authority of a member of the Government that the highest importance is attached to the grave intelligence received to-day from the Transvaal. The preparations of the Boers for revolt were much more perfect and elaborate than they were believed to be, as is shown by the fact that they have been able to hold Pretoria, with a large force, against the British arms. Their plans were pretty well matured, even at the close of the Zulu war for they purchased and are now mounted on horses used by the King's dragoons and lancers, which were sold at that time.

New York, January 1st.—A cable special to the *Herald* from London says: A telegram from the Hague states that the whole country called the land of Heensden and Altena is inundated by the bursting of the dyking last Wednesday night. The break is in the embankment of the river Maas, between Nienwkerk and Vlymen. The breach is said to be fifty yards wide. Eighteen villages are completely submerged. The inhabitants were obliged to flee for their lives, and a great loss of cattle and sheep is reported. There has also been some loss of life, but its extent has not been ascertained. The condition of affairs is most disastrous. The Relief Committee, which was organized at the time of the last inundation, has been reconstituted.

Paris, January 1st.—All the Powers are doing their utmost to calm the excitement in Greece. Bartholomy St. Hilaire, French Minister of Foreign Affairs, recently sent to Athens counsels by which the Greek Ministers must have been struck.

THE Japan Weekly Mail,

A WEEKLY REVIEW OF
JAPANESE COMMERCE, POLITICS, LITERATURE, AND ART.

Vol. V. No. 6.]

Yokohama, February 12th, 1881.

[\$24 PER ANNUM.]

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The Japan Weekly Mail.

'FAIS CE QUE DOIS; ADVIENNE QUE POURRA.'

NOTICE TO CORRESPONDENTS.

No notices will be taken of anonymous correspondence. Whatever is intended for insertion in the JAPAN WEEKLY MAIL must be authenticated by the name and address of the writer, not for publication but as a guarantee of good faith.

It is particularly requested that all letters on business, relating to Advertisements, Job-printing, or Accounts, be addressed to the MANAGER.

And that literary contributions of every description be addressed to the EDITOR.

YOKOHAMA: SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 12TH, 1881.

JAPANESE ERA 2541, MEIJI 14TH YEAR, 2ND MONTH, 12TH DAY.

The office of H.B.M. Chargé d'Affaires in Japan is certainly not a very enviable one. It would seem that he is not only expected to act as the community's mouthpiece in their discussions with the Japanese Government, but that he is also held accountable for the nature of the replies the latter may see fit to give. At the request of the Chamber of Commerce, Mr. Kennedy calls on the ex-Minister of Finance to discuss the present "financial and commercial position," and receives an assurance, that Mr. Okuma "deplores the stagnation in foreign trade and has used his utmost efforts to provide a remedy," but that, "contrary to the views of the Chamber," he attributes the depreciation of the currency entirely to adverse exchanges. This reply Mr. Kennedy transmits in its integrity without comment of any sort. He feels no doubt that he is addressing a body of reasonable business men, who understand that the best discharged duties are generally least paraded, and the result justifies his estimate. The Chamber is very naturally disappointed with Mr. Okuma's reply. They honestly believe him to be mistaken in his diagnosis of the situation, and fear that his error may induce unwise action. Perceiving, however, that his conviction is immutable, they refrain from "troubling Mr. Kennedy any further" in the matter, and Mr. Okuma's statement consequently "receives no further attention." In all this,

however, no shadow of dissatisfaction at Mr. Kennedy's action was apparent; no hint was dropped that he had omitted to urge this point, or might have pressed that more stoutly. On the contrary, the Chamber by implication expressed itself thoroughly content with the advocacy its views had received, since its perception of Mr. Okuma's determined obduracy could only have been based on a presumption that no effort to move him had been spared. Had there been any just ground for accusing Mr. Kennedy, either of perfunctoriness or credulity, it is little likely that the Chamber would have refrained from "troubling him any further" and concluded that all attempts to modify Mr. Okuma's views were well nigh hopeless. It was reserved therefore for a critic of more than sane shrewdness to discover, that the Chamber of Commerce meant to say something totally different from what it did say, and that the act of transmitting a message is equivalent to endorsing its terms.

This is simply mischief-making of the most pestilent description, but fortunately in the present case, too clumsy to be pernicious. The foreign community is not possessed of such "easy faith" as to be duped into applauding a champion who devises the grievances he parades, nor will the Chamber of Commerce accept with much gratitude a rôle that is little calculated to further the interests it advocates.

"Liberty Wilkes," when his application for the governorship of Canada was treated with contempt by Lord Bute, is reported to have told Mr. Rigby that his lordship had acted very foolishly, for in future the "North Briton" should never cease its attacks upon him until it had made him the most unpopular man in England. Concerning this, Boswell subsequently remarked, that the Wilkites had evidently great faith in the adhesive properties of dirt, for they threw it persistently even where it was least likely to stick. "True, Sir," replied Dr. Johnson, "but be assured that they will presently also discover its propensity to recoil and bespatter themselves far more grievously than those at whom it is directed."

"A straw shows how the wind blows," but that the approach of war should be indicated by bundles of straw sandals, is a very pretty addition to the catalogue of circumstantial vaticinations.

When General Grant, at the request of the Chinese Government, assumed the rôle of mediator in the Rinkiu trouble, he advised that each side should appoint a commissioner with absolute power to adjust the rival claims. Japan immediately consented, and forwarded the necessary credentials to Mr. Shishido, then Minister at Peking, a man justly deemed worthy of so grave a trust. The Chinese on their part were not backward. Mr. Shishido, in his capacity of plenipotentiary commissioner, was informed by the Tsungli Yamen that they had received Imperial authority to treat with him absolutely and definitely, and with this understanding the negotiations were commenced. When both parties are actuated by a sincere desire to agree, the progress

of a debate is for the most part tolerably smooth. Japan was certainly actuated by such a desire, and China seemed to be. Moreover, in this case, the path to be followed was pretty clearly defined. Geography, history, and language, all combined to support Japan's claim, but she was ready to concede much for the sake of amity, and the result was, that terms mutually satisfactory were soon devised. The group of islands was partitioned; China annexing Miyako and Kume, which were nearest to her own coast, and Japan retaining the remainder. At the same time the former power was to accord Japan treaty rights exactly similar to those enjoyed by other foreign nations which had intercourse with the Celestial Kingdom. We need not here describe the differences that had previously existed in this respect. As a matter of fact they were trivial, but whatever might have been their nature, the principle that required their removal was incontrovertible. A treaty embodying these clauses was drawn up and ready for signature on the 22nd of September, 1880. Mr. Shishido telegraphed to Tokiyo that everything was satisfactorily arranged, and for a moment the Japanese Government enjoyed the reward of firmness and moderation. But China was not equally comfortable. Not, indeed, that she discovered any grounds of complaint in the proposed arrangement, but her self-respect was shocked. She had been betrayed into departing from her time-honored path of procrastination, and it was necessary that she should at once resume her imperturbable snail's pace. The Tsungli Yamen asked for ten days to deliberate. Mr. Shishido, anxious to be himself the bearer of the ratified compact, and anxious also to accomplish his long contemplated return to Japan, had yet no choice but to consent. The desired end might be deferred, but it still seemed certain. Ten days passed, fifteen days passed, twenty days passed, but still the Tsungli Yamen deliberated. At last when Mr. Shishido's patience was well nigh exhausted, though his confidence remained unshaken, he received a communication from his fellow Commissioners. It was an astounding communication, but by no means without precedent in the history of China. The Emperor declined to ratify the convention until he had submitted it for approval to the Viceroy of the North and South! So then the Tsungli Yamen had arrogated authority which it never possessed, and while professing to fall in with the plan suggested by General Grant, had from first to last consulted its own convenience alone. Japan might well have taken grave offence at such contemptuous treatment. Herself acting throughout with perfect good faith; delegating to her Commissioner extraordinary powers sufficient to render his decision final, and honestly prepared to accept that decision in its integrity, she finds at the last that China has not only left the conduct of the transaction in the hands of her ordinary officials, but that she has no intention whatever of accepting anything beyond what is perfectly pleasant and reasonable in her own eyes. Plainly there was only one course for Mr. Shishido to pursue under the circumstances. He informed the Tsungli Yamen that reference to the Viceroy of the North and South was quite unnecessary! That he had been only authorized to confer with commissioners in whom powers equal to his own were vested; that the Tsungli Yamen, by simulating the possession of such powers so long as it suited their convenience, and laying them aside when the occasion suggested, had not acted with the good faith expected by the Government of Japan, and that finally since the very constitution of the convention violated the original agreement, he had no choice but to retire from it, withdrawing at the same time the proposal he had made on behalf of his country, and therefore cancelling the cession of the two islands Miyako and Kume.

At the present moment China is probably a little startled by this unlooked for firmness, but that is all. She cannot be offended—unless indeed it be true of Governments as of individuals that the injurer is always less forgiving than the injured—neither has any rupture taken place between the two countries. Things have simply reverted to the position they were in before General Grant's interference, with however this difference, that whatever may have been the justice of China's case before, she has now placed herself hopelessly in the wrong. From the most lenient point of view it must be confessed that she has been particularly unfortunate of late in her method of conducting foreign negotiations.

Meanwhile the *Kongolwan* has gone to bring Mr. Shishido home. Japan does not withdraw her Representative from Peking. The staff of the Legation remains there, the Minister being replaced by his first Secretary—but as we have said before, Mr. Shishido's leave of absence has been deferred until the conclusion of the Convention, and it is not only privately convenient but publicly expedient that he should return. In the opinion of many, the despatch of a Chinese Commissioner to Tokiyo would have been much more consistent with the merits of the case than the course actually pursued, but Japan very willingly waived all such considerations. Now, however, it would be at once useless and undignified for Mr. Shishido to prolong his stay in Peking. The *Kongolwan* will meet him either at Chefoo or Shanghai, but she has no instructions either to bombard the Taku Forts with her "cargo of ammunition" or shoe an army with her "bales of straw sandals."

One is reminded of the siege of Carthage when one hears of women and girls cutting off their hair and weaving it into cords, not for bow-strings indeed, but for the more ignoble purpose of drag-ropes. Let no one say that fanaticism is extinct so long as carts laden with material for temple construction are drawn to their destination by such means. We are plainly not so far removed from the days when the soldiers in the barrier guard houses of Yechizen and Kaga had orders to prevent the exit of all gold, silver, or articles of value other than those required for immediate use, lest theiefs should be utterly impoverished by the people's profusion in the matter of religious offerings. Not only fifteen thousand minor temples, but the inhabitants of as many villages in the South and West, are to-day combining their resources to rebuild the monster monastery of Hongwan at Kiyoto, and since there is now nothing to check private liberality, we may anticipate an edifice worthy of the most powerful Buddhist sect in Japan. Fabulous accounts of offerings in coin and kind reach us from Yechizen, Kaga, Yetchiu, Mino and indeed all the central provinces. Timber is of course the great desideratum, and we hear of colossal cedars making their way slowly and painfully towards the capital in carts to which three or four hundred people are yoked by ropes of hemp and female hair. The use of anything not purely Japanese is interdicted, but this rule is apparently capable of evasion on occasions, for a certain wealthy yeoman who possessed a magnificent block of Indian pine, was informed that the cenobites would not refuse to accept it, since *Shakka* is no less revered in Indian than in Japan.

It is curious to observe how nearly the terrible storm reported to have caused such damage in England, is contemporaneous with a snow-fall of proportionately unwonted violence in the north and west of Japan. From Hokuroku, Yechigo, Takata, etc., news comes to the effect that last month has been made memorable by an accumulation of snow without precedent during the last twenty years. The tele-

graph posts are in many places completely buried, and it is only by incessant labour that the inhabitants can preserve their houses from destruction. Such rumours sound strangely to us who live here in sunshine and begin to tell ourselves that the plum-blossoms are bursting and the hazes of Spring lending a semblance of softness to the landscape.

In an appendix to his History of Japan Mr. Adams states, that so far as he knows "the conception of female chastity and virtue, as we apprehend it in Europe, and as these qualities exist among our women, is hardly to be found in Japan." He even goes so far as to doubt whether an equivalent for our word "chastity" exists in the Japanese language. Coming from one whose estimate of Japan and Japanese things is generally formed with the utmost impartiality and judgment, this opinion deserves all deference, but that it is erroneous and misleading we are most thoroughly convinced. In the first place, long and careful observation has convinced us, that among married women, chastity (*teisetan*) not only exists, but exists in a considerably greater degree than it does with ourselves. We do not speak now of the upper ranks. In their case the fact is beyond question. But we say that amongst a class of women, whose conduct will not endure too close scrutiny either in England or on the Continent, immorality will here be found to be the exception, and fidelity, unswerving fidelity, to a husband himself anything but faithful, the common rule. It may perhaps be said that this is born of duty not of principle, but who will affirm the distinction, or supposing it affirmed, who will take upon himself to see therein any ground of disparagement? In the case of unmarried women, however, a moral phase somewhat different from that which obtains with us is perceptible. That intense antipathy to everything savouring of immodesty, and instinctive shrinking from its contact, which are believed to be at once the signs and the safeguards of virgin virtue in the West, certainly do not exist to any great extent in Japan. Self-consciousness, their inevitable companion, is completely absent. It is openly confessed, that so long as we are encumbered with sentient bodies, we can live in no world other than that we inhabit, and that the prudery which professes ignorance of life's circumstances is at best a useless hypocrisy. Whether it were better to walk with open eyes and if we fall, fall wittingly, or to grope our way with veiled faces and stumble perhaps against something utterly unanticipated; this is the question Japanese Sociology seems to have proposed to itself, and to the result of the reply must be attributed that quietly unostentatious discretion and complete freedom from gauche sensitiveness which render the Japanese girl so charmingly companionable and at the same time so incomprehensible. Many of the forms significant in our eyes are indeed absent, but the reality most undoubtedly exists, and we firmly believe that a code of chaste morality, varying somewhat from our own, but not by any means less effective, is obeyed by the unmarried woman in Japan with the same loyalty as in England or America. That an opinion opposed to this is largely entertained by foreigners, cannot certainly be denied, but even its advocates will admit that they know their data to be insufficient. Not by any fault of our own, but owing to the inevitable circumstances of our lives, we are unfortunately denied intimate access to that section of Japanese Society which alone can be counted representative. Until these conditions be changed, it were more just at least to suspend our judgment, nor base upon isolated examples, a creed that is at once insulting to those amongst whom we live, and calculated to perpetuate our own ostracism.

A good deal has already been written upon this subject, especially in the early days when civilized men had too often

reason to be shocked at the riotous violence laid to their countrymen's charge. Happily now, however, there is little reason to write. Those disgraceful incidents are seldom, if ever, repeated, and though one sometimes fancies it might be useful to enquire whether the improvement is due to a radical metamorphosis of our own morals, or to a better appreciation of the character of those with whom we have to deal, silence seems on the whole wiser than speech. It is not so, however, when we are confronted by such a case as that described in the letter we publish to-day from a lady correspondent. Here we have evidence not only that the old false impression still exists somewhere in its worst form, but that there are amongst us men who are incapable of self-restraint even in the presence of their own countrywomen. We need not dwell upon such a topic. The public will not be slow to pass its own verdict, but on the behalf of this community, we venture to assure the women of Japan, that no epithet they can apply to the conduct of these graceless roughts will be too strong to measure our indignation.

The second concert of the season, by the Yokohama Choral Society, was given in the Masonic Hall last Monday evening before a crowded house. The programme was well varied, (song and ballad alternating with part-song and chorus,) the room was beautifully warm, and we must congratulate the Society on another success. The great event was of course the Grand Scene from *Der Freischütz*, splendidly sung by Mrs. Zappe; the vociferous applause which followed being responded to by an exquisite rendering of a delightful little song "Gute nacht." An apology was made for Mr. de Bavier (suffering from hoarseness) and his place was supplied by two members of the Society, who kindly contributed each a song to supply the vacancy. Several lady members (nearly all we believe *débütantes*), gave songs and ballads; the little nervousness incidental to a first appearance was at times apparent, but all went well. The favorite songs were Sullivan's "Let me dream again," Hatton's "Last Farewell," Robandi's "Stelle confidante" with violin obbligato, and Balfe's "Let not the roses listen." This last was encored but the lady could not be prevailed upon to sing again. The chorus work bounded along with great fire and spirit, all the numbers being given *con amore* by a choir of about thirty voices. We are glad to hear that the Society is flourishing and can now boast of about sixty members. We learn further that the long talked of "Pinafore" will be put in rehearsal immediately, and that the performance may be looked for about the middle of next month.

In one extremely vital respect, it is fortunate that Japan has not been in a position, if even she had been inclined, to follow that ultra-protectionist course that would have been shaped for her by some of her advisers. Had she, for instance, waited to acquire a mercantile marine until one could have been built and equipped in her own ports, the fleets of the Mitsui Bishi and less widely known companies would not be rendering their present effective service toward the development of the trade of their country; and the coast traffic, as well as that hence to China, would still be in the hands of Great European or American Associations. The absurd law which interdicts the importation into the United States of vessels constructed abroad, has reduced a once valuable and thriving shipping industry to a truly lamentable condition, as is shown in unimpeachable figures in a recent report, by the Chief of the Statistical Bureau at Washington. While American exports and imports carried in foreign bottoms last year, were nearly nine times in excess of value over those of

1856, the like trade conducted in vessels flying the stars and stripes was, in 1880, about half that of 1856. In spite of the enormous increase in the population from thirty to fifty million in the last four lustres, the tonnage of American vessels engaged in the foreign trade has fallen from two and a third million tons to one and a third million in that period. If the fact were not stated on such high authority it would seem incredible that only twenty-three ships and barques, sailing vessels, were built in all the yards of the Great Republic in the course of the year lately closed. During the past five years, while British engineers constructed 1,800,000 tons of iron ships, their fellows across the Atlantic have built only 100,000 tons, "a disparity," says the Washington correspondent of the *New York Herald*, "so great that it would seem to deserve the attention of American statesmen, if any such there are." Since 1856 native tonnage entered at United States ports has alone decreased; but German, Swedish and Norwegian, Italian, French, Austrian, Belgian, Russian, and even Spanish, tonnage has largely advanced, while Great Britain's accretion is represented by the tremendous figure of 7,000,000 tons entered in American harbors. In 1860 sixty-six per cent of American exports and imports was borne on American vessels. In 1880, maritime commerce having meanwhile doubled in value, only seventeen per cent was so conveyed. The United States being a great mercantile power with a seaboard of vast extent, the Statistical Chief's apology for the decline in its mercantile marine will hardly be satisfactory to patriotic citizens. These will doubtless be glad to hear that "capital finds abundant and more profitable employment in home industries and enterprises than in vessels upon the ocean"; but the explanation, however specious, will barely reconcile them to the loss of the best possible school for militant sailors in the event of war. Americans are now asking to have free ships, or at least to be allowed "to import steamers at a certain rate of duty, as they import other commodities."

We have to record another conflagration in Tokiyo, scarcely less disastrous than that of the 26th ultimo. The flames broke out yesterday evening (11th) at about six o'clock, in Koyanagi street, Kanda. Whether their origin is to be ascribed to a brazier in the house of a female hair-dresser by name Ishii Kura, or to the furnace of a broiled beef stall next door, is not yet definitely determined. At any rate a cruel gale of wind—which ever since the forenoon had kept men anxiously speculating on the terrible results of a fire fostered by such a force—swept the destroyer eastwards with irresistible violence, urging it to leap hither and thither in a very ferment of activity. Presently too it was seen that the flame had bifurcated, one tongue turning in the Nihonbashi direction, and the other towards Riyogoku. The latter's progress was ultimately arrested when it reached the scene of ruin wrought by its predecessor of the 26th ultimo at Yanagiwaracho, but by what accident the former's course was stayed, it is difficult to divine. Human agency at any rate does not deserve much credit, for when we say that the best organized fire brigade and the most powerful engines in the world could have availed little on such a night, it is not difficult to estimate the results attributable to the Japanese processes and appliances of to-day. This morning the tale of destruction comprises forty-four streets wholly or partially devastated, and 8,246 houses in ruins. As to the loss of life we are not yet in a position to speak definitely, but we fear the list of casualties will be even more than usually long. One or two more such calamities, and Tokiyo will have almost ceased to exist.

A well reasoned editorial critique in the *New York Herald* upon the condition of the American merchant navy closes in words which may find a future admonitory echo on this side of the Pacific:—

But aside from the naval and financial reasons, the commercial reasons are solid enough to require an immediate change of policy. There are half-a-dozen foreign nations which have no interest in shipbuilding, that are large carriers of our products. They buy the ships in England or Scotland and make great profits by sailing them. Why should American capital and enterprise be deprived of their share in these profits? Stage lines are not run to benefit coach builders, railroads are not run for the mere interest of manufactures of the rolling stock. The profits come from the traffic; the benefit to the constructors of the vehicles is incidental. Why should we sacrifice so great a national interest as our navigation to the chimerical fears of a few shipbuilders? Under the present system they do not build the ships that carry our products. How could they be any worse off if these ships were owned by American sailors, and if their profits helped the American side of the balance of trade? As they do not build, and are not likely to build, the ships, how could they be injured if our own citizens, instead of foreigners, reaped the profits of sailing them?

A frequent topic of comment amongst us of late years has been the process of roughening to which Japanese manners and customs are being gradually subjected. That perfect and imperturbable courtesy, which in the old times charmed us so much and so justly, is disappearing little by little, and in its place we too often find the bluntness of the west without its justification. Some have been disposed to regard this entirely as the result of foreign example, not recognizing that the necessities of her altered condition have expelled the "science of politeness" from Japan's educational curriculum. Such however is the fact. In olden times a child did not learn reading and writing alone, but was also instructed in all the usages of society, sometimes after the Kogasawara school, sometimes after that of Ise, but always in such a fashion that his behaviour was guaranteed against any evidence of ungainliness or *grossièreté*. No doubt this sort of thing was occasionally carried beyond the bounds of reason,—as for example in the case of the Tea Clubs,—but it was all delightfully calculated to oil the wheels of good-fellowship, and we can ourselves testify what jarring unlovable elements its absence has begotten. In good time, however, the Japanese have recognized the error of completely laying aside their ancient usages, and it has now been determined to restore the science of politeness to its former place in the national education. In future an important item of school instruction will be that of teaching the children how to pay and acknowledge a compliment, from which dish to eat first at a feast, and how to adjust their obeisances to the quality of their *vis-à-vis*. A lack of competent professors seems to be the main difficulty in carrying out the scheme, so it has been wisely resolved first to qualify the present staff of school instructors, and then to utilize their services for the pupils.

What is "the East?" Downing street clerks and *Times* leader-writers would answer that it is Greece, Turkey, Bulgaria, Roumania, and perhaps one or two minor principalities. As far as latitude is concerned it does not, now, extend beyond the Dardanelles. Truly a very limited Orient! The sun rises between Cathay and Greenwich. At least the ignorant would be induced to believe so, if they accepted the teaching of a recent article in the leading London journal. According to that effusion, Russia is withdrawing herself from active participation and tranquil prosecution of her "works of interior organization." When Muscovite schemes in this part of the world shall have attained a measure of fruition,

people in western Europe will know what "interior organization" means from a Russian point of view. They will also learn that "the East" is not bounded by the Dardanelles, and that the sun rises as far from Peking as from London or St. Petersburg.

The management, during the past few years, of the Hongkong and Shanghai Banking Corporation has been a magnificent success, and has brought the income of the shareholders from a state of precarious tenure to one of assured and handsome return on investment. From telegrams received yesterday, the forthcoming balance sheet will be a new guarantee of present prosperity and future affluence. Latest despatches announce that a dividend of £1.10s. per share, equivalent to thirteen per cent per annum on paid-up capital, will be paid, and in addition two hundred thousand dollars have been added to the Reserve Fund, which now stands at \$1,800,000. The total accumulations of the corporation, including this reserve, now amount to between six and seven million dollars. A net profit of thirteen per cent on the twelve months' operations is fair cause of elicitation to the Directors, and one of justifiable self commendation on the part of those who have always had practical and pecuniary confidence in one of the greatest of far-eastern banking associations.

Considering the mischief they have so long threatened to work, "the sleeping dragon" (Riukiu) seems a curiously appropriate title for the group of islands China shows so much reluctance to resign. But the name, though not unbecoming a Kingdom, is deemed too grandiose for a paltry prefecture, so that now-a-days the Japanese prefer to speak of Okinawa, or the "extended rope." The former term, however, better befits the aspect of the place, for not alone does the long narrow line of rugged islets resemble some monstrous animal stretched out on the surface of the water, but the unceasing tumult and tumble of the seas that lash its sides, lend it a semblance of fierce life well suited to the character of the giant serpent. And indeed if it should unfortunately happen that the possession of the islands comes to be decided by the sword, a place more inconvenient for naval operations could not well be conceived. In the whole group there are only two ports; the harbour of Unten, where Tametomo, despising his mariner's warning, committed his fate (un) to heaven (ten), and that of Naha, where scarcely one ship of war might lie securely. The surrounding ocean too so bristles with reefs and sunken rocks, that from the oldest times no vessel dared attempt their passage without the guidance of a pilot from Satsuma, and the men of Riukiu not unnaturally deemed that heaven had purposely built these fortifications to guarantee their freedom. And free too they might well have been let remain, so far at least as any benefits they could confer on their rulers were concerned. For these three hundred thousand people lived miserably enough in their five hundred ill-built villages, hardly paying their taxes or scraping together enough to meet the exactions of their despotic government. The country is almost without timber and absolutely without metal, so that the houses were nothing more than wattled hovels, where on winter and summer nights alike half the family sat up to protect the others from the clouds of mosquitoes, and the mud walls often failed to keep out the venomous adder (hamu). The soil indeed was generous enough. Sugar grew luxuriantly and might have been cultivated with the greatest success, but a law centuries old entitled the Government to take possession of the whole crop at a merely nominal valuation, and the people were consequently compelled to

raise cereals for which the land was totally unsuited, but which were more or less exempt from the ruinous prerogatives of the crown. In truth, the condition of the bulk of the natives was wretched in the extreme, for not only was the bounty of nature rendered inaccessible to them by unjust enactments, but their social status was a serfdom of the most helplessness nature. Fifteen thousand paid officials, and an equal number of hereditary idlers, preyed on them perpetually, regarding life and property as things to be toyed with at will, and the only resource they had in their sufferings was patience.

Strange to say even in those hard times Japan seems to have been always regarded with the utmost reverence and affection, for it was the habit of the humbler folks invariably to turn their heads northward in sleep, so that their feet might never be presented to the Country of Kings. One can easily imagined therefore with what joy they welcomed the day that saw their islands proclaimed a Japanese prefecture, their rights as free citizens assured to them and the laws that paralyzed their industry, repealed. No doubt the fifteen thousand patricians who found themselves thus deprived of their incomes and their privileges alike, were ill satisfied with the change, and would gladly have resorted to some more deadly weapon than a memorial to the Government at Peking, but that nine-tenths of the nation benefited immensely, there can be no question whatever. The upper classes too have apparently become reconciled to the reform, for within the last few months a considerable number have taken service in the Japanese army or applied for admission to the Military College. Surely we have ample warrant for wishing that the present state of affairs may prove permanent, for if the interests of humanity be things of any moment, the successful assertion of Chinese claims would be more than a calamity to every man in Riukiu.

Jacob served a grievously long time for Rachael, but then he got her in the end, so that on the whole he may be counted more fortunate than a certain missionary, who for nine years preached perpetually at Nasu-no-uye in Riukiu, without making a single convert. He was always apparently suffered to go his own way unmolested either by the Government or the people, for though the former invariably sent a man to keep watch during the sermons, that official's presence can scarcely have been altogether unwelcome, since he constituted the whole audience. "Quid mollior aqua, quid durius saxo &c." Surely the missionary was not over credulous when he persuaded himself that the gentle words which had dropped from his lips so long and so persistently must have produced some impression on the obdurate heart of that solitary listener. He presented the official with a bible. Two hours afterwards the ashes of the holy book were deposited at the foot of a royal proclamation forbidding all preaching or teaching of foreign religions for the future. This, so far as can be ascertained, is the complete history of Christianity in Riukiu.

At the Annual Meeting of the Congregation of the English Church, Tokiyo, held at the British Legation, on Tuesday, January 25th, the Committee were directed to prepare an address to Mr. and Mrs. De Boinville, on the occasion of their leaving Japan, thanking them for the many services they have rendered the Church.

The following is a copy of the address forwarded:—

DEAR MR. AND MRS. DE BOINVILLE.

On behalf of the Congregation of St. Andrew's Church, Tokio, we desire to express our feelings of deep regret at your departure from Japan, and to assure you of our warm appre-

ciation of the services you have rendered the Church during the years you have remained among us.

Be assured that you carry with you, on your return to Europe, our warmest wishes for your welfare and happiness.

We who remain will not easily forget your ready help and kindly sympathy in all that concerned the prosperity of our Church.

Wishing you both a safe and happy return to your friends,

We remain,

Signed on behalf
of the Congregation.

J. G. KENNEDY, H. M.'s Chargé d'Affaires,	} Committee.
A. C. SHAW, Chaplain of Legation.	
W. D. COX.	
L. P. WILLAN.	

We are glad to be able to inform our readers that the scheme for lighting the settlement with gas has prospered so well that, should no unforeseen accident occur, we shall be able to enjoy the unwonted luxury of lighted streets on and after the 16th instant. Quite a number of extra posts have been erected, and those that were standing look comparatively respectable now that they have been repaired.

MR. OKUMA AND THE CHAMBER OF COMMERCE.

THE discussion which took place at the Annual meeting of the Chamber of Commerce on the 8rd instant, presented some features of more than usual interest. The point at issue was the cause of the currency depreciation. Mr. Okuma—according to the letter of H. B. M. Chargé d'Affaires—ascribed it to the adverse balance of trade; the Chamber, with only one exception, to an excessive issue of paper. The two views differ, we believe, in expression rather than in reality. In considering them it will be well to observe at the outset, that the same economical laws obtain in Japan as in all other countries, questions of foreign investment and a few other very minor points being temporarily excepted. We are not called upon therefore to devise any new theory, but only to apply principles already established beyond the possibility of error.

In view of the circumstances under which paper money was originally issued in Japan, we may safely assert that it was carried, for the most part, directly into the market for commodities. During a long period though not theoretically convertible it was practically so, and it consequently took the place of the precious metals exactly in the same way and to the same degree as a convertible currency would have done. That the result of this was largely to stimulate importation and check exportation, is of course undeniable. The exchanges turned against Japan and a rapid efflux of coin commenced. With a convertible currency this would ultimately have been arrested by external reaction, neither would it have been possible to circulate a quantity of paper greater than that of the metallic media it superseded. But with inconvertible paper there was no such limit. The issue continued even after the coin had been practically driven from circulation, and the inevitable consequence was, depreciation; not now, however, a depreciation tending to encourage imports through increased prices, but one which exercised quite an opposite influence. So far then the case seems to have been stated more correctly by the Chamber of Commerce than by Mr. Okuma, but let us go a little further, and enquire to what point the substitution of paper for the metallic media may be safely carried. The answer is simple. To that point at which the amount of specie remaining in circulation is just "sufficient to maintain, both in fact and in public belief, the convertibility of the paper." In propor-

tion therefore as the quantity of coin in circulation is diminished, the limit of safety in the issue of paper is approached, and anything tending to accelerate the diminution, must equally tend to contract the limit. Can we then detect any factor which has considerably influenced the decrement of the metallic media apart from the inevitable efflux of coin due to the adverse exchanges that did certainly rule, and could not but have ruled, during the early years of the paper issue? Certainly we can, unless we are prepared to assert that the immense sums expended by the Government in purchasing ships, munitions of war, machinery, foreign labour and so forth, have been without appreciable effect in draining the country of treasure—sums which, though for the most part they do not appear in the ordinary trade returns, must nevertheless be justly added to the import column, and are probably so added by Mr. Okuma. The ex-Chancellor of the Exchequer, in short, takes the amount of specie remaining in the country as his unit of measure; the Chamber of Commerce takes the amount of popular confidence reposed in Kinsats. Both arrive at the same result though by different processes of reasoning. This estimate is exactly what one might expect from a practical merchant, who finds it impossible to make contracts; that, from a Minister of Finance, to whom the drain of specie has always been a subject of the keenest anxiety. The Chamber of Commerce rightly combats any attempt to saddle foreign trade with Japan's present embarrassments, and Mr. Okuma repudiates, no less properly, any indiscretion on the part of the State, but that he does not deny a plethora of paper is amply proved by his efforts to reduce it.

So much for the debate itself; but what of the comments to which it has given rise? To attribute the currency depreciation to an adverse balance of trade, is, we are told, equivalent to saying that the more money sent out of the country, the lower will be the value of the residue. Can anything be more exquisitely ridiculous? Paper is depreciated with regard to specie, and everyone not willfully blind can see that any diminution in the amount of specie, not accompanied by a corresponding diminution in the amount of paper, must tend to reduce the value of the latter as compared with the former. The author of this marvellously illogical statement will do well to observe, that in his anxiety to convict Mr. Okuma of error, he has also charged the President of the Chamber of Commerce with holding "absurd doctrines," for the latter says in his speech:—"it cannot be denied that the excess of Imports over Exports has to some extent affected the currency." Again, Mr. Okuma's action in seeking to reduce the quantity of inconvertible paper is construed into a "confession that the balance of trade has nothing to do with the depreciation of the currency." An adverse balance of trade does not, then, signify an export of money, and the relative value of two commodities is not affected by the quantity of each in the market! We are driven to choose between two conclusions:—either that the signification of English words has been suddenly altered, or that Mr. Kennedy's letter to the Yokohama Chamber of Commerce does not by any means contain such a "tissue of absurdities" as the assertions of its critic.

A QUESTION.

ARE the true interests of Japan and those of the foreigners who live upon her soil, allied and akin or divided and antagonistic? It is well that the question should be distinctly formulated and definitely answered,

lest errors now fostered by blind prejudice or an evil purpose, should find in our silence even a semblance of assent. To approach such an inquiry with patience is indeed difficult, so ludicrously irrational does it seem to suppose, that men voluntarily electing to make their home in a foreign land and to trust their fortunes to the fruits of an honest commerce with the owners of that land, should deliberately persist in proclaiming themselves aliens, and demonstrating the incompatibility of their welfare with that of their adopted fellow citizens. Old and justly revered homilies on the ultimate wisdom of amity and liberality in our dealings with the world, become dead letters beside a context so extravagant, and to entertain the hypothesis, we are obliged to imagine some moral mechanism totally different from anything we have hitherto been taught to consider efficient. We shall not therefore insult our readers' intelligence by detailing arguments palpable and incontrovertible. Reason, and let us hope—a principle stronger than reason—make it a self evident proposition, that we, whose lot is cast in Japan, cannot prosper without her prosperity, nor be comfortable without her friendship. If there be any to whom the axiom seems extravagant or unwelcome, it is either because they have not considered it at all, or because the misfortunes entailed by their own error have made them hostile to everything but hostility.

It requires no excess of credulity to suppose the Japanese capable of arriving at a similar conclusion in their own case. We do not for a moment deny that to cherish foreign trade was once diametrically opposed to the national creed, nor need we pause now to enquire whether necessity or discrimination is to be accredited with the subsequent modification of that faith. Some will say the latter, some the former, and these perhaps will be more numerous than those, since there is something in the breath of this Eastern air that often begets a substratum of bitterness and suspicion in characters otherwise amiable. To avoid therefore all semblance of partiality, we will admit that the greater credit is due to the influence of necessity, and with this concession proceed at once to the conclusion, that Japan now recognizes her connexion with the West to be inseparable. That being so, we are constrained to suppose her sufficiently careful of her own ultimate peace to desire the establishment of conditions least mutually repellant, or in other words, to suppose her prepared to concede everything that may purchase good-will without excessive outlay, and to foster everything that seems to promise reciprocal benefit. Is there anything irreconcilable in these premises and conclusions? Does prudence tell us they are exaggerated, or experience that they are unjustifiable, or have we some warrant for classing the inhabitants of these islands with unreasoning savages, whose extermination the march of civilization has decreed? Shall we not rather be assimilating ourselves to those savages, if we persist in assuming the existence of motives injurious to our own interests and inconsistent with everything but our own mistrust? Here is no perversion of facts, no distortion of inferences, but a simple straight-forward rendering of the text written by unequivocal events and logical deductions. We know that our profit is synonymous with Japan's prosperity, and Japan knows that by our losses she can gain nothing.

But to what purpose, it may be asked, does the reiteration of these admitted truths serve? Were it not better to leave them unstated, since insistence may only convey an impression of their denial? Most gladly would

we admit the objection, if it were possible to do so, but unfortunately we are confronted by evidence which compels us to say, that however fully the facts we have stated be recognized in theory, they are often neglected in practice. Underlying what is daily written and spoken amongst us, is a current setting always in the same unmistakable direction. Foreign interest is one thing, Japanese another, and he who seeks to promote this must inevitably do so to the detriment of that. Some no doubt will be disposed to question our warrant for these assertions, but even at the risk of being charged with presumption, we prefer to abstain from any detailed illustration. A repetition of the statements and suggestions to which we allude, would certainly be offensive, and could scarcely be beneficial, for whatever purpose it were undertaken. Moreover, the question is not one of detail but of broad principle. There is no need to consider whether this fact is distorted, or that motive misinterpreted by men whose voices and pens are ever ready to teach us, that we can never be anything but aliens in this country, and that whatever we gain by our sojourn, must be wrested by unyielding selfishness from a reluctant Government and an unfriendly people. Neither are we obliged to repeat again and again, that ostentatious advocacy of rights which are not assailed and artificial support of a cause which is in no danger, are weapons thoroughly familiar to that crooked wisdom which by championing delusions seeks to establish a claim on the gratitude of the deluded. Unfortunately these things are phases of social history with which we are all conversant, and nothing is further from our wish than to suggest that they exist here more than elsewhere. On the contrary, we have every confidence that our opinions in this matter will be endorsed by the great majority of our readers, but for all that we emphatically refuse to let pass without protest the pernicious doctrine advocated by a certain small section of this community: the doctrine that "he who is not with me is against me," and that so long as we live here, we are to believe ourselves in the presence of an enemy ever watching to take advantage of our unweariness. Healthy vigilance is one thing; morbid suspicion, another. No one pretends that the former is unnecessary, nor is any one so credulous as to deny that both in the past and in the present there are circumstances justifying a very large exercise of forethought and advertence; but reason may fairly be exempted from entertaining such propositions as that an exhibition of hostility is the wisest way to invite friendship, or an attitude of defiance the best device for disarming enmity.

CHINA'S PROGRESS:—ITS MOTIVES.

MUCH of that conservatism, characteristic of the genius of the Chinese nation and its traditional institutions, which has afforded a fruitful theme for the superficial pens of cursive tourists, and the more thoughtful lucubrations of historians and comparative ethnographers, is already ceding to the gradual, but none the less effective, assaults of occidental civilization. Slow moving as is that section of the great Mongolian race whose habitat is comprised within the wide boundaries of China proper, there are, still, evident signs that the lethargic self-sufficiency which has been born of thousands of years of seclusion and self-containedness, is plying beneath the enforced contact, during the last forty years, of the rulers and people of the Middle Kingdom with the insatiable activity of the apostles, mercantile and military, of European and American progress. It is not that the life of

the nation, the *literati*, would not with serene gravity resume the full enjoyment of that isolated eudæmonism, which holds that earthly happiness is only to be secured by the denizens of the territory ruled over by the Son of Heaven, in collective and individual conformity with the maxims of the sages, and without any communion, save that of haughty benevolence, with barbarians, who only tread the sacred soil as humble and tributary postulants for the favour of its divine monarch. Gladly would the educated Chinamen, whether enlightened regent, potent viceroy, or obscure occupant of some tawdry yamen in a mean agricultural village, welcome the intelligence that the undesired traders of the west had disappeared from the shores of the flowery land never to return. But stern experience is beginning to teach them that their wishes are futile and their hopes are vain. With feelings of alarm and concern they commence to realize that the constant impact of the waves of science rolling from the mysterious and terrible regions beneath the setting sun, has already made serious breaches in the rocky enceinte which their prejudices have thrown round their jealous privacy. They are compelled to recognize that they must yield to the force of circumstances; but, in yielding, they abate not one iota of the hostility which they entertain towards a civilization that, at its best, they consider shallow, impertinent, and meretricious. If they must be disturbed in their contemplative and stereotyped philosophy by mischievous results, wrought through practical knowledge of physical science and application of inductive reasoning, they will only adopt innovation in order to turn its teachings against those who thrust it upon them. Obligated to accept the inventions of the west, they will employ them to curtail, rather than advance, intercourse with the peoples whence those discoveries emanate. These aspirations are, of course, mere idle dreams; but they are none the less indulged in by Mandarins of all ranks, who desire, as cordially as ever their predecessors did, that China shall be for the Chinese alone. Even young China, the youth which has been educated, and has travelled, in the United States and Europe, is largely imbued with the same notions; so deeply rooted is the aversion of this strange race to all that is alien. Japanese statesmen would strive to render their country independent of the west, even in the adoption of its arts and its mechanical contrivances not to return to solitude, but to compete in friendly rivalry for the high places of national existence. Chinese statesmen, compelled to adopt the same course, will do so in the hope that it may, somehow, lead them and their land back to that state of retirement, which early intercourse with Portuguese and Spaniards taught their forefathers was most undesirable. The hope will never be realized, as, indeed, those who indulge in it must often to themselves admit; but time alone, aided by happier relations than those which have obtained between the great Asiatic state and the powers which forced it to conclude treaties, will remove the sentiment.

The imminence of that rupture with Russia, all danger of which we should be glad to believe is averted, has given comparatively swift impulse to a perception of the necessity for importing novelty into some of the effete institutions of the empire. The armies of central and provincial governments have undergone some changes in organization, have been subjected to a measure of imitation of European drill, and equipped to a certain extent with comparatively modern European weapons. The navy is now something more than a mere collection of gaudy junks, manned by ruffianly crews of gong-pounding, banner-waving, yelling pirates. There

are native officers in either service who have some theoretical knowledge of the modern science of war, and some practical acquaintance with the use of heavy artillery and torpedoes. The Marquis de Moges, in his "Recollections of Baron Gros's Embassy," expressed the opinion that four regiments—two of Chasseurs and two of Zouaves—would suffice to conquer China. This was possibly a gasconade at the time it was penned; to propound it now would be mendacious exaggeration. Whereas about ten thousand men were sufficient for the alleged capture and occupation of Peking twenty years ago, twice or thrice that number would probably be required for a similar purpose to-day. For means of waging offensive or defensive warfare China has yet much to attain in the way of experience and material. Yet, in this respect, she has entered on the path of progress which she will follow—slowly perhaps—but still will follow. Western medicine and surgery are finding favor in the neighbourhoods of the treaty ports, the capital, and medical mission stations here and there in the interior. To these sciences, indeed, is mostly owing what little good feeling may exist in the Chinese mind toward the foreigner. Since Dr. Hobson first issued his work, in Canton, on physiology and practical surgery, it has been several times reëdited by local magnates, and is still eagerly sought after. One publisher observes of it naively in his preface:—"Our science, indeed, cannot compete with that of the philanthropic author." Hobson's lead has been followed by other and no less illustrious, practitioners; and, in the north, the successful treatment, by an American lady doctor, of a painful complaint under which the wife of the Viceroy of Pechili long suffered, has given a wonderful impulse to foreign practice and prescription among all classes of the local population.

We have lately heard that a telegraph line has been determined upon to connect Shanghai with Tientsin. We believe that it is not generally known, at any distance from the immediate locality, that the latter city has long been in communication with Taku, at the mouth of the Peiho, by wire, the property of the Imperial Maritime Customs. The Russian difficulty has been the cause that the attention of the Empress-dowager of the West has been directed to electric communication. Quite recently she inquired how it happened that news could come from St. Petersburg to Shanghai in as many hours as are necessary to convey the same intelligence from the latter port to Peking. The explanation given may not have been without its value in expediting the inauguration of the projected undertaking. It is now almost morally certain that railways will shortly be introduced. The highest foreign official in the employ of the imperial government believes that they will; and Li Hung Chang is avowedly favourable to them; but he sternly stipulates that they shall be made when, where, and how China will: with Chinese capital and labour; and that, beyond the staff necessary to their successful construction and maintenance, no person of alien origin shall have act or part in them. The prejudice which destroyed the little Woosung railroad was not mainly, if at all, directed against the work itself: it was levelled at the foreign influence which, as it was thought, intemperately insisted upon its being laid, and controlled it during its brief existence. In fact, all material progress in the neighbouring state must now, and for years to come, be expected to be irrespective of foreign advice and motive; and at least passively hostile to foreign interest. It is something vital, however, that such schemes as those at which we have glanced should be entertained, for any

cause whatever, by a state so long and so obstinately inimical to them. Their fruition, in whatsoever manner sought after, must tend, ultimately, to internal welfare, a better knowledge and appreciation of the external world, and—end, alas, undesired by the promoters—extended and ameliorated international relations. For their fruition China requires a period of peace; and all well-wishers of humanity should devoutly hope that she may possess such an honorable peace as will permit her to prosecute them to a felicitous consummation.

REVIEW.*

WE confess that a careful perusal of this work leaves us no choice but to pronounce its title inappropriate. A grammar of the English language, it certainly is, and a very excellent grammar too; clear in its explanations, thoroughly abreast of modern science in its analyses, and unimpeachable in arrangement; but that it is—or rather that it will prove to be—a grammar for *Japanese Students*, we cannot easily persuade ourselves to believe. In his preface the author tells us, that English grammar in this country must be regarded as a means of obtaining access to knowledge; the gist of which statement, according to our reading, is, that in compiling a grammatical treatise, every possible effort should be made to prevent its contents from proving a stumbling block to the scholar's progress. Now we do not say that Mr. Cox has failed to recognize this. On the contrary his work is filled with evidences of an earnest desire to smooth away difficulties and elucidate perplexities, but we do say that the system he has adopted is incompatible with the attainment of his purpose. It is a system which when followed by a Japanese, will inevitably induce the very results deprecated by its author. To master such a chain of rules is essentially the province of memory, not reason, and it may confidently be predicted, that the successful (?) pupil will be pretty much in the condition of the geometrician who referred to his axioms and postulates by number but knew nothing of their import. Mr. Cox frankly confesses and deplores his own inability to pursue the only logical and rational method of teaching a living language, namely by a comparison of syntactical structures. That being so, one might be disposed to wonder why he undertook the task at all, but without going quite so far, we shall content ourselves with pointing out, that his formulae, as they stand, are more than necessarily difficult of application.

It has always been acknowledged, and especially by writers of text-books, that the only rules which may be usefully stated, *without illustration*, are those of prosody. Let a principle be ever so simple both in nature and expression, the student can never apply it with confidence unless he is fortified by some example by which to test the truth of his perception. Nothing, for instance, could well be plainer than the statement, that "substantives whose final letter is y, form their plural by changing y into ies." Yet where is the beginner who will feel completely confident about the etymology of "flies" or "dies" on the strength of this unillustrated enunciation? He may not perhaps commit any error in the construction of such plurals, but until he has had ocular confirmation of his method, he will never be free from some shadow of doubt. The preceptor's experience is not necessary to endorse this fact. An honest retrospect of his own case will suffice to convince anyone that precept without example never produces thorough conviction. If this be true in the most elementary cases, with how much more weight does it apply to rules like the following:—"Sometimes the Reflexive Pronouns are joined to another word merely to give it force. In this instance they may be termed *Emphatic Personal Pronouns*;" or again, "When one object is said to have less of a certain quality than another, or *least* of more than two, the adverbs *less* and *least* are placed before the positive; and thus are formed what are called *Degrees of Diminution*." If the pupils hitherto entrusted to Mr. Cox's care have been morally competent to comprehend and employ these rules

as they stand, their endowments are of a much higher order than experience would have led us to expect.

The author tells us however that one of his primary objects has been to arrange his "work in such a way as to make it appeal constantly to the judgment," and to this end he has added to each of his sections a series of questions for examination. These questions, if successfully answered, would indeed remedy the deficiency we have pointed out, but to expect that they will be so answered, were to assume the very capacity they are designed to educate. We are compelled therefore to conclude that without a teacher this grammar cannot prove of any practical value to Japanese students. Under the guidance of competent instruction a path through its difficulties may certainly be found, but we can scarcely call that a perfect scheme which requires to be so largely supplemented.

Apart too from defects of detail, the system which employs a grammar like this to teach a living language, cannot under any circumstances be counted expeditious. The principle of obliging a learner—and especially a Japanese learner—to exercise his reason rather than his memory, is unimpeachable, but it seems to us that the latter faculty is more likely to be developed than the former when one comes to deal with such materials as *partitive genitives*, *gerundial datives* and *indefinite emphatic tenses*. These things are calculated to impede rather than to facilitate the acquisition of a foreign tongue, and are consequently relegated to a very ripe period of knowledge by the most approved systems of instruction. No one will deny indeed that their study is ultimately necessary, but that they should be forced upon the student who is still spelling out his reader and reciting his paradigms, does savour somewhat of Dr. Blimber, and the outcome, we suspect, would more often than otherwise be—a Toots.

Briefly then it appears to us, that only one thing is needed to render the design and execution of this book perfect. Let the words "for Japanese Students" be removed from its title page, and let it take its stand simply as a grammar of the English language. In that guise we shall be glad to study it ourselves and to recommend it to our readers, for as a compendious and succinct accidence, it is worthy of unqualified praise.

THE NEW YEAR AND THE NUMBER NINE.

THE philosophy of numbers is one of the most curious of the philosophical sciences; one in which the imagination plays a most important part, but one of the least profitable in spite of the great number of converts to its cause. At the same time it is deeply interesting to review the various theories which have been propounded in order to explain the mysteries of Nature and the essence of things. Numbers have a certain inexplicable charm or attraction; they disclose surprising and curious combinations and results, and seem to exercise a great power over the laws of the universe itself. On the other hand putting aside all their assumedly mystical properties, numbers form the basis of mensuration and proffer an explanation for many natural phenomena: all physical laws are founded on numerical formulae, and the harmonious relationship of things in general can be expressed by numbers.

It cannot therefore be a cause of surprise to find that minds which were preoccupied by mathematical researches were simultaneously influenced to attribute to numbers a great metaphysical importance. In classic countries, especially Greece, where subtle speculations and love of sophistry were combined with rich imagination, the ideal nature of numbers found many disciples in the philosophical schools, of which two especially gave to Grecian philosophy a decidedly mathematical tendency: the schools of Pythagoras and of Plato.

Pythagoras was a great mathematician. He made world-renowned discoveries in arithmetic and geometry and his mind was so impressed by the importance and harmony of certain numerical combinations, that he assumed finally that numbers were the sole realities in life, or, at least, the principle of existence. Everything was explicable by means of, and resolved itself into, numbers, which from their very nature were anterior to material creation. Fire, earth, water—indeed *all* material objects were the product of numerical combinations, not more so than were

* A Grammar of the English Language for Japanese Students; by W. D. Cox.

all physical and intellectual functions. One formulæ expressed, for instance, justice; another the soul or the intelligence, still another the order of creation.

Numbers were moreover closely connected with music and its accords; all was harmonious, and the very arch of heaven, in due conformity to the laws of the universe, pealed out its eternal chords, the perfection of harmony, the music of the spheres. And then came man.

"From harmony, from heavenly harmony
This universal frame, began;
From harmony to harmony,
Through all the compass of the notes it ran,
The diapason closing full in man."—Dryden.

Despite the many beautiful thoughts and graceful formulæ of the Pythagorean philosophy;—it is confessedly a mistake. Weighty conclusions were drawn from very dubious premises, for in their eagerness after fundamental rules, the Pythagoreans often did not perceive the weakness of their own deductions.

Plato improved the system of Pythagoras. Deep thinker as he was, he could not accept all the hasty conclusions of the Pythagoreans, but, in accordance with the tendency of the age, founded a train of reasoning peculiarly his own, in which he endeavoured to reconcile mathematical facts with the deductions of his philosophy. But even Plato himself honestly remarks that the theory of numbers is "probably" purely ideal.

After Plato, the Pythagorean system regained its pristine influence, so much so that Aristotle remarks, "The philosophy of to-day is one of numbers solely." Spensippus and Xenocrates followed, later on the Platonic philosophy, and it was in their days that the Latin nation adopted a similar numerical theory.

But such a philosophy was not peculiar to the Indian race. The Egyptians and Chaldeans held similar tenets, although coarser and less apparent than those of the Greeks. The Chinese are to-day fervent disciples of a theory of numbers, and in India much is based upon mathematical formulæ. Even we must confessedly allow that the order of nature is expressed to a great extent by numerical combinations, denying, as we should, the supernatural properties so frequently attributed to numbers. Again, divination by numbers has been and is yet practiced under the name of Arithomaney, and is so firmly planted in the minds of men by the observances of ancient times, that it appears impossible entirely to eradicate it. The ancients had a kind of mantic arithmetic, the invention of which was ascribed to Pythagoras, in which the letters of the alphabet, the planets, the days of the week and the twelve Zodiacal signs were assimilated with certain numbers, and thus, by the use of prescribed tables constructed astrologically according to the aspects, qualities and dignities of the planets relatively towards the twelve signs etc., the adept would pronounce an opinion on questions affecting life and death, good and evil fortune, journeys, detection of crime, or the success of an enterprise. It must be confessed, however, that these predictions were not always correct; for the rules laid down in the different systems varied so essentially, that the wisest magician was frequently puzzled to select an appropriate interpretation. The numerical system has been introduced into the modern practice of astrology, and very important results appear to depend on the trine, quartile and sextile aspect of the planets in the horoscope.

Something of this sort was used by the Jewish Cabalists; and hence one of the rules of their cabala was called "gematria," or numeration, which was chiefly confined to the interpretation of the sacred writings. The letters of the Hebrew language being numerals as well, and the whole Bible being composed of different combinations of those letters, it was supposed that the correct meaning of difficult passages could only be ascertained by their numerical value. We shall have occasion to refer to the numerical value of the letters of the alphabet somewhat later.

An old writer quaintly remarks:—"I will not be superstitiously opinionated of the mysteries of numbers, though it be of long understanding amongst many learned men; neither will I positively affirm, that some numbers are fatal to women and others to men; or that some numbers has (as many have written) *magnam in tota rerum natura potestatem*, great power in kingdoms and commonwealths, in families, ages, in bodies, sicknesses, wealths, healths and

lives....Divines teach that there is a certain number, which hath a mystical perfection, which our understanding cannot attain unto"...

Every number from one to ten, from the monad to the decad, has been extolled as peculiarly significant and important from the Pythagoreans and Jewish Cabalists down to Nicholas de Cuss and Joanno Bruno, but the number nine is the one, which must greatly interest us who have just entered upon the year of grace 1881.

NINE, which has been variously called the ennead, the nonagon and the triple triangle, is the first square of an odd number. One of its properties, discovered, by W. Green, who died in 1794, is inexplicable to any one but a mathematician. The property, to which allusion is made, is this, that when 9 is multiplied by 2, 3, 4, or in fact any simple number, it will be found that the digits composing the product, when added together, give nine; thus,

$$\begin{array}{rcl} 2 \times 9 = 18, & \text{and } 1 + 8 & = 9 \\ 3 \times 9 = 27, & \text{" } 2 + 7 & = 9 \\ 4 \times 9 = 36, & \text{" } 3 + 6 & = 9 \text{ etc.} \\ 11 \times 9 = 99, & \text{" } 9 + 9 & = 18 \text{ and } 1 + 8 = 9 \\ 12 \times 9 = 108, & \text{" } 1 + 0 + 8 & = 9 \\ 13 \times 9 = 117, & \text{" } 1 + 1 + 7 & = 9 \\ 14 \times 9 = 126, & \text{" } 1 + 2 + 6 & = 9 \end{array}$$

and so on to any extent.

This peculiarity may be expressed as follows: "Any number, whose digits when added together give nine or a sum divisible by nine, without remainder, is itself divisible by nine, without remainder." To prove this, take any number, say 20368503; the sum of the digits added together 2 plus 0 plus 3 plus 6 plus 8 plus 5 plus 0 plus 3 = 27, and 2 plus 7 = 9; we conclude therefore, that the first number is divisible by 9, and find that 9 is contained in it exactly 2263167 times.

M. de Maivan discovered another singular property of the same number. If the order of the digits expressing a number be changed, and this number be subtracted from the former, the remainder will be a 9 or a multiple of 9, and, being a multiple, the sum of its digits will be 9.

For instance, take the number 21, reverse the digits and you have 12; subtract 12 from 21, and the remainder is 9. Take 853, reverse the digits and subtract 358 from 853; you have 495, a multiple of 9 (55), and 4 plus 9 plus 5 = 18, and 1 plus 8 = 9.

Again, the same property found in two numbers thus changed, is discovered in the same numbers raised to any power.

Take 12 and 21 again. The square of 21 is 441 and the square of 12 is 144; subtract 144 from 441, and the remainder is 297, a multiple of 9 (33), and 2 plus 9 plus 7 = 18, and 1 plus 8 = 9. The cube of 21 is 9261 and that of 12 is 1728; their difference is 7533, also a multiple of nine. It will be noticed, moreover, that

$$\begin{array}{rcl} 9 + 2 + 6 + 1 & = 18, & \text{and } 1 + 8 = 9 \\ 1 + 7 + 2 + 8 & = \text{" } & \text{" } & \text{" } & \text{" } \\ 7 + 5 + 3 + 3 & = \text{" } & \text{" } & \text{" } & \text{" } \end{array} \text{, etc.}$$

Again, if the nine digits be added together 1 plus 2 plus 3 plus 4 plus 5 plus 6 plus 7 plus 8 plus 9, the amount will equal 45 and 4 plus 5 = 9.

The amount of several products of nine, viz:

9 plus 18 plus 27 plus 36 plus 45 plus 54 plus 63 plus 72 plus 81 = 405, and 405 divide 9 = 45, and the figures forming either the dividend or quotient, added together, make 9.

Again, if we multiply any one of the figures either by nine, or by any of the above mentioned products of nine, the sum of the figures added together will be divisible by nine without remainder.

In ancient times, the number nine was considered to be unbounded, because, as we have just seen, in all its combinations it returns into itself. The Pythagoreans gave the name of the number nine to several of the Grecian divinities, —as Juno, because this sphere of the air has the ninth place, and, like the ennead in its conjunction with unity, she was the sister and wife of Jupiter. It was also called Vulcan; Proserpine, because she presides over nine unpropitious deities: the three Fates, the three Furies, and Night, Sleep and Death; Terpsichore, because the Muses are nine in number; and also Curetis, Paeon, Hyperion, Agelia, as well as many others.

Nine was further called "teleios," or perfect, in reference to the time of gestation. Hence, perhaps, it is a custom of

very ancient standing to put slices of bride-cake through the wedding-ring nine times, and being thus invested with some "mistical power," the peices are distributed among the friends of the bride, that they may have a vision of the person designed to be their partner for life:

"With her own hands she charms the destined slice,
And through the ring repeats the trebled thrice,
The hallowed ring, infusing magic power
Bids Hymen's vision wait the midnight hour;
The mystic treasure placed beneath her head,
Will tell the fair if haply she may wed?"

Shakespeare alludes to the mystical nine, in the witches incantation:

"The weird sisters hand in hand.
Posters of the sea and land
Thus do go about, about,
Thrice to thine, and thrice to mine,
And thrice again to make nine."—Macbeth.

And Dryden alludes to the nine threads bound around the heads of sacrificial images:

"Around his waxen image first I wind
Three woollen fillets of three colours join'd;
Thrice bind about his thrice devoted head;
Which round the sacred altar thrice is led.
Unequal numbers please the gods."

The Mahomedans have 99 names for the Deity, and the Jews believe that God has descended to the earth nine times, and that He shall come down on the tenth in the Person of the Messiah.

Divination is sometimes practiced by the use of this number, even at the present day. In fortune telling by cards, the nine of spades is the most unfortunate in the whole pack; the nine of diamonds favourable to commercial men; the nine of clubs for married women, and the nine of hearts naturally for

... "Cupid's heart-sick prisoners."

China, perhaps, offers the best example of the powerful influence which numbers may exert over a superstitious people. A writer in an English Magazine speaks thus humorously of Chinese superstitions: "The Chinese master of the house will not have one door facing another, in order that the haunting demon may have the more trouble in his exists and entrances. He gets fierce-looking genii painted on each half of his door, to frighten away other ill-disposed genii. But his master-charm is a pair of tadpoles (one black, the other white) inscribed in a circle. This is surrounded by eight series of short, flat rulers. All these are very powerful.

Of course the number nine plays an important part in the Chinese theory of numerals. There are nine sections of the science of mathematics, as there are nine processes of numeration.

The heavens are nine in number and have nine subdivisions.

The Taoists speak of nine mysterious revolutions or transformations of substance in the compounding of the "elixir vite." There are nine arrangements of colour in accordance with the divisions of the circle appertaining to the Eight Diagrams. Nine paths are in the moon's orbit, and nine lights in the heavens. Confucius speaks of nine subjects for thoughtful consideration, &c., &c.

It would be easy to multiply instances of a superstitious affection for the number nine, but it is unnecessary, as the memory of every reader will be sufficiently retentive to suggest cases without end where it occurs.

We come then to the final property of the number nine, namely its fatality.

The critical period of human life, according to a very ancient superstition, has a reference to this number. Thus, 9 being multiplied by 7 makes 63, the climacteric or dangerous year; and 9 multiplied by 9 makes 81, the grand climacteric, or year of imminent danger. Further 3 mult 9 or 27 is the year of personal danger, whilst 2 mult 9 or 18 is the year of "folly." Levinus Lemnius thus accounts for the existence of the superstition. "Old men," he says, "seldom pass their sixty-third year, but they are in constant danger of their lives, and I have observed in the Low Countries almost infinite examples thereof. Now there are two years, the seventh and ninth, that commonly bring great changes in a man's life, and great dangers, werefore sixth-three, that contains both these numbers multiplied together, comes not without heapes of danger; for nine times seven, or seven times nine, are sixty-three and, there-

upon, that is called the climactericall year; because, beginning from seven, it doth, as it were by steps, finish a man's life." Four times nine is the year of wedding,—but it would be ungallant to include this in the category of unlucky dates.

To find out what years are unlucky in one's life, add together the numerical values of the letters of one's name,—if a married woman, the letters of the maiden name. Thus, A is 1, B 2, C 3, D 4, &c. Divide the sum obtained by 9 and multiply the quotient by 1, 2, 3, 4, and so forth. For example, take any name, say "Flora Temple," (from the novel of that name); the sum of the numerical values of the letters composing the name is 123: the unlucky years, therefore, must be the thirteenth, the twenty-seventh, the forty-first, the fifty-fourth etc. It must be remembered, however, in assigning numerical values to the different letters of a name, that I and J can be interchanged and also U and V. The year of imminent danger for the above mentioned name, would be 123— $\times 7$ or 95; the conclusion is, therefore, that no year will be of especial or extraordinary danger to "Flora Temple;" the year of marriage would be about 27, for 2×9 is the marriage formula for women, whereas 4×9 is for men. Again, is the first quotient a large one, it is the rule to subtract nine and use the remainder as the proper multiplier. If the sum of a name is divisible by nine without remainder, then is the unlucky owner fated to pass through many dangers and reverses of fortune—at least, according to this theory!

Years divisible by nine are nearly always very unlucky, and the ninth month of the year (September) especially so. Some of the bloodiest battles ever fought took place in the ninth month. History offers numberless examples, from which the following are taken at random; Marathon, Actium, Belgrade, Fulford, Gisors, Arsof, Marignano, Arques, Leipsic, Worcester, Vienna, Malplaquet, Quebec, Valmy, Dunkirk, Zurich, Moskwa, Warsaw, Sedan, Plevna and the Schipka Pass. Encounters of rival armies on the ninth day of the ninth month are certain to be most sanguinary, for instance, Flodden Field and Zuyper Sluys. Of the "fifteen decisive battles of the world" no less than ten occur in a year divisible by nine, or on a day of the month which is a multiple of nine, or the letters in the name give a sum divisible by nine without remainder, 1.—The battle of Marathon was fought on the 27 Sept. and the sum of the name is 90. 2.—The battle of Syracuse was in 414. B. C. 3.—Metaurus 207 B. C. 4.—Teutoburg 9 A. D. 5.—Chalons 451 A. D., but the sum of the name is 72. 6.—Blenheim on the 13th Aug. (1704) gives 81. 7.—Paltowa (8 July 1709) give 108. 8.—Saratoga (Aug. 17, 1777), the date and sum of the name give together 99. 9.—Valmy, sum 72, and fought in September (20 Sept. 1792). 10.—Waterloo on the 18 June (1815)—The other five "decisive battles" viz. Tours, Hastings, Orleans, Spanish Armada, and Arbela, offer no combinations or multiples of nine.

For some nations, dates divisible by nine have proved far more fatal than for others, especially the Jews and Romans.

In 720 B. C. Salmanasar of Assyria destroyed Israel, and Judah was only saved by the warnings of Isaiah. In 585 Jerusalem was captured by Nebuchadnezzar, King of Babylon. In 63 B. C. Judea became tributary to the Romans, and were finally dispersed by Titus 72 A. D..

The number nine was equally unfortunate for the Romans.

The outrages of Appius Claudius and the Decemviri were in 450 B. C. 216 saw the bloody battle of Cannæ. 153 brought civil troubles again, as did 90 B. C. 63 disclosed the murderous plots of Catilina; 45 A. D. marked the accession of Nero to the throne; 81 the death of Titus and the accession of the inhuman Domitian; 117 the death of Trajan, the best of Rome's emperors, and 180 the commencement of the reign of Commodus.

The number is often fatal to kings or statesmen. Wolsey rose in 1512 and died in 1521; Oliver Cromwell was born on the third of September and died September 3rd; Anne Boleyn, first wife of Henry VIII. after the divorce of Catherine, has the unlucky number 108; Richard II. gives the number 63 and acceded to the throne in 1377; Louis XIV.'s names gives 90; Harold 99 etc., etc.

Great plagues come almost without exception in years divisible by nine. In Rome ten thousand persons died daily 81. A. D., and a great plague again ravaged that city in 189. The great plague of 558 spread all over Europe and a large

part of Asia and Africa. Constantinople saw two frightful plagues in 747 and 1611—London saw plagues in 485 and 1368, but the greatest commenced on the 22nd December, 1664, or exactly nine days before 1665 (1 plus 6 plus 6 plus 5 = 18, and 1 plus 8 = 9).

The first comets on record appeared 135 B.C., and were visible for 72 days. A comet which nearly approached the earth's orbit disappeared on the 9th March, 1680. The great comet of 1769 came within 18,000,000 miles of the earth; Encke's comet was observed first in 1818. Biela's comet—nebulous—is believed to have struck the earth in 1872, and an unknown one, perhaps the one of 1861, will cross the earth's orbit in September of this year.

Great convulsions of nature, great and universal calamities, great crimes and great bloodshed have occurred, as a rule, in years divisible by nine.

Such are the reflections which come to us poor mortals who have but just entered upon an ill-omened year. And yet, we must remember, that the theories we have developed are founded solely upon coincidence. Thousands of dates might be adduced to give additional weight to the argument, but we think enough has been said. It is true, that some of the planets are undergoing at present fundamental changes, in all probability; that the sun-spots are becoming more numerous and that Mother Shipton has predicted the destruction of the world in 1881, but the aspect of the heavens has been equally unpropitious many, many times; "wars and rumors of wars" have been quite as universal long ago; comets have been more threatening;—all this, whilst "years of nines" have come and gone and old Mother Earth still shelters her children.

In spite therefore of all adverse theories, it is our hope that we, with Galileo, may exclaim on January 1, 1882 "*e pur si muove*"—"and yet she moves!"

Jan. 1881.

CORRESPONDENCE.

[Our readers must distinctly understand that we are in no sense responsible for the sentiments or opinions of our Correspondents, for the accuracy of their assertions or for the deductions they may choose to draw therefrom.]

TO THE EDITOR OF THE "JAPAN WEEKLY MAIL"

Tokio, 7th February, 1881.

SIR,—Knowing that the *Japan Mail*, in regard to any question, is disposed to champion the side most in need of chivalrous treatment, the writer ventures to mention in its columns, a matter more personal than it is usually proper to make public. Let me say by way of preface, that in the prosecution of my work for women, involving long rides to various sections of Tokio, it is only proper to here testify that I have never yet received an insult from a Japanese gentleman, and that in the homes frequently visited, kind and courteous treatment has been the rule. Such being the case, an unpleasant incident which occurred yesterday morning, forms a striking contrast to it. As I was returning from a school in a distant part of the city, with my two Japanese assistants, all in jinrikishas, we met in crossing the Parade-ground not far from the Kobudai-Gakko, two young men wearing the garb and having the appearance of European gentlemen. One of them, however, forfeited all claim to that title, by offering an unprovoked indignity to one of the young ladies accompanying me, the relative of a prominent citizen whose name and whose school are known throughout the Empire.

Foreign writers upon Japan, and foreign residents generally, have much to say concerning the unfortunate position of women in Japan, and hence one would naturally expect from foreigners, presumably gentlemen, courteous treatment, at least of all women rich or poor, whose modest bearing entitles them to be called ladies.

The young man in question doubtless considered it a slight offence to offer, in passing, an insulting caress to an unknown young girl, without any masculine protector at hand to call him to account; but had his own sister been thus treated, his views would have worn a different complexion. One who, on a public thoroughfare and in the presence of a woman of his own race presumably accustomed to western ideas of courtesy, could thus conduct himself, is beneath characterization from my pen, and I will refrain alike from such an attempt and from giving

the name of the offending party the publicity it so richly deserves.

It is needless to say that had the insult been offered to myself, it would have been passed by in silent contempt, or its punishment committed to stronger hands than mine; but it is only due to the young women temporarily under my care and to others of the same race, to make this public protest against such conduct and to ask, *solely for the sake of information*, whether this is the flower and fruit of Western chivalry which "the heirs of all the ages" have brought to Japan?

With apologies for this prolonged trespass upon the patient columns of *The Mail*.

I remain,

Very Respectfully yours,
H.

ASIATIC SOCIETY OF JAPAN.

A General Meeting of the Asiatic Society was held on Tuesday, February 8th, at the house of the President, Dr. Divers, Kobu-dai-gakko. It was announced that Mr. James M. Gardiner had been elected a member of the society.

Captain F. Brinkley, R.A., read a paper "On the History of Japanese Ceramics." [As this paper will shortly be published in the *Japan Weekly Mail*, no abstract of it is given here.]

After the reading of the paper, the President said that he might, though it was quite needless, assure the Author of the great pleasure with which the Society had listened to his communication. He felt that there was matter enough in it for a course of lectures, and he was glad to think that the author would probably publish, in a more extended form, the results of his study of Ceramics. He was struck by the comparatively modern date of the art and the extraordinary value at which certain apparently worthless specimens were appraised. What the author said about the difficulty of obtaining genuine wares was disheartening to collectors; but on the other hand Captain Brinkley had given them hints, necessarily incomplete hints, as to how they might avoid being victimised by dealers, and distinguish the false from the true. The President added that the Society would now adjourn so that the members might visit the Museum of the College, under the guidance of the Author of the paper, whose valuable collection was on exhibition there.

A large number of the members and visitors who had been present at the meeting then walked over to the museum and examined Captain Brinkley's collection of Porcelain, Bronzes, Lacquer, etc.

PARIS LETTER.

December 24th, 1881.

The remarkable discourse of M. Brisson, chairman of the Budget Commission, is to become a stockpiece at the general elections next year. In that brilliant and severely logical oration, M. Brisson demonstrated irrefutably, that since 1830, the religious orders in France had escaped paying taxes; had acquired lands and property to upwards of half a milliard in value, and this despite the fiscal and the mortmain laws. He now proposes to bring the orders under the code like ordinary citizens, the Republic, that is to say, democracy, not being capable of according privileges or tolerating abuses. The Emperor, for the wants of his dynasty, connived at the evasion of the law, and till two years ago, the Republic without republicans did the same. As the law will be applied and the orders called upon to make a declaration of their properties, not as religious bodies, but as simple associations, or reputed such, holding the Superior and every member individually responsible for their declarations, the immediate consequence will be to bring an increase of five million francs annually to the Treasury. But the measure will be more sweeping in its application: where property is held contrary to the laws of mortmain the government will seek the rightful heir, and in case none can be found, the property like all such that has no owner, reverts to the State.

Without quoting figures, the impression created by the study of the revenue returns for the eleven months ending November last, is highly flattering for the commercial and industrial prosperity of France. Two facts—the keys of the position—are well established; France exports more manufactures, and imports more raw materials. Many

free traders adduce this moral as a reason to delay voting the commercial treaty, the better to disarm the protectionists. Another fact connected with French trade, is the devouring activity to open up new markets, or make a first appearance on very old ones. Of course these happy results are mainly due to the conviction of Frenchmen, that at last they have a government of their choice, at once stable resolute, and based on free votes and uniform rights.

After founding the Republic, the next most important question was to educate the masses in order to enlighten them as to the best use to make of that most omnipotent of all arms—universal suffrage. The government has only this session been able to introduce its measures on public instruction, comprising that for superior, as well as for primary, schools: it has been met at the outset by the anticipated difficulty of imparting moral and religious instruction. For the primary schools the matter was less important, as the teacher could confine his labors to the three R's, leaving to the clergy of all denominations, facilities to instruct those belonging to their own persuasion theologically: this arrangement did not satisfy the tendencies of churches that aim at commanding all consciences. The position of matters is very peculiar for France: after having a state religion, and that religion Catholicism, it did not the less cease to be the belief of the majority. The Law, that is to say the State, is atheist, in the sense of being rigidly impartial in presence of the inward thoughts of citizens—or of liberty of conscience. So long as France remained contented with asking no questions about creeds, the religious peace of the country was insured: but to-day, in presence of the advancing tide of independent thinking and inquiry, the state of matters is more complex. The humblest in the land has daily his paper urging him to exact and defend equality; to demand the reason why for everything; of the budget he supports, of the taxes he pays; and Roger Bontemps has also the latest fashion of requesting an explanation why he should accept this creed, or that policy. Evidently uniformity of doctrines, unity of churches is impossible, and the only safe basis for a government to proceed upon, is liberty for all, privileges for none.

"Yesterday the wife of the massacreur of the republicans, was buried." Such is the terse and elegant paragraph that Rochefort's journal devotes to the funeral of Madame Thiers, who not a little contributed to found the Third Republic, and secure for the communists the right even to be abominable in thought, word and speech. The brave lady has had a funeral that kings might envy—at least half a million of people lined the route from her mansion to the cemetery. But this was rather a political than a personal sympathy; the dignified manner of her widowhood, the devotion she displayed to perpetuate the memory of her husband in bronze, marble, and book; her inflexible opposition to MacMahon and his *entourage*—all this enhanced her in the eyes of her party. On the other hand Mme. Thiers was but little known to the masses: she was a type of a class rapidly disappearing—the *bourgeoisie*; she was till the last a daughter of Auvergne, strong minded, with practical intelligence, indefatigable exertion, perfect probity, and extraordinary parsimony. She was capable of taking part in any intellectual or diplomatic discussion, but when either as the leader of a salon, or the wife of a President, her delight was, to occupy a quiet nook, and with some of her intimate friends chat about domestic circles, marriages, and givings in marriage, servants, and the market. It was because her mother possessed a practical and resolute mind to the highest degree, that Thiers was said to adore his mother-in-law, while he only loved his wife. And if Mme. Dornes gave her daughter to Thiers when a rising minister, the latter secured for his father-in-law the richest receiver generalship in France. The mansion in the Place St. Georges, was ever the head political centre of France; whether Thiers was among the ins or outs. Not a celebrity belonging to the last half century but has put in an appearance there. Berryer, the chief of the Legitimists, was a constant guest despite his political differences with Thiers. But the latter, when Home Minister, laid him under a heavy debt of gratitude. After the suppression of the rising in Vendée, and the arrest in a kitchen cupboard of the Count de Chambord's mother, the duchesse de Berry, Thiers requested Berryer to call on him: "there," said the former, "are the letters of your friends, organising the insurrection; I will not even show them to the King"—and he throw them into the fire.

Having convicted Rochefort of the basest ingratitude, and unblushing falsehoods, by the publication of his own letters, the friends of M. Gambetta, that is the true republican party, no longer notice the abominable ribaldry that Rochefort addresses to Gambetta—the man who saved his life when arrested and condemned for urging the demolition of the residence of M. Thiers—duly accomplished, and by his eloquence enabling him to return to France as an unstarved. The foul language in which Rochefort revelled has had for a consequence the prevention of all further confusion in the lines which separate communism from republicanism. Somehow or other people kept a corner in their likings for Rochefort, their pet *gamin*: that no longer exists after his diatribes: he might be excused

holding extreme political views, but no toleration or pardon was possible for out-heralding Herod in language even coarser than Billingsgate. And this feeling is resented in the circulation of his journal suddenly becoming low.

It is commonly believed that nothing pays so well at present as an investment in panoramas or wax works; Belgium claims the monopoly of starting societies for these purposes: two new panoramas will soon be opened in the city: a Tausand's exhibition has now been launched, called the "Eden-Gallery:" it will differ from the happy abode of our first parents in the fact, that good and bad will reside there, certain never to be expelled, till the members ceasing to be attractive, will be sent to the melting pot. The first subscriber for shares was M. Ferdinand de Lesseps, and the second, the prettiest actress in Paris, both certain of a "stand." The director of the Company is M. Grévin, a most efficient gentleman: it is he who designs the characters and costumes for plays to be represented on the stage. The only wonder is, such a Museum was not heretofore attempted: the objection lay in the truth, that having seen the Museum once, citizens would rarely go a second time, unless attracted by novelties. The Company guarantees almost daily additions to its "Wax Men and Women of our Time." Its Chamber of Horrors will be complete; already "curiosities" are secured that would make the hair stand on end: there will be a private chamber as difficult to visit as some of the mural paintings of Pompeii and Herculaneum. A new feature will consist in any person of note, on paying, having himself perched in the Museum, like a stuffed parrot or a squirrel. Bath chairs will be supplied as the premises on the Boulevard des Italiens are very spacious.

Some important changes are about being made in the Med. Anjou, Faubourg St. Honoré, well known to American and English residents. It was at No. 4, that Polignac resided: Lafayette died there, as also Magendie the physiologist. At No. 43 lived and died the Marquis d'Aligre, the richest and most miserly being in France: he commenced his will with the clause: "I deprive my natural heirs of all the law allows me to deprive them."

The most popular "preacher" in Paris, is the moral philosopher M. Caro: he lectures at the Sorbonne, and as his course is free, it is eagerly followed, especially by the ladies of the Upper Ten, who find a new sensation in listening to the clearest exposition of the purest truths. The occasion is also excellent for displaying a new toilette. M. Caro intends to prove, that each man carries in himself the living capital of dead generations, and that he is framed in hereditary influences. M. Caro is about 50 years of age, with steel grey hair, and rather an English expression of features. At the conclusion of each lecture, the ladies rush to congratulate him.

No sympathy is felt for the married daughter of that late Bonapartist, Duc de Persigny, aged 19, whose small fortune has disappeared in the gambling transactions of her brother in law. It was only when the press drew attention to the positive destitution of the young household, deserted by all, that family friends came forward: in the meantime, several charitable and forgiving republican families offered to adopt or provide for the desolate children.

M. Herve's new comic opera in three acts—the *Mère des Compagnons*, is not more than a collection of ballads and rondes, devoid of originality and harmonious combinations. As a compensation there is freshness, *verve*, and gaiety.

At a recent fashionable marriage in the St. Augustin church, I noticed some of the ladies have patronized the Louis XVI. plumes, and also ermine for the trimming of jupes.

In the celebrated Lunatic Asylum of Dr. Blanche, those interested in the fate of an inmate, can witness and hear the examination between surgeon and subject: glass slides in the wall permit peeping, and the corridor is open overhead.

Gambetta's Speeches—first volume, has already gone through fifteen editions: the public appears to consider subscribing to the work as a national duty.

The height of glory was hitherto have a *Bouf Gras* named after you: we have changed all that: you can be nothing if unable to give the name to a pot of pomade, a box of tooth powder, or a pipe head.

REUTER'S TELEGRAMS.

LONDON, 7th February, 1881.

The House of Commons assented to the introduction of a ministerial bill for coercion. Parnell and other Home Rulers were expelled for obstructive proceedings on the 6th February.

The House of Commons agreed to the adjournment of the debate on coercion measures.

LONDON, 10th February, 1881.

Obituary—Thomas Carlyle.

Outrages have ceased in Ireland.

War with Ashantee is considered imminent.

[SUPPLIED TO THE "HONGKONG DAILY PRESS."]

London, January 29th.

Geok Tepé has been captured by the Russians.
Great disorder prevails in the House of Commons, caused by the Home Rulers. Mr. Biggar has been suspended.
The British garrison at Pretoria has made a successful sortie against the Boers, who lost heavily and fled.
The Boers defeated with heavy loss a detachment of the 58th Regiment.
Obituary, Edward Askew Sothern, the actor, aged 50.

MISCELLANEOUS NEWS.

We read in a China paper that the steamer *Flinthshire*, from London, was to leave Singapore for Hongkong on the 30th January.

We learn that the P. & O. steamer *Sunda* left Hongkong for Yokohama, direct, at 5 o'clock yesterday afternoon.

The *Hongkong Daily Press* states that the German steamer *Octava*, Captain Hansen, which left Bangkok on the 15th January for Hongkong, reports that on the 23rd, when in lat. 14.30 N. and three miles from the shore, she touched on an unknown rock.

Through the courtesy of the Agent, we are enabled to inform our readers that the M. B. S. S. *Niigata Maru*, left Hongkong for this port via Kobe, on the 5th instant. She brings the English mail, and is due here on Monday next, the 14th instant, at daylight.

Colonel Crawford, the chief engineer and constructor of the Sapporo-Otaru railway, was received at the Imperial Palace on Tuesday last, and there decorated with the *Order of the Rising Sun*.

According to the *Hongkong Daily Press* of the 1st instant "The official prize list of the Manila lottery for this month" [?] "discloses a mistake which will probably necessitate a second drawing. The number of prizes guaranteed is 609, but according to the list only 608 have been drawn, showing that one has been omitted in some way. This, of course, would seem to vitiate the entire drawing, as a mistake of this kind would most probably alter all the numbers obtaining prizes. Some fourteen years ago, we believe, some dishonesty was discovered on the part of one of the officials concerned in the drawing. The prizes were duly paid, but another drawing was held and a second lot of prizes given. This naturally involved a considerable loss to the Government, but it was considered that the credit of the lottery required it."

We read in the *China Overland Trade Report* that "the woollen mills in Lanchow-fu, the capital of Kansuh, have been successfully started. This statement rests on the authority of Mr. Fock, the gentleman engaged to superintend the establishment of the industry. It will be remembered that His Excellency Tso Tsung-Tang, Viceroy of Kansuh, determined to commence the manufacture of woollen cloth in his capital, and with that view imported machinery from Europe and engaged the service of skilled German artificers to set it in motion and train the native workmen. It is now about a year since they left Shanghai for Lanchow with the machinery, and Mr. Fock, having seen the mills in working order, has returned. He says that the factory was producing, when he left Lanchow, twenty pieces of cloth per diem, and he estimated that the daily output would soon be increased to sixty pieces. The cost at the mills of rough dark blue pilot cloth was under four mace per yard of 72 inches wide. This is certainly a very low price, but the cloth probably will not compare in texture and finish with English goods. However that may be, it does not seem likely that the output will be large enough to seriously affect the sale of foreign goods. Moreover the remoteness and inaccessibility of Lanchow must necessarily act as a bar to the produce of the new mills finding a very extended market. The cost of transport from thence to the maritime provinces would be very great, and add considerably to its cost. The Kansuh market has never, we imagine, been

open to foreign woollen goods for the same reason and on account of the numerous barrier dues levied upon them *in transitu*. The Lanchow cloth will no doubt find its way into some parts of Szechen, but in no great quantity for some time to come. We do not think that on the whole, dealers in foreign woollens have much cause for alarm.

The founding of this industry was due to the desire of Viceroy Tso to retain the staple product of his province in Kansuh, and thus prevent other provinces reaping the benefit to be derived from importing the raw article and manufacturing it into cloth. A great deal of jealousy exists between the provincial governors, and, when not too much preoccupied in squeezing the people, each endeavours to secure any advantage possible for his own province. It is highly probable that Tso Tsung-Tang, in establishing the woollen mills at Lanchow was actuated as much by a desire to steal a march on his great rival Li Hung-chang as from any love of progress or desire to promote manufacturing industries. It is even possible he may have heard of a scheme having been mooted for starting a woollen factory at Tientsin, for which the wool would have been brought from Kansuh and Mongolia. Had the Central Government founded such an undertaking they would hardly have commenced it in such an out-of-way spot as Lanchow. The heavy machinery had to be laboriously carried, by coolies, over mountains and rivers at heavy cost, but as a matter of course it was safely conveyed to its destination, spite of all obstacles. The old Chinese General delights in triumphing over impediments. The establishment of the mills can scarcely however, be regarded as a proof of Chinese progress. It was a freak on the part of a powerful Viceroy, who no doubt, as we have said, had his own ends to serve. The mills may be moderately successful so long as they are in the charge of Europeans, but when they lapse into the hands of natives it is doubtful whether the quality of the cloth will be kept up, or the machinery preserved in order. The fact of a woollen factory worked with European machinery having been successfully started in the capital of the most inland province of China is nevertheless a fact worthy of record, whatever the ultimate result of the experiment.

A late number of the *Hioogo News* states that "The long talked-of deep-water wharf may now be considered as an assured fact, the representatives of the native association which has made application for Government sanction to undertake the work, having completed negotiations for the purchase of the ground occupied by the K. R. & A. C.

"We understand that a branch line of railway is to be constructed in connection with the wharf, so that every facility will exist for the conveyance of goods from the ship, which will lie alongside, to the interior. So much has been said and written on this subject for years past that it is quite useless going over the old ground again. The advantages to Kobe as a shipping port which will be conferred by the wharf, are evident and require no mention, but it is certainly pleasing to note the faith in the future prosperity of this town which has induced a company composed, we believe, principally of Tokio residents, to seek an investment for their capital here in Kobe.

"No delay will, we understand, take place in the construction of this new undertaking. The preliminary surveys have all been made, arrangements completed for carrying on operations with energy, and at no far distant period we trust to see the régime of the cargo boatmen a thing of the past."

The *Foochoo Herald* states that Li Hung-chang has, by Imperial command, been nominated Minister for War, and ordered to take immediate steps for the fortification of Peking and Tientsin.

We read in an Hongkong exchange that at Manila the other day, two Scotchmen from one of the ships in the harbour created some excitement by going ashore in kilts. They were followed along the streets by a crowd of people, and the circumstance was deemed sufficiently important to be chronicled in the local paper.

We understand that the Austrian ironclad *Tegethoff* is to be fitted with Merryweather's steam firepumps of the Admiralty

pattern. These are specially designed to draw a large quantity of water from the hold of the vessel in the event of a sudden influx. The pumps will be driven by one of their quick-steaming fire-engine boilers, so that they may be started at any moment, either for ordinary pumping purposes or for fire duty. Some years ago the ironclad *Peter the Great* had machinery supplied by Merryweather, for the same combined purposes, and owing to the instructions of Admiral Popoff, the *Csar's* yacht, *Lizadla*, has in a like manner now been fitted. The difficult navigation of the Baltic and Black Sea, renders accidents somewhat frequent, and that may have something to do with the attention which the Russian Naval Constructor gives to appliances for increasing the pumping power in his ships.

It is a well-known fact that the numerous parties of tramps which scour the Pacific slopes belong to a regular organized fraternity having a general understanding with one another, and a ritual of questions and answers. An American paper writes that their "uniform appearance, their periodical visits to the same localities, their regular calls at the same houses, where they have before procured food all points to this. Sheriff Walls, of an American city, has found curious emblems about them, has studied their character and listened to their conversation, until he can tell a regularly initiated tramp from an imposter. The following amusing and instructive dialogue took place between the Sheriff and one of a squad of tramps recently committed to jail:—

"From whence came you?"

"From a town in New York, called Jerusalem."

"What's your business here?"

"To learn to subdue my appetite and to sponge my living from an indulgent public."

"Then you are a regular tramp, I presume?"

"I am so taken and accepted 'wherever I go.'"

"How am I to recognize you as a tramp?"

"By the largeness of my feet and a general carnivorous appearance."

"How do you know yourself to be a tramp?"

"In seeking food; by being often denied, but over ready to try again."

"How gained you admittance to this town?"

"By good long tramps."

"How were you received?"

"On the end of a night-policeman's billy, presented to my head."

"How did the policeman dispose of you?"

"He took me several times around the town to the south, east, and west, where he found the City Marshal, Police Judge, and the jailor, where a great many questions were asked."

"What advice did the judge give you?"

"He advised me to walk upright, take regular steps, and to denounce tramping."

"Will you be off or from?"

"With your permission I'll be off very quick."

"Which way are you travelling?"

"East."

"Of what are you in pursuit?"

"Work—which by my own endeavours and the assistance of others, I hope I shall never be able to find."

"My friend you are now at an institution, where the wicked are always troublesome and the weary are as bad as the rest. You will now be conducted to the middle chamber by a flight of winding stairs, consisting of five or more steps. Instead of corn, oil, and wine—the wages of the ancients—yours will be bread and water for five days. When your company escape from this place, divide yourselves into parties of three each, take a bee line for Portland or Bannor, where in the winter they usually run free soup houses, and you may be pardoned on condition of your never returning." (Pointing to Edmiston the turnkey.) "Follow your conductor and fear no danger—if you behave yourself."

A late number of the *Times* states that "M. Rabourdin, who accompanied Colonel Flatters in his expedition in connexion with the Trans-Saharan Railway, for the purpose chiefly of

archæological research, gave an account of some of the results at a recent meeting of the French Society of Political Economy. He discovered numerous deposits of clipped flints. At Wargla he was shown some beautiful arrow heads; and over a distance of about 500 miles he met with 18 flint works, the presence of matrices and cores proving that they had been wrought on the spot. Consequently, M. Rabourdin infers that in prehistoric times the desert was inhabitable, and peopled most densely in its northern and southern parts. He also met with remains of those great-horned oxen which Herodotus tells us were found in the country of the Garamantes. M. Rabourdin also collected some interesting economical facts. The commerce of the Sahara, he finds, was formerly much more active than it is now. True, the principal element of this commerce was the slave-trade. Since Christians have endeavoured to put down this trade, the caravans take the Tripoli and Tunis routes; even yet the traffic is carried on clandestinely on French territory. M. Rabourdin states that the Arabs treat their slaves kindly, and generally end by giving them their liberty. The Wed-Bir is peopled by these freed negroes, who are excellent cultivators, laborious and industrious, and knowing thoroughly how to irrigate their lands. He considers these negroes much superior to the lazy gluttonous, and degraded Arabs. The industry of the Soudan is comparatively advanced; all the objects, arms, harness, utensils of various sorts, which the Touaregs possess, come from that country, whence also they obtain powder, ivory, gold-dust, and even, it is said, emeralds. The Touaregs do not buy these articles; they take them under the form of tribute from the caravans which traverse their country. M. Rabourdin stated that the construction of the Trans-Saharan Railway would meet with no physical difficulties; the dunes are solidified, the simoon is perfectly harmless, the ground is uniform; the curves, the slopes, and the engineering works would be of the most trifling kind. The Soudan, M. Rabourdin stated, would offer for traffic resources which are not to be despised. Already the English have created outlets for it. A Touareg told him that English traders reached Timbuctoo by the Niger, in iron boats, which could be placed on wheels, and thus avoid the rapids. The market of Timbuctoo is abundantly furnished with the most varied products. "You will find there," the Touareg said, "everything except your father and mother." M. Rabourdin does not anticipate that the progress of the steam-engine would meet with any interruption from the tribute-levying Touaregs, who would find it difficult to treat a railway train as they do a caravan of camels.

The *Daily Telegraph*, quoting the statement of the British Consul at Hankow that travelling in the interior of China is now "as easy and safe as in Europe," considers it only fair to say that the better treatment which travellers in the Celestial Empire now receive is greatly due to the efforts of the China Inland Mission, who have discovered the real way to win Chinamen not only to a toleration of foreigners, but even appreciation of Christianity. The devoted members of this Mission go everywhere, without forcing themselves anywhere, and settle down among and make friends of the people. They claim no kind of authority, but are content to teach the doctrines they hold, and do not domineer over either their own converts or those of the heathen community. The consequence is that they are reconciling the excessively patriotic Celestial to the presence of foreigners in a way which could never be accomplished by the missionaries who were content to rest "under the shadow of a consular flag and within range of a gunboat's guns," and to make the adoption of Christianity equivalent to the acceptance of foreign masters.

It is announced that the ironclad for which the Chinese Government have made a contract with a Vulcan firm in Stettin will be of 7,500 tons burthen.

The Russian Government is about to purchase the clipper *Yaroslaw*, from the Moscow Committee, and send her out to the China Station. The *Yaroslaw* is the latest addition to the Volunteer Fleet, and is a very formidable cruiser. She is constructed from designs prepared in 1878 by the technical branch of the Moscow Committee, and

is said to have cost two and a half millions of francs, exclusive of artillery. Her hull is of steel, with a double bottom and water-tight bulk-heads. She is 295 feet long, 41 broad, 16 deep, and has a displacement of 3,050 tons. Her engines are of 2,900 indicated horse power, and drive her at the rate of 16 knots an hour. Her armament consists of one 8-inch gun aft, two 6-inch guns on either port, four 9-pounders, and four Gatlings. She also carries two torpedo-cutters, and is provided with every improvement in the shape of electric lights and torpedoes. On the arrival of the vessel in China it is understood that Admiral Lessovery will use her as his flagship.—*L. & C. Express*.

The following correspondence respecting the laws of Marriage and Divorce has appeared in the *London Times* :—

TO THE EDITOR.

Sir,—In your article on the case of "Harvey v. Farnie" you give a timely warning to English girls who marry Frenchmen of the risk they run of having their marriage set aside in France on account of some technical disability on the husband's part, and you add,—"The idea of the victims has been that, although unmarried by French law, they continue married in England, and that they can claim from their own countrymen, at all events, to be considered as lawful wives. This they can no longer do."

Without venturing to predict what the decision of an English Court may be, allow me to point out that the judgment in "Harvey v. Farnie" does not determine this question. That case has only determined that the tribunals of the domicile of the parties can dissolve a marriage wherever celebrated; it has not decided that a sentence of a Court of the domicile declaring a marriage celebrated in a foreign country null, because it would not be valid by the law of the domicile, must be accepted as binding by the tribunals of the place of celebration.

Mr. Bishop, in his valuable work on Marriage and Divorce, has pointed out (sections 352 and 353) that marriage and divorce are governed by different rules, and that the "Courts of the actual domicile are perfectly competent to undo the matrimonial bond;" but that in the case of marriage, "which is everywhere favoured, the prevailing rule is that, wherever there is such a transaction as the law of the place where it occurs pronounces to be a marriage, the parties to this transaction will be holden everywhere else as well as there to be husband and wife."

The French Courts do not adopt Mr. Bishop's opinion; it remains to be seen whether or not the English Courts will do so.

I am, &c.,

LEX.

TO THE EDITOR.

Sir,—Your correspondent "Lex" justly attaches great weight to the published opinions of Mr. Bishop; but it is important that Englishmen especially should be reminded that the dictum of this distinguished American writer regarding the general recognition of marriages which are valid according to the law of the place of contract is subject to one very remarkable exception.

Though marriage with a deceased wife's sister is universally legal in Australia, and Acts establishing this legality have been repeatedly ratified by the Queen in Council, the various Australian Legislatures have lately been compelled to adopt the expedient of addressing urgent memorials to the Crown for the purpose of emphasizing the fact that the uncertainty and doubt affecting the validity, in England, of such legally contracted marriages are productive of serious hardship and injustice to a very numerous class of colonists, and that an anomaly is being perpetuated for which no sufficient reason can exist.

I am, Sir, your obedient servant,

T. PAYNTER ALLEN, Sec.,

Marriage Law Reform Association, 21, Parliament-street,
London, S.W., Dec. 23.

FULL TEXT OF NEW CHINESE TREATIES.

The following is the full text of the Chinese Immigration Treaty, signed at Peking on the 17th of last November, and recently transmitted to Washington for ratification by the United States Senate:

Whereas, in the eighth year of Hsien Leng, Anno Domini 1853, a treaty of peace and friendship was concluded between the United States of America and China, and to which were added in the seventh year of Tung Chih, Anno Domini 1868, certain supplementary articles to the advantage of both parties, which supplementary articles were to be perpetually observed and obeyed. And

Whereas, The Government of the United States, because of the constantly increasing immigration of Chinese laborers

to the territory of the United States, and the embarrassments consequent upon such immigration, now desires to negotiate a modification of the existing treaties which will not be in direct contravention of their spirit; now, therefore, the President of the United States of America appoints James B. Angell, of Michigan, John F. Swift, of California, and William H. Trescott, of South Carolina, as his Commissioners Plenipotentiary; and his Imperial Majesty, the Emperor of China, has appointed Pao Chun, a member of His Imperial Majesty's Privy Council and Superintendent of the Board of Civil Office, and Ti Hung Tsao, a member of His Imperial Majesty's Privy Council, as his Commissioners Plenipotentiary; and the said Commissioners Plenipotentiary, having conjointly examined their full powers, and having discussed the points of possible modifications in existing treaties have agreed upon the following articles in modification:

Article I.

Whenever, in the opinion of the Government of the United States, the coming of Chinese laborers to the United States, or their residence therein, affects, or threatens to affect, the interests of that country, or to endanger the good order of any locality within the territory thereof. The Government of China agrees that the Government of the United States may regulate, limit or suspend such coming or residence, but may not absolutely prohibit it. The limitation or suspension shall be reasonable, and shall apply only to Chinese who may go to the United States as laborers, other classes not being included in the limitation. Legislation in regard to Chinese laborers will be of such a character only as is necessary to enforce the regulation, limitation or suspension of immigration, and immigrants shall not be subject to personal maltreatment or abuse.

Article II.

Chinese subjects, whether proceeding to the United States as traders or students, merchants, or from curiosity together with their body and household servants, and Chinese laborers who are now in the United States, shall be allowed to go and come of their own free will and accord, and shall be accorded all the rights, privileges, immunities and exemptions which are accorded to the citizens and subjects of the most favored nations.

Article III.

If Chinese laborers, or Chinese of any other class, now either permanently or temporarily residing in the territory of the United States meet with ill treatment at the hands of any other persons, the Government of the United States will exert its power to devise measures for their protection, and secure to them the same rights, privileges, immunities, and exemptions as may be enjoyed by the citizens or subjects of the most favored nations, and to which they are entitled by treaty.

Article IV.

The high contracting powers, having agreed upon the foregoing Articles, whenever the Government of the United States shall adopt legislative measures in accordance therewith, such measures will be communicated to the Government of China, and if the measures, as affected, are found to work hardship upon the subjects of China, the Chinese Minister at Washington may bring the matter to the notice of the Secretary of State of the United States, who will consider the subject with him, and the Chinese Foreign Office may also bring the matter to the notice of the U. S. Minister at Hongkong and consider the subject with him, to the end that mutual and unqualified benefit may result. In faith whereof, the respective Plenipotentiaries have signed and sealed the foregoing at Peking, in English and Chinese, there being three originals of each text of even tenor and date, the ratification of which shall be exchanged at Peking within one year from the date of its execution.

Done at Peking, this 17th day of November, in the year of our Lord, 1880, Kuang Hsli, sixth year, tenth moon, fifteenth day. Signed and sealed by the above named Commissioners of both Government.

THE COMMERCIAL TREATY.

The following is the full text of the Commercial Treaty signed on the same day:

The President of the United States of America and His Imperial Majesty the Emperor of China, because of certain

points of incompleteness in the existing treaties between the two Governments, have named as their Commissioners Plenipotentiary: The President of the United States of America, James B. Angell, of Michigan, John F. Swift, of California, and William H. Trescott, of South Carolina, as his Commissioners Plenipotentiary, and his Imperial Majesty, the Emperor of China, has appointed Pao Chun, a member of His Imperial Majesty's Privy Council and Superintendent of the Board of Civil Office, and Ti Hung Tsao, a member of His Imperial Majesty's Privy Council, as his Commissioners Plenipotentiary having conjointly examined their full powers, and having discussed the points of possible modifications in existing treaties, have agreed upon the following additional articles.

Article I.

The Government of the United States and China recognizing the benefits of their past commercial relations and in order to still further promote such relations between the citizens and subjects of the two powers, mutually agree to give the most careful and favorable attention to the representations of either as to such special extension of commercial intercourse as either may desire.

Article II.

The Government of China and of the United States mutually agree and undertake that Chinese subjects shall not be permitted to import opium in any of the ports of the United States, and citizens of the United States shall not be permitted to import opium into any of the open ports of China, or to transport from one open port to any other open port, or to buy and sell opium in any of the open ports of China. This absolute prohibition, which extends to vessels owned by the citizens or subjects of either Power, to foreign vessels employed by them, or to vessels owned by the citizens or subjects of either Power, and employed by other persons for transportation of opium, shall be enforced by appropriate legislation on the part of China and the United States, and the benefits of the favored claims in existing treaties shall not be claimed by the citizens or subjects of either Power as against the provisions of this article.

Article III.

His Imperial Majesty, the Emperor of China, hereby promises and agrees that no other kind or higher rate of tonnage dues or duties for imports or exports or coastwise trade shall be imposed or levied in the open ports of China upon vessels wholly belonging to citizens of the United States, or upon the produce, manufactures or merchandise imported on the same from the United States or from any foreign country, or upon the produce, manufactures, or merchandise exported in the same to the United States, or to any foreign country, or transported in the same from one open port of China to another, than are imposed or levied on vessels or cargoes of any other nations, or on those of China subjects. The United States hereby promises and agrees that no other kind or higher rate of tonnage duties dues for imports shall be imposed or levied in the ports of the United States upon vessels wholly belonging to the subjects of his Imperial Majesty, coming either directly or by way of any foreign port from any of the ports of China which are open to foreign trade to the ports of the United States, or returning therefrom either directly or by way of of any foreign port to any of the open ports of China, or upon the produce, manufactures or merchandise imported in the same from China, or from any foreign country, than are imposed or levied on vessels of other nations which made no discrimination against the United States in tonnage dues or duties on imports, exports or coastwise trade, or than are imposed or levied on vessels and cargoes or citizens of the United States.

Article IV.

When controversies arise in the Chinese Empire between citizens of the United States and subjects of His Imperial Majesty, which need to be examined and decided by the public officers of the two Nations, it is agreed between the Government of the United States and China that such cases shall be tried by the proper official of the nationality of the defendant. The properly authorized official of the plaintiff's nationality shall be freely permitted to attend the trial, and shall be treated with the courtesy due to his position. He shall be granted all proper facilities for watching the proceedings in the interest of justice, and if he

so desire he shall have the right to be present and to examine and to cross-examine witnesses. If he is dissatisfied with the proceedings he shall be permitted to protest against them in debate. The law administered will be the law of the nationality of the officer trying the case.

In faith whereof, the respective plenipotentiaries have signed and sealed the foregoing, at Peking, in English and Chinese, there being three originals of each text, of even tenor and date, the ratification of which shall be exchanged at Peking, this 17th day of November, in the year of our Lord 1880, Kung Hsi sixth year, tenth moon, fifteenth day. Signed and sealed by the above-named Commissioners.—*Alta California.*

JAPANESE ITEMS.

[The following Notes on various Japanese matters are chiefly derived from the native papers, occasionally supplemented from original sources of information, and are carefully collated and edited, so as make them readable and intelligible.]

COURT, POLITICAL AND OFFICIAL.

GOVERNMENT NOTIFICATION.

Notification No. 3.

It is hereby notified that a new prefecture, named Fukui Ken, has been established over the two provinces of Echizen, and Wakasa. Also that Sakai Ken has been abolished and is included in with Osaka Fa for the future.

The seat of the local Government of Fukui Ken is to be Fukui, Ashiha-yori, Echizen province.

(Signed)

SANJO SANETOSHI,
Prime Minister,

February 7th, the 14th year of Meiji.

We read in a native paper that His Excellency Sanjo, the Prime Minister, invited Admiral Kawamura to his country residence at Imado on the 4th instant, in the afternoon, where they held a conference, which was followed by an entertainment. The Admiral remained there till about eight o'clock at night.

A native paper states that the son of His Excellency Sanjo, the Prime Minister, who has been studying in London, arrived in Yokohama in the *Malacca* on the 5th instant.

The *Mainichi Shinbun* says that in the Foreign Department there is an extraordinary press of business at present, and that the officials attend at the office up to late in the evening.

We learn from a native source that it has hitherto been the custom whenever any public works have been undertaken in Cities or Prefectures to despatch officials from the Construction Bureau of the Home Department to superintend them, but that it has been decided that the local Government officials are to take charge of these duties in future, which will result in a diminution of the staff at present employed in the Home Department.

The *Mainichi Shinbun* states that Colonel Kabayama, chief of Police, has been promoted to the rank of Lieutenant General; Ishiguro Tsutomu, second secretary in the Home Department, to the Governorship of the newly established Fukui Ken, and Taga Yoshiyuki, first class officer in the Finance Department to the second secretaryship of the same Ken.

Another journal informs us that His Excellency Inouye, Minister of Foreign Affairs, returned from Atami on the 7th inst. Mr. Uyeno, the Vice-Minister, went down to Yokohama on the morning of the same day to receive him.

The same paper says that Mr. Tanabe Teruzato, the Chief Secretary of the prefecture of Kochi, has been promoted to the Governorship of that place.

The *Nichi Nichi Shinbun* says that the son of His Excellency Sanjo, who has recently returned from Europe, went to the Akasaka Palace on the morning of the 8th instant. He also proceeded to the Aoyama Palace on the same day. It is said that His Excellency Sanjo will shortly give an entertainment to the *Daijin* and *Sanji* in honour of his son's having safely returned from Europe.

The *Hochi Shinbun* writes:—"It is said to have been reported to our Government from that of Great Britain that two grandsons of Her Majesty Queen Victoria, the elder seventeen years of age, and the younger fifteen will visit Japan on or about September next. The elder will in course

of time ascend to the throne, and therefore greatest etiquette will, we suppose, be observed in the reception of him in our country."

The *Mainichi Shinbun* states:—"Yesterday being the festival of *Kigensetsu* (the ascension to the throne of Jimmu-Tenno, first Emperor of Japan) His Imperial Majesty the Emperor personally performed a religious ceremony in the Palace at 8 a.m., at which all the Princes of the Blood, the *Daijin*, *Sangi*, and the officials of the *Chokunin*, *Sonin* and *Hannin* ranks attended. After the ceremony a grand entertainment was given by his Majesty to the Princes of the Blood, the *Daijin* and *Sangi*. Owing to this holiday there was no publication of the native papers.

The same paper says that H. I. H. Higashi Fushimi-no-Miya has specially been declared to be a hereditary Prince of the Blood; and that his yearly subsidy, which was hitherto 18,000 yen, has been increased to 23,700 yen.

The *Akebono Shinbun* says that the Austrian Minister intends to invite the *Daijin*, *Sangi* and the Foreign Representatives to friendly entertainment to be given on the 15th instant, in the *Enriokwan*, which will be lent for that occasion.

NAVAL AND MILITARY.

We learn from a native paper that Lieutenant General Soga, the commandant of the Osaka garrison, has lately forwarded to the government a document containing his views on various military affairs.

A vernacular journal says that a certain officer of the General Staff Office, who was sent to a prefecture near to the Capital for the purpose of surveying it, lately committed suicide. The reason for this rash act is said to be chagrin at being unable, in spite of his best endeavours, to compile as successful a map as he desired.

The same paper informs us that another man-of-war has been ordered to prepare for a cruise, and that either the *Kenkokwan* or the *Setsukwan* is consequently to be despatched to-day or to-morrow.

Another paper publishes a rumour to the effect that Lieutenant Generals Shijo and Soga, have been promoted to Generals.

We take another rumour from the same source to the effect that owing, it is supposed, to some secret business, extraordinary activity prevails in the War Department at present.

One of the Tokio native papers says that hitherto all the troops in the War Department were allowed to read only the three papers, viz.: the *Heiji Shinbun* (Naval and Military Gazette); the *Nichi Nichi Shinbun*, and the *Hochi Shinbun*, but that it is said to have lately been announced that from motives of economy, the latter two papers will not be subscribed for at Government expense after the expiration of this month.

INDUSTRIES, TRADE AND FINANCE.

A meeting was held at the Senate on Friday the 2nd inst at which a proposition that all foreign captains, mates, and engineers who hold the diplomas from a foreign Government, should be granted the diplomas (licenses) from the Japanese Government without examination, was discussed, and as the question was very simple one, it was passed without much discussion.

As the population is increasing more and more on the seven islands of Izu, new Post Offices are to be established at Okada Mura, Ooshima, and some other places.

The following returns from a native paper give the amount of tea sold in Kobe during part of the past year:—

Month.	Amount.
May	1,528,785 lbs.
June	2,319,960 "
July	2,209,815 "
August	1,383,500 "
September	1,229,130 "
October	1,029,690 "
November	357,670 "
December	299,925 "

Total..... 10,506,375 lbs.

In the Osaka Mint the outturn of copper coins of one *sen* and five *rin* commenced on the 1st instant. About 30,000 yen of these small coins are expected to be manufactured.

A native paper says that just now rumour is current to

the effect that enquiries are at present being made by the Tax Bureau, with the view of introducing alterations in the tobacco tax. It is contemplated to impose this tax only on the manufacturers, while retail dealers will be exempt from it.

The *Nichi Nichi Shinbun* writes:—"The cable between Awamori and Hakodate has, owing to its bad situation, frequently suffered from damage and therefore investigations were made last year with the view of changing its position, but this is postponed for a time, owing, it is supposed, to its entailing too heavy expenses.

We learn from the *Choya Shinbun* that in Shidzuoka a competitive exhibition of cotton, sugar, silk, cocoons, and tea was opened on and after the 10th inst., under the auspices of four prefectures, viz.:—Miye, Aichi, Shidzuoka, and Yamanashi.

The same paper announces that the authorities of the Tokio *Fucho* have found, on enquiry, that the construction of the proposed new harbour at Shinagawa, will require an expense of about 2,850,000 yen.

The waters of Japan literally swarm with fish, and nothing is wanted but a little organisation and encouragement to render fishing a most important item in the industries of the country. That this is realized to a certain extent is evident from what we read in the *Hochi Shinbun*. This paper states that in the Sagalien islands fish is most plentiful, and the annual take is computed to be worth 2,000,000 yen. Much is lost, however, owing to those engaged in the work being too poor to purchase proper nets, or even salt for curing the salmon. Numbers of these valuable fish are therefore left to lie on the beach, and when a chance of exporting them arrives the majority are spoiled and worthless. Mr. Kobayashi, the vice-consul, has recently addressed the Government on the subject, and Mr. Ishikawa of the Finance Department has been despatched thither to investigate matters. It is considered probable that a large fishing company will be established, one of the objects of which will be to make loans to these fishermen to enable them to conduct their labours on a better scale.

We learn from a native paper that the Yokohama silk market is at present rather dull, but that prices do not show any decline although there are but few buyers. Previous contracts are being executed, but these are only on a limited scale. It is however expected that tolerably large shipments will be made by the next American mail. The present stock is small, being only 6,000 bales.

The same paper gives the following statistics:—The exports of silk in Yokohama from June 1879 to the same month in 1880 were 17,822 bales; of which 4,406 was despatched for England; 8,194 for France; and 5,222 for America. During the same period the arrivals of that staple to Yokohama from producing districts were 31,034 bales. Exports from July last year up to the 28th January this year were 14,155 bales; of which 1,734 were for England, 8,642 for France, and 3,779 for America; and the arrivals from producing districts to Yokohama in the corresponding period were 27,714 bales. The present stock in Yokohama is 6,613 bales, composed as follows:—Hanks 2,283; flatures 2,597; Kakodas 1,235; Okuseu 168, and Hamatsuki 330 bales.

We read in another paper that Mr. Kodaka and two other active men, in Idsumig-ri, Katsura province, who have been paying energetic attention towards the agricultural industries, have resolved to establish an agricultural society under the name of *Seinosha*, with the coöperation of several friends. The object of the society is to enquire into any methods which can be adopted for improving the agriculture, and thus encouraging produce.

The same journal states that Mr. Awoye Hûdsu, an *attaché* of the General Post Office, published a pamphlet on the culture of tobacco some years ago when he was in Kagoshima, and the governor of that prefecture made an arrangement with the author and has had it printed for the use of his people. Lately, however, he has offered it to the Agricultural Bureau for sale. It is said that the pamphlet is a most useful book of information and therefore it will be exhibited at the forthcoming National Exhibition.

The correspondent of a native journal writes as follows:—"The Kusakura-yama, though it is within the jurisdiction of

the prefecture of Fukushima, seems to be situated in Minaumi-Kambara-gori, in the province of Echigo. It is distant over 18 *ri* from Wakamatsu, and 3 *ri* from Tsugawa-cho. The mountain is about 2 square *ri* in extent; on a level part three large buildings are built; one of them is the residence of the officials connected with the mine, another is that of the workmen, and the last is the office. The copper mine is situated at about 7 or 8 *cho* from this place. There are three pits, the diameter of which at the entrance is 10 feet each, and their depth varies from 18 *cho* to 20 *cho*. There are over 20 officials and over 1,000 miners, both men and women, under the superintendency of Mr. Misawa. The monthly outturn is, in pure copper, over 10,000 *keomins*, which is worth over 16,000 *yen*. The expenses are said to be small, being only 4,000 *yen* monthly, and on subtracting this from the before mentioned amount we find the net profit to be 12,000 *yen* per month. This mine originally belonged to the former Aidsu Han, but after the restoration it came into the hands of Mr. Harada, a resident at Tsuda, from whom the *Onogumi* purchases it for 23,000 *yen*, at a time when the company was in a prosperous condition. On their bankruptcy it fell into the possession of the former *Daimio* of the Soma Han. There are in the neighbourhood of Aidsu many other mines such as Akaiwayama, Ubayama, Narametaki, Adsumiyama, Kanabori, Ishigamori, &c., where several persons commenced works, but many of them, owing to either the want of funds or perseverance, gave them up half way."

Native papers say that in Yokohama no changes occurred in the silk market on the 8th instant; the sellers keeping back and buyers waiting for favourable terms. Foreign cotton yarn has been in a comparatively quiet condition for four or five days. Prices have fallen slightly and very few transactions are reported.

The same papers state, that with a view to public convenience, the Mitsui Bishi S. S. Co. intends shortly to institute an office for insuring cargoes from fire while being landed.

We learn the following from a native source:—"Mr. Tanji Junichi, a well known merchant in the capital, had projected the formation of a company with a capital of many thousands of *yen*, with a view to purchase rice on a great scale from various provinces at harvest time, and to sell it in Tokio and other ports, where demands for the grain are many, in order to equalize the stock of rice in every port, and thus check any extraordinary rise in its price. Formerly an application for a loan of some of the capital was made to the authorities. But now it is said that if the lately proposed combination of the two rice exchanges in the Capital is accomplished, and permission is granted, the company may be started without any loan. The discussions on the combination have not yet been concluded, however, and the inauguration of the new company has thereby been postponed."

We learn from the same source that in the course of last year silver coins of 5, 10 and 20 *sen* pieces were sent from the Accountant's Bureau in the Finance Department to the Osaka Mint, to be re-coined into one *yen* pieces. Lately a certain amount of this new coinage has been sent to the Accountant's Office. It is said that the remainder will be completed and sent to that Bureau before the end of June next.

It is stated in the *Mainichi Shinbun* that the exhibits to be sent up from Osaka to the forthcoming National Industrial Exhibition, amount to three times the number of those received from that city the last season. Maishima's paper, Godai's indigo, Mitani carpets, Shibakawa neck-cloths, and the sulphuric acid of Sugimura and Konoike, are said to be particularly good. These exhibits should all have arrived before the 10th inst.

The *Bukka Shinpo* states that the firing establishment at Rokocho-me, Onoyecho, Yokohama, is expected to be completed within a few days. It is said that about 10,000 cattles of tea can easily be fired daily. The projectors are making all necessary preparations for carrying on the business on a very extensive scale, as they anticipate orders for firing from both natives and foreigners.

The same paper writes as follows:—"Our foreign paper

industry has greatly improved in recent years and the demand for it has increased. Especially is it used for newspapers. The consumption has become so great, that the manufacturers always find themselves pressed by the demand, and consequently prices are going up. It is said that about seven-tenths of the amount manufactured is consumed in the capital, and the remaining three-tenths in the neighbourhood. As a converse to this the imports of paper from abroad have diminished greatly. It is indeed a matter of great congratulation that this industrial undertaking has become so prosperous day after day as to have had the effect of stopping one import, at least, to a certain extent.

The *Mainichi Shinbun* informs us that in Gifu, in the province of Mino, all the Japanese umbrella makers, with mutual consent, are contemplating the establishment of an umbrella factory under the name of *Mino-Kasa-Kwaisha*, with a capital of 20,000 *yen*; and that in the same place Mr. Muto, and several other enterprising men, have applied for a permission to start a silk factory named *Gifu Seishigensha*.

The same paper states that application has been made to the Home Department, by the authorities of the prefecture of Hiogo (in the prisons of which matches are manufactured by criminals), that in accordance with Government Notification No. 48 last year, the match manufacture should be greatly encouraged, with a view to export these articles to Corea.

MISCELLANEOUS.

A native paper informs us that there is a report that the old firearms in the War Department, which were lately applied for by Okura & Co, are to be shipped to Persia. It was originally believed that they were to be sent to China.

The *Mainichi Shinbun* publishes the following from a correspondent:—"It is said that amongst Japanese men and women, who reside in the foreign settlement in Yokohama, there are many who have lately taken to using opium. If the Government do not make strict rules to forbid this pernicious custom, we shall have in Japan a similar state of affairs as now exists in China, owing to the use the drug.

The *Hochi Shinbun* states that the Secretary of the Colonization Commission has applied to the Government for permission to establish a race course at Makoma, Niikabu, Hokkaido, at an expense of about 10,000 *yen*, to encourage the breed of horses.

We learn from the *Choya Shinbun* that in Okinawa *Ken* (Loochoo) there are 530 villages 530 containing 132,450 houses; and that the population numbers 307,800, of whom 153,640 are males, and 154,060 females.

It is stated in the same paper that there are 40,248 nuns in the Empire of Japan.

Owing, as we learn from a local journal, to heavy falls of snow, the works on the line of the railway to Tsuruga were stopped at the end of the year, and the workmen who had been despatched from Osaka were compelled to return. It is said that now, however, the snow is sufficiently melted, and that work will be resumed on or about the 16th instant.

The construction works of the harbour of Nobiru, in the prefecture of Miyagi, have, according to the *Hochi Shinbun*, been speedily carried on, and will be completed shortly. In consequence of this, numerous letters pass between the Home Department. As all of them are of an urgent nature, communication by post has been found most inconvenient, and therefore the said Department has applied to the Public Works Department for the construction of a telegraphic line to that port.

IMPERIAL GOVERNMENT RAILWAYS.

TOKIO AND YOKOHAMA SECTION.

Statement of traffic receipts for the week ending Sunday, 6th February, 1881.

Passengers, parcels, &c.....	Yen	8,270.47
Merchandise, &c.....	"	858.95

Total.....	Yen	9,129.42
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Miles open 18.

Corresponding week last year.

Passengers, parcels, &c.....	Yen	6,591.74
Merchandise, &c.....	"	860.26

Total.....	Yen	7,452.00
Miles open 18.		

THE JAPANESE PRESS.

THE ERROR OF WISHING TO CHECK IMPORTS.

(Translated from the *Maijun Keizai Shinski*).

It has frequently come to our ears that many energetic men in the various prefectures, who greatly regret the drain of specie abroad, have combined with their friends to concert measures to check it. With this information we have been partly pleased, and partly surprised. We have been pleased, not with their intention, but with their manifestation of a patriotic spirit. We have simultaneously been surprised, not with their patriotic spirit, but with their intention. Being thus pleased and surprised is it not right for us to put forward a few remarks on the question?

We believe from what we have heard that their opinion may be stated as follows:—"Lately the finances of our country have fallen into an indescribably difficult state, which is a most deplorable thing for us. The cause of these difficulties is the drain of our specie, and that is due to nothing but the inequality between the exports and imports. Therefore to ameliorate the difficulty, and to restore our finances to a proper condition, our exports must be made to exceed our imports by encouraging the products, and promoting the industries of the country. If this can be affected, the drain of specie is nothing to be anxious about, but yet it is impossible without some extraordinary steps. To encourage products and to promote industries would be only ordinary steps, which we do not believe would answer to remedy the financial crisis at present, and therefore, to do this a mutual compact should be made by all patriotic people to dispense with the use of imports as far as possible."

This opinion is in accordance with the principles of preserving money, which were generally observed in ancient times in the various countries in Europe when they were still in their childhood, and had not found out the true principles of political economy. It was then believed that the only benefit which commerce could bring to a country was, large imports of specie; and that, both rich and poor solely depended upon this import being large or small. What an utterly wrongheaded idea this was!

No one can deny the truth of what those, who uphold the opinions we have mentioned, so deeply regret, viz: that in consequence of the inequality of the exports and imports Japanese specie is continuously leaving the country, but this is not only not a matter for regret, but on the contrary we express our most unfeigned joy to see it. Believing as we do that the difference between our exports and imports will in future, benefit our country, why should not we, seeing that the difference now exists, offer our congratulations to our countrymen? Why do we say so? We are not without reasons for it.

Money is only a medium of commerce and is, in its nature, goods just the same as all other merchandise, the only difference being that the demand for it is almost universal. On this subject so many authors have delivered prominent and sensible opinions, that we therefore need not dwell on it any further, but proceed at once to explain that the excess of imports over exports does not diminish the wealth of our country. Supposing that one million yen of our gold coins has been exported abroad, it will easily be seen that there must be something which has been imported to our country in return for the gold coin exported. This imported "something" must certainly be in our possession. The matter is simply this, that on giving the gold coins, which are in our possession, to foreign countries, we receive, as it may be, cotton, cloth, calico, &c., which these foreign countries possess and thus the mutual exchange is convenient, pleasant, and beneficial to both sides. Why then shall we not call this a matter for congratulation?

There are two principles on which commerce is based. One is the exchange by one country of such things as it cannot produce with another which can; the other is trading goods after comparing the expenses of producing them. The reason of the former plan is, that owing to differences of latitude and longitude, climate, and fertility or barrenness of soil, the products of every country differ from one another; there are animals and products found in the torrid zone, and not in the frigid, and vegetables and plants which only grow in temperate soils, and not in cold countries. Thus by supplying the wants

of cold countries, with such things as are abundant in temperate soils, and by conveying the superfluous productions of the torrid zone to the frigid zone, mutual assistance and convenience can be ensured. The latter method is somewhat similar, in some respects, to the former. As there are differences of climate and soil in every country, more or less, the amount of labour, and expense for producing the same thing differ correspondingly and therefore, on comparing the expenses of production, all such things which require great expense should be given up. On the other hand, those which can be produced at less expense should be encouraged and exported abroad, in return for which the previous-described articles could be imported from abroad, a system which would have the effect of indirectly increasing the products of the importer actually. This is what we may call trade by comparing the expenses for production. England is supplied with hemp by Germany, while the latter imports woollen cloth from the former: this is a good example of what we mean. Both hemp and woollen cloth can be produced in both countries, but in Germany it is found to be more profitable, owing to the amount of labour required for manufacturing woollen cloth in that country, to manufacture hemp and export it to England, receiving woollen cloth in return. The case is also just the same in England, where it is found more profitable, according to the amount of labour required for making hemp, that woollen cloth should be manufactured instead, and exported to Germany, obtaining hemp in return. This is the best example that we can give.

The fact that our country receives so many imports is explained by this latter illustration. Those articles which form the principal portion of our imports from abroad are calico, cotton-yarn, sugar, kerosine oil, camlets, &c. Our country is not in want of material for producing cotton yarn, sugar &c., although their qualities are inferior to that of what is imported. Nevertheless the imports always exceed the exports. Such a state of things is due to the fact that our producers have naturally paid their attention to a comparison of the expenses of production, and therefore we think we may say that the inequality of our trade is actually a source of wealth, and a good remedy for the finances.

However, it may be put forward that the majority of the imports are articles of luxury, which not only do not give any benefit to our productive powers, but, on the contrary, corrupt popular customs and poison our community; and that this is the reason for the objection maintained against imports. But on carefully examining the custom's returns since the 8th year of Meiji (1875) we find that amongst the imports those which were by far the most numerous and cost the greatest sums of money, were what we can properly call necessities. We give below a return of those imports which exceeded one million yen in value per year, during the four years from the 8th year of Meiji (1875) to the 11th year (1878) inclusive, and will show that our opinion is not without foundation.

YEARS.	GOODS.	VALUE.
1875.....	Cotton yarn.....	3,345,730 yen
1876.....	" "	4,155,684 "
1877.....	" "	6,694,328 "
1878.....	" "	5,325,517 "
1875.....	Calico	2,031,451 "
1876.....	"	2,979,500 "
1877.....	"	1,850,406 "
1878.....	"	2,398,904 "
1875.....	Camlets	2,282,855 "
1876.....	"	2,592,181 "
1877.....	"	2,302,761 "
1878.....	"	2,916,898 "
1875.....	Brown Sugar	2,410,460 "
1876.....	" "	2,159,867 "
1877.....	" "	2,261,236 "
1878.....	" "	2,121,941 "
1875.....	Kerosine Oil	529,641 "
1876.....	" "	886,514 "
1877.....	" "	1,117,565 "
1878.....	" "	2,557,509 "

On looking over this table it will easily be found that during the said four years those imports which were valued at over one million yen yearly, were all actual necessities, and that almost without exception their sum increased every year. Such a fact is worth knowing, as a proof that our present commerce is based on the proper comparison of the expenses

of production. Our opponents may insist, as they have done before, that all these imports are luxuries. We assert most emphatically that in the whole world no such thing as a distinction between articles of luxury and necessity exists. Things for which people make a demand are necessities to them, even if they be precious stones or such so-called luxuries, while conversely such things as they do not require are luxuries, even if they be gold, silver and similar so-called necessities. How then is it possible to draw a hard and fast distinction and to say this is a necessity, and that a luxury?

THE ENCOURAGEMENT OF DIRECT TRADE WITH SAN FRANCISCO.

(Translated from the *Bukka Shimpō*).

Recently there has sprung up a strong opinion in favour of conducting direct trade with foreign countries. Many men of enterprise have embarked in this scheme, and have crossed the seas to London, Paris or America, which latter country has perhaps attracted the greatest number. In the 12th year of Meiji (1879) we ourselves called the attention of the public to the necessity and importance of adopting direct trade with abroad. Since that time we have passed only two brief summers and winters, and yet the proposal of then is the accomplished fact of to day. Our desire was not in vain, and we feel it a matter of great congratulation.

There is yet, however, one matter with which we are ill-content, which is, that although many of our countrymen have gone to America for this purpose, yet their destination has always been the same, namely New York, and we have not heard of one who has settled down to open business in San Francisco. The vast size of America and the numerous advantages it offers to commerce are well known. Why then do our merchants confine themselves exclusively to New York?

San Francisco, in California, is a large port on the Pacific. The history of her sudden rise into her present state of prosperity is entirely unparalleled. She is also the most important port, as connected with our commerce with the United States. On referring to statistics we find that in the 12th year of Meiji (1879) tea (our principal export) to value of 8,300,000 yen was shipped to San Francisco, while 2,800,000 yen's worth went to New York, showing a balance of 500,000 yen in favour of the former port. Moreover our export of rice to San Francisco is no insignificant item, and it is palpable that we might send many other goods, while on the other hand exports from California to Japan are far from being few in number, cattle and hides heading the list. According to some correspondence from Mr. Shiba published in the *Tokai Keizai Shimpō* (The Oriental Economist) we learn that in eleven months last year, from January to November, inclusive, Japanese imports to the value of \$9,908,038 entered San Francisco, and during the same period goods to the extent of \$54,756 were exported thence to Japan. The most superficial consideration of these figures will show how important a bearing commerce with that port has upon the prosperity of our native country.

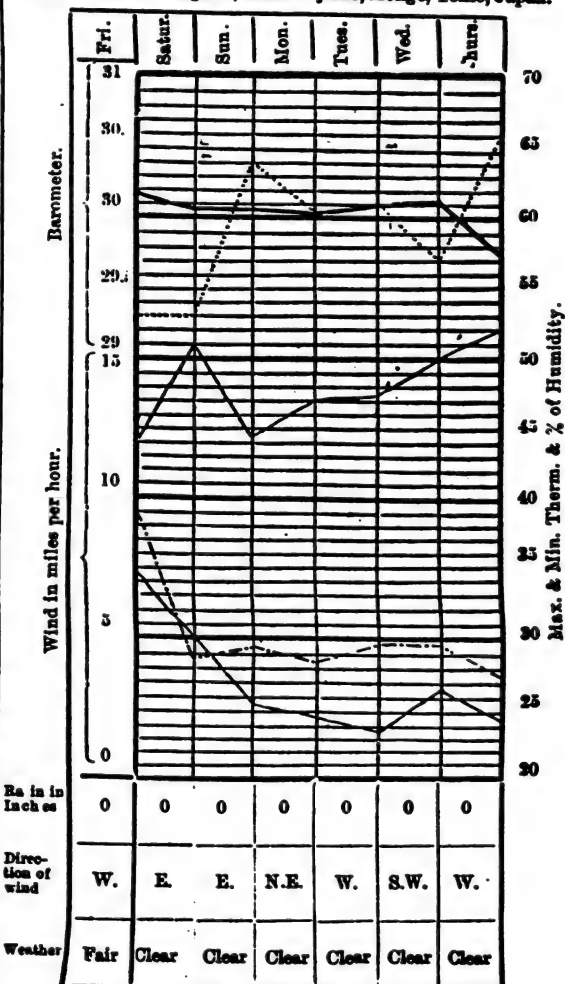
A company, no matter how large it may be, has always branches or agencies in the most important centres of commerce in Europe and America, so that for a newly established Company some place in which no other Japanese firm is settled is best. In places where this is not the case, a mutual arrangement is as a rule made between the established Company and the new one, that the agencies of the former shall work also for the latter. But we find now that instead of making these arrangements our merchants engage in mutual competition in the same port. Of course they have probably have their good reasons for this step, and it does not become us outsiders to talk about what they may be. But what we do point out is, that because there are now two or three Japanese firms established in New York, our merchants of enterprise are all directing their attention to that city, utterly oblivious to the fact that San Francisco lies just opposite us, and that there is not one single Japanese firm there at present, so that our commerce is monopolized by foreigners. It was a matter of considerable regret years ago to those who paid attention to our American trade that no merchants were established in that port, and that they could do nothing to remedy this want. Why do they not act now, when public opinion has pronounced so strongly in favour of direct trade? It may be

that they are taking some steps in the matter, but if so, we have heard nothing of it. There are many foreign ports whose commerce equals that of San Francisco, but many of them have not the same relation to our trade as that port. We earnestly request our enterprising merchants to ponder over our remarks, and to endeavour to ascertain the best method for encouraging direct trade with San Francisco.

METEOROLOGICAL REPORT

FOR WEEK BEGINNING FRIDAY, FEBRUARY 4TH, 1881.

Observatory of Daigaku, Moto-Fujicho, Hongō, Tokio, Japan.



REMARKS.

Heavy line represents barometer.
 Light continuous line—max. & min. thermometers.
represents velocity of wind.
percentage of humidity.
 Max. velocity of wind 17.7 miles per hour on Friday at 5 a.m.
 The barometer is reduced to the freezing point and to the level of the sea.

The highest reading of the barometer for the week was 30.218 inches on Friday at 9.27 p.m. and the lowest was 29.619 inches on Thursday at 11 p.m. The maximum temperature during the week was 51.7 on Thursday, and the minimum was 23.6 on Tuesday. The maximum and minimum for the corresponding week of last year were 51.1 and 27° respectively. The week closed with a rapidly falling barometer and a rising temperature. No rain fell during the week. The total amount for the corresponding week of last year was 1.531 inches.

CHURCH SERVICES.

CHRIST CHURCH.

Sunday Morning 11 A.M.
 " Evening 5.30 P.M.
 E. CHAMBERS IRWINE, M.A.,
 The Parsonage, 101.

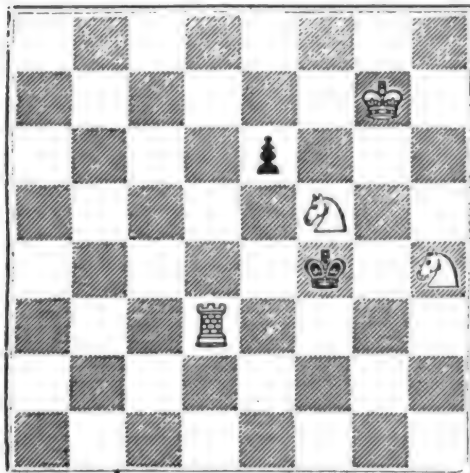
UNION CHURCH, No. 167.

Sunday Morning 11 A.M.
 " Evening 5 P.M.
 REV. LUTHER H. GULICK, M.D.,
 Pastor.

CHESS PROBLEM,

By J. H. WESCOTT.

BLACK.



WHITE.

White to play and mate in 3 moves.

SOLUTION OF CHESS PROBLEM OF FEB. 5TH. BY C. W. OF SUNBURY.

- White: 1.—Kt. to B. 8. 2.—Kt. to K. 6, ch. 3.—Q. to R. 8, mate.
- Black: 1.—R. takes B. or B. to Kt. 2. 2.—K. to K. 5.
- Or if 1.—P. to K. 5. 2.—P. or K. takes Q. 3.—Kt. to Kt. 6, or K. 6, mate.

Correct solution received from Q.

SHIPPING INTELLIGENCE.

INWARDS.

- Feb. 5, German barque *Carl*, Thomsen, 221, put back for provisions.
- Feb. 8, British steamer *Belgic*, Davison, 2,627, from Hongkong. Mails and General, to O. & O. Co.
- Feb. 8, Japanese steamer *Takachiho Maru*, Nye, 1,407, from Hakodate, Mails and General, to M. B. Co.
- Feb. 9, Japanese steamer *Shinagawa Maru*, Walker, 908, from Kobe, Mails and General, to M. B. Co.
- Feb. 9, Japanese steamer *Akitashima Maru*, Frahm, 1,146, from Hakodate, Mails and General, to M. B. Co.
- Feb. 9, Japanese steamer *Shinagawa Maru*, Walker, 908, from Ogrino-hama, Mails and General, to M. B. Co.
- Feb. 10, French steamer *Menzaleh*, Homery, 1,273, from Hongkong, Mails and General, to M. B. Co.
- Feb. 10, Japanese steamer *Tokio Maru*, Swain, 1,146, from Shanghai and ports, Mails and General, to M. B. Co.
- Feb. 10, British barque *Pestov*, Laidman, 384, from Takao, sugar, to Tai Tuk Tong.
- Feb. 10, Japanese steamer *Hiogo Maru*, Steadman, 896, from Hakodate, Mails and General, to M. B. Co.
- Feb. 10, British barque *Remonstrant*, Stoddart, 1,044, from London, General, to Wilkin & Robison.
- Feb. 10, German schooner *Anna Wickhorst*, 384, from Takao, Sugar, to Chinese.
- Feb. 10, British steamer, *Gaelic*, Kidley, 2,652, from San Francisco, Mails and General, to O. & O. Co.
- Feb. 12, Japanese steamer *Suminoye Maru*, Frahm, 852, from Nagasaki, Mails and Coal, to M. B. Co.
- Feb. 13, Japanese steamer *Toyoshima Maru*, Hubbard, 946, from Hakodate, Mails and General, to M. B. Co.

PASSENGERS.

- Per British steamer *Belgic*, from Hongkong:—For Yokohama: Mr. and Mrs. Cave Thomas, Mr. Loeb, Mrs. A. Kingsley, and Chas. Stanford, Jr.; one European in steerage. For San Francisco: 2 Europeans and 36 Chinese in the steerage.
- Per Japanese steamer *Takachiho Maru*, from Hakodate:—Messrs. Dunn, Wiinn, and 160 Japanese.
- Per Japanese steamer *Akitashima Maru* from Kobe:—60 Japanese.
- Per Japanese steamer *Shinagawa Maru* from Kobe:—40 Japanese.
- Per Japanese steamer *Tokio Maru*, from Shanghai and ports:—Rev. R. N. MacLay, Rev. Griffith John, and 9 Japanese in cabin; 2 Europeans and 163 Japanese in the steerage.
- Per French steamer *Menzaleh* from Hongkong:—Mr. and Mrs. Robertson, Messrs. J. Pitman, Fraudon, and Peyre in the cabin.
- Per British steamer *Gaelic* from San Francisco:—For Yokohama: Messrs. Frank Geiger, C. C. Coleman, A. Platt, J. C. Nicoll and son, C. P. Stubbell, P. S. Wooster, A. Carlson, C. H. Meryvill, and James King. For Hongkong: Rev. Remigius Goethe. For Hongkong: 95 Chinese.

OUTWARDS.

- Feb. 5, British steamer *Lord of the Isles*, Felgate, 1,560, for Kobe, General, despatched by Smith, Baker & Co.
- Feb. 7, Japanese steamer *Wakamatsu Maru*, Christensen, 1,300, for Kobe, Mails and General, despatched by M. B. Co.
- Feb. 7, Japanese steamer *Kokonoye Maru*, Dithlefsen, 1,133, for Hakodate, Mails and General, despatched by M. B. Co.
- Feb. 7, H. I. G. Corvette *Vineta*, Captain Zirzow, 2,000, 400 H.P., for Kobe.
- Feb. 7, Japanese barque *Arajishima Maru*, Creighton, 660, for Nagasaki, Ballast, despatched by M. B. Co.
- Feb. 8, German schooner *Auguste Reimers*, Thomsen, 207, Ballast, for Takao, E. B. Watson.
- Feb. 8, British barque, *Atlestan*, Bayley, 771, for Kobe, Original cargo, despatched by W. J. S. Shand.
- Feb. 9, German barque *Carl*, Thomsen, 221, for Kobe, Ballast, despatched by Edward Fischer & Co.
- Feb. 9, Japanese steamer *Hiroshima Maru*, Haswell, 1,780, for Shanghai and ports, Mails and General, despatched by M. B. Co.
- Feb. 11, British steamer *Malacca*, Cole, 1,079, for Hongkong, Mails and General, despatched by P. & O. Co.
- Feb. 10, British barque *Boston Vale*, Buckingham, 411, for Columbia, General, despatched by Hudson & Co.
- Feb. 11, British steamer *Belgic*, Davison, 2,627, for San Francisco, Mails and General, despatched by O. & O. Co.
- Feb. 12, British barque *Victoria Cross*, Tweedie, 668, Kobe, General, despatched by Boyes & Co.
- Feb. 12, British steamer *Gaelic*, Kidley, 2,652, for Hongkong, Mails and General, despatched by O. & O. Co.

PASSENGERS.

- Per British steamer *Malacca* for Hongkong:—Mr. and Mrs. Forrester, Messrs. Newton, J. D. Hutchison, E. J. Kingdon, T. Hicks, J. Lee, W. Lowe and Dr. R. Nelson in cabin; 7 Chinese in the steerage.
- Per British steamer *Belgic* for San Francisco:—Mr. and Mrs. Hewett, W. Langley, Rev. John Griffith, E. W. Fleming and Col. J. W. Crawford in cabin; 3 European, and 36 Chinese in the steerage. For Hamburg:—Mr. L. Hailer.
- Per Japanese steamer *Toyoshima Maru* from Hakodate:—Mr. Mitzjer, and 5 Japanese.

CARGOES.

- Per Japanese steamer *Hiroshima Maru* for Shanghai and ports:—Treasure \$3,500
- Per Japanese steamer *Shinagawa Maru* from Kobe:—Treasure \$270,000
- Per British steamer *Belgic* for San Francisco:—

TEA:				
From	San Fran.	N. York.	Other Cities.	Total
Shanghai	432	304	—	736
Hiogo	—	627	890	1,517
Yokohama	4,547	1,020	407	5,974
Hongkong	375	60	—	435
Total	4,922	2,139	1,601	8,662

SILK:				
From	San Fran.	N. York.	Other Cities.	Total
Shanghai	—	660	—	660
Hongkong	1	210	5	216
Yokohama	—	576	6	582
Total	1	1,446	11	1,458

Per British steamer *Malacca* for Hongkong:—
Silk for London 260 bales.
" France 20 "
Total 280 bales.

REPORTS.

- The Japanese steamer *Shinagawa Maru* reports:—Left Kobe 7th instant at 7.20 p.m. Experienced fresh N.W. winds with fine pleasant weather throughout. Arrived at 1.30 a.m., 9th instant.
- The British steamer *Gaelic* reports:—Left San Francisco at 3 p.m. on the 22nd January had moderate variable winds to the meridian, thence strong N.W. winds; last two days from the S.W. amounting to a gale, arrived at Yokohama at 4 a.m. on the 11th instant.
- The Japanese steamer *Toyoshima Maru* reports:—Left Hakodate on Wednesday, the 9th instant; fine W. N. W. breezes all the way. Arrived Yokohama 12th instant, at 7.45 a.m.

NATIVE CURRENCY QUOTATIONS.
(For Week Ending 12th February, 1881.)

Discount on Yen Sat.				Gold Yen.	Silver Yen.	Silver Subsidary (New.)	Silver Subsidary (Old.)
A.M.	Noon.	Closing.					
1881							
Friday .....Feb.	4 75 $\frac{1}{2}$	74 $\frac{1}{2}$	74 $\frac{1}{2}$	—	—	—	—
Saturday	5 73 $\frac{1}{2}$	73 $\frac{1}{2}$	73 $\frac{1}{2}$	—	—	—	—
Monday	7 73 $\frac{1}{2}$	74 $\frac{1}{2}$	73 $\frac{1}{2}$	—	—	—	—
Tuesday	8 73 $\frac{1}{2}$	73 $\frac{1}{2}$	73 $\frac{1}{2}$	—	—	—	—
Wednesday ..	9 73 $\frac{1}{2}$	72 $\frac{1}{2}$	72 $\frac{1}{2}$	—	—	—	—
Thursday	10 72 $\frac{1}{2}$	72 $\frac{1}{2}$	73 $\frac{1}{2}$	—	—	—	—
Saturday	12 74 $\frac{1}{2}$	75 $\frac{1}{2}$	75 $\frac{1}{2}$	—	—	—	—

SHIPPING INTELLIGENCE.

VESSELS IN HARBOUR.

NAME.	CAPTAIN.	FLAG AND REG.	TONS.	FROM.	ARRIVED.	CONSIGNEE.
STEAMERS.						
Menzaleh	Homery	French steamer	1,273	Hongkong	Feb. 10	M. M. Co.
Tokio Maru	Swain	Japanese steamer	1,146	Shanghai & ports	Feb. 10	M. B. Co.
Volga	Guiraud	French steamer	1,502	Hongkong	Jan. 26	M. M. Co.
SAILING SHIPS.						
Anna Wichhorst	Brandit	German schooner	384	Takao	Feb. 10	Chinese
Alexander	Carson	American schooner	52	Nagasaki	Nov. 3	J. E. Collyer
Bride	Sutherland	British barque	390	Takao	Jan. 26	Jardine, Matheson & Co.
Cilarnum	Beadle	British ship	1,850	Hongkong	Nov. 3	Edward Fischer & Co.
Caroline	Voisin	French barque	—	Hamburg	Jan. 27	M. Raspe
Eller Bank	Parker	British ship	1,145	Middlesborough	Jan. 9	Hudson & Co.
Helena	Ewalt	German schooner	60	Kurile Islands	Oct. 31	Captain
Huguenot	Nickerson	American ship	1,181	Cardiff	Feb. 4	Master
Lottie	Hilts	German schooner	26	Kurile Islands	Sept. 4	Hohnholz & Co.
Mary C. Bohm	Petersen	German schooner	55	Kurile Islands	Oct. 24	P. Bohm
North Star	Johnson	Russian schooner	42	Kurile Islands	Nov. 16	H. W. Hohnholz & Co.
Otome	Hardy	American schooner	72	Kurile Islands	Dec. 13	H. Snow
Otaego	Isaacson	Russian schooner	46	Kurile Islands	Nov. 3	H. Cook
Pioneer	Alaies	Russian schooner	72	Romo, via Hakodate	Jan. 17	Walsh, Hall & Co.
Pestos	Laidman	British barque	384	Takao	Feb. 10	Tai Tuk Tong
Remonstrant	Stoddart	British barque	1,044	London	Feb. 10	Wilkin & Robinson
Scottish Fairy	Toones	British barque	750	Put in dismantled	Oct. 10	Malcolm & Co.
Stella	Werner	American schooner	30	Kurile Islands	Oct. 11	Captain

VESSELS OF WAR IN PORT.

NAME.	GUNS.	TONN.	H. P.	DESCRIPTION.	WHERE FROM.	COMMANDER.
BRITISH—Albatross...	4	894	838	Sloop	Chefoo	Captain Errington
RUSSIAN—Africa...	14	1,400	—	Cruiser	Nagasaki	Captain Alescoff
" Ermak...	4	375	—	Transport	Hiogo	Captain Kolichen
" Kniaz Pejarsky...	12	4,291	—	Ironclad	Nagasaki	Captain Tirtoff
" Minin...	16	5,300	6,300	Ironclad	Nagasaki	Captain Nazimoff

VESSELS ON THE BERTH.

DESTINATION.	NAME.	AGENTS.	TO BE DESPATCHED.
Australia...	Hungarian	Jardine, Matheson & Co.	About Feb. 17th
Hongkong via Kobe...	Niigata Maru	M. B. Co.	Feb. 19th, at 4 p.m.
San Francisco...	City of Peking	P. M. Co.	About March 1st
Shanghai and way-ports...	Tokio Maru	M. B. Co.	Feb. 16th, at 4 p.m.
Hongkong...	Volga	M. M. Co.	Feb. 19th
For New York via Japan and China ports...	Gleniffer	Jardine, Matheson & Co.	Quick despatch

IMPORTS.—Generally more business. Buyers willing to operate and sellers ready to meet them. *Yarns.* Good demand for 16/24's at quotations; prices slightly firmer with moderate stocks. *Bombay* fair business at better rates, 28/32's some enquiry at prices given below. *Shirtings* dull. *T. Cloths* wanted. *Woolens* generally a shade easier.

Plain Orleans	40-42 yds.	32 in...	4.50	to 5.75
Figured Orleans	29-30	" 31	3.50	to 4.25
Lastings	29-30	" 31	10.00	to 11.00
Italian Cloth	30	" 32	0.20	to 0.31
Camlet Cords	29-30	" 22	4.50	to 5.50
Monsieles de Laines:—				
Crape	24 yds.	30 in...	0.16	to 0.17½
do. Itajime	24	" 30	0.23	to 0.29
do. Yuzen	24	" 30	0.35	to 0.40
Cloths, all wool plain or fancy...	48 in.	to 52 in...	0.80	to 1.50
Pilots...	54	" to 56	0.32½	to 0.47½
Presidents...	54	" to 56	0.60	to 0.65
Union	54	" to 56	0.32½	to 0.60
Blankets, green, 6 to 8 lbs. ...	per lb.	...	0.37	to 0.40

Grey Shirtings:—7 lb.	81 lb.	38 1/2 yds. 39 in.	\$1.25	to 1.65
" " " " " " " "	81 lb.	38 1/2 " 39 in.	\$1.50	to 2.00
T. Cloths:—7 lb.	81 lb.	38 1/2 " 45 in.	\$1.85	to 2.57 1/2
Drills, English:—14-15 lb. 40	30 in.	"	\$1.52 1/2	to 1.67 1/2
Indigo Shirtings:— " 12	44 in.	"	\$2.50	to 2.70
Prints:—Assorted " 24	30 in.	"	\$1.47 1/2	to 1.57 1/2
Cotton Italiane & Sateens Black	32 in.	"	\$1.40	to 2.60
Turkey Reds: 2 to 2 1/2 lb. 24 yds.	30 in.	"	\$0.09 1/2	to 0.15
Do. 2 1/2 to 3 lb. 24	30 in.	"	\$1.53	to 1.75
Do. 3 lb.	30 in.	"	\$1.70	to 1.85
			\$1.85	to 1.95

Sugar :—Taka in bag New	... ..	per picul	\$4.55
" " " Old...	... ..	"	\$4.32
Taiwanfoo in bag...	... ..	"	\$4.30
Ching-pak and Ke-pak	... ..	"	\$7.75 to \$9.00
China No. 4-5, Kongfun & Kook-fah...	... ..	"	\$6.50 to \$8.75

Japan Rice	per picul	\$2.80 to 3.35
Japan Wheat	"	\$2.10
Saigon Rice [cargo]	"	\$1.80
Kerosene Oil... ..	case	\$1.90

SILK.—There has been an active business in Silk during the past week, and about 1,000 shipping bales have changed hands. The demand has been chiefly for filatures for the American market, and for Hanks of the better classes, and the latter are getting very scarce. Kakedas also have been rather more in request. Shipments to date 15,750 bales. Stock 3,500 shipping bales. Prices remain unchanged, but are very firm for filatures.

Shipments to date 15,750 bales. Stock 3,500 shipping bales. Prices remain unchanged, but are very firm.

Hanks.—No. 1 & 2		Exchange 3/8 $\frac{1}{2}$	Exchange 4/76	
"	" 2	\$560 to \$565 = 18/	to 18/2	= fcs. 49/20 to fcs. 49.50
"	" 2 $\frac{1}{2}$	\$550 =	17/8	= " 48.90
"	" 3	\$530 =	17/2	= " 47.00
"	" 3 & infra.	\$500 =	16/2	= " 44.80
Filatures.—Extra		\$640 to \$650 = 20/11	to 21/3	= " 57.90 to " 58.70
"	" 1	\$590 to \$610 = 19/4	to 19/11	= " 56.10
"	" 2	\$590 =	19/4	= " 53.50 to " 55.30
"	" 3	\$540 to \$550 = 17/9	to 18/1	= " 49.10 to " 50.00
Kakodas—Best		\$600 to \$620 = 19/8	to 20/4	= " 55.40 to " 55.60
Medium & Good		\$570 =	18/8	= " 51.80
Re-Reels Medium to Best		\$580 to \$600 = 19/	to 19/8	= " 52.20 to " 54.00

Arrivals have been very meagre and stocks are reduced to 3,200 piculs.

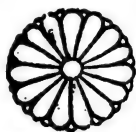
Common	...	...	...	...	\$10 to \$13	Fine	...	...	...	...	...	\$22 to \$24
Good Common	...	...	...	...	\$16 to \$17	Finest	...	...	...	...	...	\$26 to \$28
Medium	...	...	...	...	\$18 to \$19	Choice	...	...	...	...	...	\$30 to \$32
Good Medium	...	...	...	...		Choicest	...	...	...	...	...	\$34 upward.

STERLING—Bank 4 months' sight	3/8½
" Bank Bills on demand	3/7¾
" Private 4 months' sight	3/8½
" " 6 " " "	3/8½
ON PARIS—Bank sight " "	4.62
" Private 6 months' sight	4.74
OK HONGKONG—Bank sight	1 % prem.
" Private 10 days' sight	1 % disc't

ON SHANGHAI—Bank sight.....	72½
Private 10 days' sight.....	73½
ON NEW YORK—Bank Bills on demand.....	88½
Private 30 days' sight.....	89½
ON SAN FRANCISCO—Bank Bills on demand.....	88½
Private 30 days' sight.....	89½
KINSAITZ	66½ dis.
GOLD YEN	380 nem.

SHIPPING.—The *Remonstrant* is the only disengaged vessel in port. The s.s. *Gleniffer* will take the New York berth next week.

MISCELLANEOUS.



NOTICE TO MARINERS.

No. 1 of the 14th Year of Meiji, (1881.)

KAGENO SIMA LIGHTHOUSE.

ENTRANCE TO NAGASAKI HARBOUR.

THE GOVERNMENT OF JAPAN hereby gives notice that, on the night of the 1st day of the 3rd Mouth of the 14th Year of Meiji (1st March, 1881), and every night thereafter, from Sunset to Sunrise, a Fixed Red Light of the 6th Order will be exhibited from the tower built on the Northern point of Kageno Sima, at the Entrance to the harbour of Nagasaki, in the province of Hizen.

According to the Japanese Admiralty Chart No. 108, and the British Admiralty Chart No. 2415, the Lighthouse is situated in latitude 32 degrees 42 minutes 42 seconds North, and in longitude 129 degrees 49 minutes 37 seconds East of Greenwich.

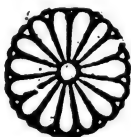
The Tower is built of stone, and is 15 feet 8 inches high from the base to the center of the lantern.

The Light will have an arc of visibility of 206 degrees, the cut off bearings being N. 81° 30' W. and S. 55° 30' E. Bearings true.

The total elevation of the Light above the sea will be 40 feet, and its range of visibility, in clear weather, about 8 Nautical miles.

YAMAO YOZO,
Minister of Public Works.

Tokei, February 3rd, 1881.



NOTICE TO MARINERS.

HIKU-FLAT BUOY.

WESTWARD ENTRANCE OF SIMONOSEKI STRAITS.

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN, that the Buoy Moored on the Shallow called HIKU-FLAT, at the Westward entrance of SIMONOSEKI STRAITS has broken adrift from its moorings.

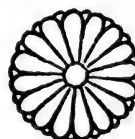
The buoy will be replaced in its position on an early date, of which due notice will be given.

BY ORDER.

Lighthouse Establishment,
Benten,

Yokohama, 25th January, 1881.

MISCELLANEOUS.



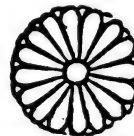
NOTICE TO MARINERS.

SHIMONOSEKI STRAITS BUOYS.

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN, that KANABUSE BUOY and MIDDLE GROUND BLACK BUOY, which were advertized as having broken adrift from their moorings, have been replaced

BY ORDER.

Lighthouse Establishment,
Benten,
Yokohama, 17th January, 1881.



CANDIDATES for a PILOT'S LICENSE, for the Gulf of Tokio, should make application to the undersigned, through the Local Government of their district.

The examination of the applicant selected will take place at this office on Wednesday the 3rd day of February next, at 10 A.M.

One License only will be granted.

H. MAYESIMA,
Chief Superintendent

Marine Office,
Tokio, January 17th, 1881.

NOTICE TO MARINERS.

No. 129.

CHINA SEA.

SHANGHAI DISTRICT.

WRECK NEAR THE AMHERST ROCKS.

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that the British Bark CHINAMAN lies sunk in 5 fathoms of water 7 miles to the S. 37° W. of the Amherst Rocks. The iron masts are at present visible.

By order of the Inspector General of Customs.

DAVID M. HENDERSON,
Engineer-in-Chief.

Imperial Maritime Customs,
Engineer's Office,
Shanghai, 24th January, 1881.

MISCELLANEOUS.

IMPORTANT

—FOR—

WATCHMAKERS!

IMPORTANT

FOR

EVERYBODY!

THE Rodanow Manufacturing Company (Limited—Capital \$2,000,000), Boston (America), will forward, hereafter, even one single Watch to any part of the world at wholesale prices, i.e., 35 per cent cheaper than any watchmaker, as none of them is manufacturing Watches himself, but only buying them from here. We call the particular attention of every one intending to purchase a first-class reliable Watch to our following price list:—

Key-winding Watches.

SILVER WATCH.	£	s.
Crystal glass, seconds hand.....	0	10
Hunting case, engraved, highly finished..	0	14
Skeleton movement, extra jewelled, stout double cover.....	1	00
GOLD WATCH.		
Jewelled, maintaining power, crystal glass.	1	10
Half hunter, enamel or gold dial, lever escapement	1	16
Hunting case, superior nickel movement, best quality with all the latest improvements, two gold covers	2	03

Keyless Watches

(Stem-Winders.)

The keyless mechanism to a watch is one of the great modern improvements in Watch work, it does away with the old-fashioned key, with which so many persons have ruined their Watches. The Watch is wound by turning a knurled knob, placed on the handle or bow, instead of by the ordinary means; the hands are set in the same way. The advantages of these improvements are obvious, the case, which never need be opened in winding, is made airtight and dust-tight, thus preserving much longer the fluidity of the oil, and greatly prolonging the intervals between the necessary cleaning of the Watch.

SILVER KEYLESS WATCH.

Lever movement, flat, jewelled, crystal glass	£	s.
Double cover, enamel or ornamented silver dial	1	05
Superior skeleton movement, extra jewelled, stout double cover	1	15

GOLD KEYLESS WATCH.

Open face, lever escapement, ten jewels...	2	05
Half hunter, best movement, all latest improvements, fifteen jewels.....	3	00
Two stout gold covers, chronometer movement with centre seconds hands, a splendid Watch for presentation	3	15

MISCELLANEOUS.

GOLD KEYLESS CHRONOMETER.

Three gold covers, movement of finest workmanship, centre seconds hands, repeating hours and quarters..... 8 10
Imperial Chronometer, showing days, date, weeks, and month on dial, repeating hours, quarters, and eighths, three heavy gold covers, warranted for five years, and without doubt the best and handsomest Watch in existence..... 15 00

OBSERVATIONS.

1.—All the above Watches can be had in smaller size to suit for ladies' wear at the same price. Monograms, initials, arms, etc., engraved on the back of the Watch free of charge.

2.—All our Watches are thoroughly finished and ready for immediate use, and will be sent securely packed in morocco case, *post free*, to any part of the world, together with spare mainsprings, glasses, and keys, these being a great convenience, as in many out-of-the-way places, it is almost a matter of impossibility to replace one of those articles.

3.—Every watch is accompanied by a written warranty, guaranteeing the regularity and superiority of its workmanship for three years, during which time no charge will be made for repairing if the watch is returned post free.

4.—All our gold cases are eighteen carat gold; the silver cases are of the best sterling silver.

5.—Six per cent discount will be allowed on orders for six and more Watches.

6.—All our Watches have compensation balance, which renders them equally accurate in either hot or cold climate.

7.—All Watches may be ordered without seconds hand, with engraved, plain polished, or engine-turned cases, without difference of price.

8.—No orders from abroad filled unless accompanied by a remittance to cover the amount, or a reference on a Boston house.

Persons residing in any part of the world need not hesitate to forward their orders to this establishment as they may rely upon receiving the exact Watch ordered by them, which if not approved, will be exchanged free and safe by post, or money refunded. The best means of sending money is by draft on New York, Paris, or London, which can be procured at any banker and everywhere,—or enclose the amount in bank-notes, gold coins, or postage stamps of any country of the world. All orders, the smallest as well as the most important, will receive the same particular attention and will be forwarded without delay. We respectfully ask for a trial order.

THE

Rodanow Manufacturing Company,

5 and 7, Portland Street, Boston, U. S. of America.

NOTICE.

No. 31, } COMMERCIAL DINING ROOMS. { No. 31,
 Water Street. } Water Street

ON and after this date, the following prices will be charged:—

BOARD	per month	\$25.00
BOARD AND LODGING	„ „	35.00

Very comfortable bed-rooms,

With European fire-places, and very comfort guaranteed.

WM. CURTIS.

Yokohama, November 9th, 1880.

MISCELLANEOUS.

SEVENTH DRAWING. CHINESE IMPERIAL GOVERNMENT LOAN OF 1877.

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN, that in conformity with the stipulation contained in the Bonds of this Loan, 1146 Bonds of £100 sterling each—£114,600, to be paid off at par, on the 28th of February next, when the Interest thereon will cease, were this day Drawn at the Offices of the HONGKONG AND SHANGHAI BANKING CORPORATION, 31, Lombard Street, London, E.C., in the presence of GEORGE HENRY BURNETT, Esq., Accountant of the said Corporation, and of the undersigned Notary Public.

FOR THE HONGKONG AND SHANGHAI
BANKING CORPORATION,

(Signed) GEO. H. BURNETT,
Accountant.

Countersigned,

W. W. VENN, Jun.,
Notary Public,

2, Pope's Head Alley, Cornhill, E.C.

London, 13th December, 1880.

The Numbers of Bonds Drawn can be ascertained on application at this Office.

For the HONGKONG AND SHANGHAI
BANKING CORPORATION,

JOHN WALTER,
Manager.

Yokohama, February 5th, 1881.

"HIGHEST AWARD & PRIZE MEDAL PHILADELPHIA
EXHIBITION, 1876."

OAKEY'S
WELLINGTON KNIFE POLISH
PREPARED EXPRESSLY FOR THE PATENT KNIFE-
CLEANING MACHINES, INDIA RUBBER AND BUFF
LEATHER KNIFE BOARDS. KNIVES CONSTANTLY
CLEANED WITH IT HAVE A BRILLIANT POLISH EQUAL
TO NEW CUTLERY. PACKETS 3D. EACH; AND TINS,
6D., 1/-, 2/6 AND 4/- EACH.

OAKEY'S
INDIA RUBBER KNIFE BOARDS.
PREVENT FRICTION IN CLEANING AND INJURY TO
THE KNIFE. OAKEY'S WELLINGTON KNIFE POLISH
SHOULD BE USED WITH HIS BOARDS.

OAKEY'S
SILVERSMITHS SOAP
(NON-MERCURIAL).
FOR CLEANING AND POLISHING SILVER, ELECTRO-
PLATE, PLATE GLASS, &c. TABLETS 6D. EACH.

OAKEY'S
WELLINGTON BLACK LEAD
IN SOLID BLOCKS—1IN., 2IN. & 4IN. EACH, & 12. BOXES.

JOHN OAKEY & SONS
MANUFACTURERS OF
EMERY CLOTH
EMERY CLOTH
BLACK LEAD
CABINET
GLASS-PAPER
WESTMINSTER BRIDGE ROAD, LONDON, ENGLAND.
July, 1879.

MISCELLANEOUS.

THE GREATEST WONDER OF MODERN TIMES HOLLOWAY'S PILLS.

Persons suffering from weak or debilitated constitutions will discover that by the use of this wonderful medicine there is "Health for all." The blood is the fountain of life, and its purity can be maintained by the use of these Pills.

SIR SAMUEL BAKER,
in his work entitled "The Nile Tributaries in Abyssinia," says, "I ordered the dragoon Mahomet to inform the Fakay that I was a Doctor, and that I had the best medicines at the service of the sick, with advice gratis. In a short time I had many applicants, to whom I served out a quantity of Holloway's Pills. These are most useful to an explorer, as possessing unmistakable purgative properties they create an undeniable effect upon the patient, which satisfies him of their value."

SIMPLE, SAFE AND CERTAIN! HOLLOWAY'S OINTMENT.

Is a certain remedy for bad legs, bad breasts, and ulcerations of all kinds. It acts miraculously in healing ulcerations, curing skin diseases, and in arresting and subduing all inflammations.

MR. J. T. COOPER,
in his account of his extraordinary travels in China, published in 1871, says—"I had with me a quantity of Holloway's Ointment. I gave some to the people, and nothing could exceed their gratitude; and, in consequence, milk, fowls, butter, and horse-feed poured in upon us, until at last a tea-spoonful of Ointment was worth a fowl and any quantity of peas, and the demand became so great that I was obliged to lock up the small remaining stock"
Sold by all Chemists and Medicine Vendors throughout the World
May 17th, 1873.

**ASTHMA,
FOR
DIFFICULT
BREATHING
&c**

**AVORY & MOORE'S
DATURA
TATULA**

Cigars, Cigarettes, or Tobacco, also Pastilles and powder for Inhalation.
AVORY & MOORE, NEW BOND STREET, LONDON,
And on all Chemists and Storekeepers throughout the world.
December 1880.

H. MacARTHUR,
SHIP-BROKER AND CUSTOMS
AGENT,
NO. 70, Yokohama,
(Opposite the Old British Post Office).
Yokohama, 4th May, 1880.

MISCELLANEOUS.

BUGS, SELF, A MOTHS, BEETLES,

and all other insects are destroyed by

KEATING'S INSECT POWDER,

which is quite harmless to Domestic Animals.

In exterminating Beetles the success of this Powder is extraordinary, and no one need be troubled by those pests. It is perfectly clean in application.

Ask for and be sure to obtain "KEATING'S POWDER," as Imitations are Noxious, and fail in giving satisfaction.

SOLD BY ALL CHEMISTS IN BOTTLES, 1/- & 2/6 each.

KEATING'S WORM TABLETS,

A PURELY VEGETABLE SWEETMEAT, both in appearance and taste, furnishing a most agreeable method of administering the only certain remedy for **INTESTINAL** or **THREAD WORMS**. It is a perfectly safe and mild preparation, and is especially adapted for Children.

TESTIMONIAL.

Medical Hall, Gildersome, Nov. 28th, 1876.

MR. KEATING,

Dear Sir,—I think it nothing but my duty to inform you of the immense sale I have for your Worm Tablets, which I may justly say is enormous, and in every case gives the greatest satisfaction. I have now in stock two bottles containing the Round Worms brought me during the last few days by customers, one Worm 40 yards long. I dare not be without the remedy.—Yours respectfully,

M. A. WALKER.

SOLD IN BOTTLES, BY ALL CHEMISTS AND DRUGGISTS.

Proprietor—**THOMAS KEATING, London.**

REWARD AND CAUTION.—Whereas fraudulent imitations of this unsurpassed remedy have been sold, I hereby request anyone knowing of the vendor of the same to communicate with me, on conviction of the offender a liberal reward will be paid.

April, 1880.

E. P & W. BALDWIN,
WILDEN WORKS.

STOURPORT ENGLAND.

SHEET IRON,

BRANDED

"BALDWIN—WILDEN," AND "SEVERN."

TIN PLATES,

BRANDED "EP & WB" "WILDEN," "UNICORN,"
"ARLEY," "STOUR."

Stamping Sheets, Button Iron, Sheet Iron, Pickled, Cold Rolled,
and Close Annealed.

Export Agents—

Brooker, Dore & Co., 2, Rood Lane. London, E.C.
April, 1880.

THE "HIOGO NEWS."

PUBLISHED AT HIOGO EVERY MORNING,
(Sundays excepted).

SUBSCRIPTION \$24 per Annum, payable half-yearly
in advance.

Terms for Advertising can be obtained at
"JAPAN MAIL" OFFICE.

Yokohama, February 12, 1874.

tf.

MISCELLANEOUS.

HONGKONG AND SHANGHAI BANKING CORPORATION.

PAID-UP CAPITAL \$5,000,000.
RESERVE FUND... .. \$1,600,000.

Head Office: HONGKONG.

COURT OF DIRECTORS.

Chairman—The Hon. W. KESWICK, Esq.

Deputy Chairman—ALEX. McIVER, Esq.

E. R. Belilios, Esq., H. L. Dalrymple, Esq., H. Hoppius, Esq.,
Wilhelm Reiners, Esq., F. D. Sassoon, Esq., W. S. Young, Esq.,
H. de Courcy Forbes, Esq.,
Chief Manager—THOS JACKSON, Esq.

LONDON COMMITTEE.

A. H. Phillips, Esq., Director of London and County Bank.

E. F. Duncanson, Esq., of Messrs. T. A. Gibb & Co.

Albert Deacon, Esq., of Messrs. K. & A. Deacon.

Manager—DAVID McLEAN, Esq.

Bankers—LONDON AND COUNTY BANK.

SHANGHAI.

Manager—EWEN CAMERON, Esq.

BRANCHES AND AGENCIES.

New York, London, Bombay, Calcutta, Foochow, Shanghai, Hiogo,
Hankow, Saigon,
Amoy, San Francisco, Manila, Singapore.

YOKOHAMA BRANCH.

Interest allowed on Current Accounts at 2 o/o on Daily balances.

On Fixed Deposits, for 12 months, at 5 o/o

" " " " 6 " " 4 "

" " " " 3 " " 3 "

LOCAL BILLS DISCOUNTED.

Credits granted on approved Securities, and every description
of Banking and Exchange business transacted.

Drafts granted on the Chief Commercial places in Europe,
India, Australia, America, China and Japan, and Circular Notes
issued for the use of Travellers.

JOHN WALTER, Manager.

Yokohama, 25th August, 1880.

The "Japan Mail,"

A Daily, Weekly, and Fortnightly Journal,

ESTABLISHED, 1865.

TERMS OF SUBSCRIPTION.

WEEKLY EDITION. The "Japan Weekly Mail," a Weekly Review
of Japanese Commerce, Politics, Literature and Art:—Per
annum, \$24: Six months, \$13: Three months, \$7.

FORTNIGHTLY EDITION, being a Summary of the foregoing, is pub-
lished for transmission by the American Mail Steamers via
San Francisco. Per annum, \$12; Six months, \$7; Three
months, \$4.

THE JAPAN DAILY MAIL is published every morning (Sundays ex-
cepted) and contains the Arrivals and Departures of all
Shipping, Passenger lists, Cargoes, Vessels on the Berth and
in Harbour &c. &c. Also the latest Telegrams, Japanese
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SUBSCRIPTION PER MONTH—ONE DOLLAR.

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for these papers.

Printed and published for the Proprietor, by the Manager
A. HERBERT BLACKWELL, at the "Japan Mail" Office, 10,
Bund, Yokohama.

SUPPLEMENT TO THE JAPAN WEEKLY MAIL.

YOKOHAMA, SATURDAY, 12TH FEBRUARY, 1881.

ARRIVAL OF THE AMERICAN MAIL.

TELEGRAMS.

New York, January 21.—A London despatch from Buenos Ayres, dated January 20th, says: The Chileans attacked and completely defeated the Peruvian Army at Miraflores. General Pierola, President of Peru and Commander-in-Chief of the Army, fled. The Chileans occupied Lima, the Capitol, without resistance on the 17th inst. General Pierola, brother of the Peruvian Minister of War, was taken prisoner.

The Peruvian loss in the battle at Chirallas is said to have been 7000 killed and 2000 prisoners. Twenty-five thousand Peruvians were engaged in the battle at Miraflores. The Chilean loss in both battles was heavy.

The diplomatic body at Lima have urged the conclusion of an armistice and asked that the person of Senor Pierola be respected.

London, January 21st.—The Chileans occupy Lima.

London, January 21st.—Later reports are more favorable for a peaceful solution of the Greek question.

Paris, January 21st.—Gambetta was re-elected President of the Chamber of Deputies yesterday, receiving 262 votes, three more than in 1880, when his friends sought to explain the falling off by alleging that the election was hurried. The extreme Left evidently did not vote for him, as 45 votes were thrown away on other persons.

St. Petersburg January 21st.—Marquis Teng, the Chinese Ambassador, has given notice to the Russian Government that China will adhere to the stipulations drawn up at St. Petersburg, which consequently will be embodied in the treaty.

The *Agence Russe* denies the statement telegraphed from Constantinople recently, that Greece had requested Russia to take the Greek subjects in Turkey under her protection should the necessity arise.

St. Petersburg, January 21st.—Two men and two women have been arrested here on suspicion of belonging to a secret society. The police discovered at their house a programme of the extreme terrorist faction of Nihilists, which recommends murder and incendiarism. A quantity of revolvers, daggers, axes and machinery for the manufacture of forged passports, a portion of a secret printing-press, and a large number of revolutionary proclamations were also found.

Paris, January 21st.—A Madrid correspondent telegraphs that in the debate in Congress, which closed last night, Sagasta, leader of Dynastic Liberals, made a remarkable speech, in calm and lofty language, which caused great excitement in the House and lobbies. He declared the present Cabinet and its policy responsible for whatever mischief might eventually come, and for the probable estrangement from restoration of the Liberals who had endeavored to play the part of Whigs to the existing institutions. Sagasta concluded with a bold assertion that should the event occur, he would be found true to the cause of liberty.

Corrales Castillo made a vigorous speech in reply, which was much cheered by the Ministerial adherents.

Marshall Campos is to make a statement similar to Sagasta's during the debate on the address, in the Senate next week.

Dublin, January 21st.—A Land League meeting at Rock Carry, County Monaghan, Ulster, and counter-meeting of Orangemen on the 18th inst., were prohibited on the ground that the meetings might lead to a breach of the peace.

Cork, January 21st.—Neil, Secretary of the Cork Land League, recently summoned on a charge of intimidation, by writing threatening letters, has been discharged for want of evidence to sustain the charge.

Forty-nine members of the Land League will be summoned at Lixtow on a charge of seditious conspiracy.

London, January 21st.—Joseph Cowen, Radical Member of Parliament for Newcastle-on-Tyne, and Parnell, will address a public meeting in London on the 4th of February, to protest against coercion.

In consequence of the prolonged debate in the House of Commons, on the address in reply to the Queen's speech,

Rylands, Liberal, abandoned his motion in regard to the Transvaal.

New York, January 21st.—The storm of hail and rain which broke over this city this morning originated in the north-west and has moved eastward across the country. The officer in charge of the Signal Service Station said this morning that the storm will probably pass over this city some time this afternoon, and be followed by clearing, cooler weather. Up to noon to-day, the total amount of water which had fallen was a trifle over an inch. Ice formed so heavily upon the wires connected with the wind-gauge, that they broke under the weight. Up to 7 o'clock this morning the greatest velocity of the wind was about 30 miles per hour, but continued to increase in force, and at noon was blowing over 40 miles. The flag-pole swayed to and fro and while the reporter was in the offices of the Weather Bureau, the ice which had formed upon the flag-staff fell upon the roof with a startling crash.

The storm has caused an entire suspension of telegraphic communication throughout the country. The wires of the Gold and Stock Telegraph company were interrupted everywhere. Along Canal street a great many poles have been prostrated by the weight of ice forming upon the wires, and at about ten o'clock this morning an officer of Eighteenth precinct reported that a number of poles along South street had been blown down. Up to nine o'clock this morning the wires were in working condition in all parts of the city, but at that hour the accumulation of ice upon them became so heavy that they began to break, and from that time up to 2 p. m. continuous reports of broken wires and interrupted circuits were received.

Soon after nine this morning one of the derricks upon the new Stock Exchange was blown over, and fell into Broad street, carrying away in the fall about twenty-five wires of the Stock Exchange system. Great loss to the telegraph companies will be caused by the interruption of business. The American Union and Atlantic and Pacific have entirely suspended business. The streets are in a deplorable condition, and many of the crossings are knee-deep with rain and slush. The ice has stopped the hands of the church clocks. A high tide accompanied the storm and filled the cellars. The vessels lying in the North and East Rivers have been severely damaged by the storm. A sudden squall threw the ship *Sackem* on her side, when she took fire and was partially destroyed. She is valued at \$50,000.

The telegraph wires in Jersey City and Newark are prostrated. The wires of the Western Union, Continental and American Union Telegraph Companies, and the wires of the telephone company, were blown down and carried along the streets. Many telegraph poles were also blown down.

Untold damage has been done in Brooklyn. Up to noon twenty-one telegraph poles had fallen. Trees are falling all over the city, and it is absolutely dangerous to be out of doors. Telegraph wires are lying helter-skelter all over the streets, and the thoroughfares are generally in a dilapidated condition. Early in the day one of the stanchions supporting the City Hall tower gave way, and a little later the west window fell with a crash to the sidewalk. The damage is said to be in the neighborhood of \$75,000.

Dublin, January, 20th.—In the Court of Queen's Bench to-day, P. Dillon of counsel for the traversers, on opening in behalf of Gordon and Boyton, asked the jury to acquit them, and thus rejoice the greater Ireland over the seas. A. M. Sullivan, M. P., also of counsel for the defence, followed in behalf of P. Egan. He drew a picture of the harsh laws passed since the Union, and of the sufferings of famine. Some in the audience wept. He called upon the jury to acquit the traversers and thereby condemn the so-called Liberal Ministers who have been hounded on by the London press. The Court-room was crowded.

Sullivan appealed to the jury not to incur the obloquy that Gladstone asked them to at a time when he was preparing measures of land reform to obtain for himself fresh glory and power. At the close of the speech the audience cheered loudly, and a lady threw a bouquet to Sullivan.

Heroy, replying for the Crown, said the jury had to

decide that socialism should not obtain a footing in Western Europe, and asserted that the traversers had perpetrated sedition and murder.

The Court adjourned.

London, January 20th.—It is stated that a section of Liberals will not vote on Coercion bills unless the Government discloses the nature of the Land bill. Parnell will not go to Dublin to be present at the conclusion of the Irish State trials. Rowland P. Blennerhassett, member for Henry, has completely severed his connection with the Home Rulers.

When the debate on the address was resumed to-night, Rogers pointed out the irregularity of Dawson's amendment praying for the assimilation of English and Irish borough franchises. The Speaker coincided with this opinion, and the amendment was then withdrawn, but was brought up by Sexton in another form.

After debate, Sexton's amendment was rejected by a vote of 86 to 274.

Mr. O'Kelly, however, moved a further amendment, asking the Queen to guarantee to the Irish people their constitutional rights.

Debate followed, at the close of which O'Kelly's amendment was rejected by a vote of 84 to 178, and the address was adopted.

The *News* says it is understood that the Government is fully prepared with proposals for submission to the House in regard to "obstruction." The proposal tends very clearly to establish the principle of French *clôture*.

London, January 20th.—The great snowstorm, which almost placed the United Kingdom under complete embargo, is general throughout Europe, and communication between London, Paris, Brussels and Amsterdam is entirely stopped. The gale has somewhat abated, but its force is still great. The overflow of the Thames is doing immense damage. Traffic in London is almost entirely suspended. There are distressing reports of wrecks along the coast, where the sea is so high as almost to preclude assistance being rendered by coast guards. There is no record of so severe a storm.

A French vessel was sunk off Great Yarmouth, with a loss of twenty lives. A brig was stranded at Gorleston, and eight persons lost. A bark had also been wrecked on the Suffolk coast, with a loss of ten lives.

New York, January 22th.—The *Herald* has the following details: The Holyhead mail arrived twelve hours late in London. Twelve inches of snow stopped all traffic. At 10 o'clock in the morning trains ceased running; at 11 omnibuses; at noon, cabs and hansoms—being the only vehicles left. Since then business is practically suspended. Londoners do not remember such a total stoppage of busy life. Travellers, arriving, had to stay at the nearest hotels. The theatres are deserted. At Her Majesty's scarcely one hundred persons were present, only four persons occupying the stalls. Booth, at the Princess, made his first appearance as "Iago" before a scanty audience. Between 10 and 11 to-night the only vehicle seen in Fleet street was a solitary hansom with an extra horse attached to draw a single occupant. A curious silence prevails. The recent frost having frozen the water pipes, the unusual sight is seen in the streets of water being offered for sale to supply Londoners with breakfast and tea.

London, January 20th.—With the partial restoration of telegraph wires, prostrated by the storm in England, instances of persons being overwhelmed by snow and frozen to death are reported from various districts. Railway trains had to be abandoned in snowdrifts where only the funnel of the engine is visible. The damage to Dover Pier by the fury of the sea is £10,000. Solid masses of concrete were scooped out by the waves, and stones weighing more than a ton were washed away. The pier at South End, on the Thames, opposite Mouth Medway, was carried away by ice, and a boat which was aiding in the rescue of persons on the pier was swamped, and eight persons drowned.

London, January 20th.—In the House of Commons, this evening, Sir Wilfred Lawson, replying to an inquiry if stated Government formalities precluded him from moving his amendment relative to the Basuto War, stated that unless satisfactory assurances were given to the steps to stop bloodshed he would move it on the report of the address.

Sir Charles Dilke, Under Foreign Secretary, replying to a question from Bourke, stated that the Powers were still inactive in regard to the Greeks. The proposed arbitration, he said, had been abandoned. A despatch had been received

from the Porte dated the 17th instant. He could not state yet what steps the Powers intended to take.

London, January 20th.—The Bolton cotton masters, who own nearly three-fourths of the spindles in that place, will close their mills if the demand for advance of wages is not withdrawn before the end of next week. The dispute affects 15,000 operatives. Blackburn and Bolton masters also refuse an advance of wages.

Berlin, January 20th.—The Government has resolved to meet by simple negative Windhorst's resolution in the Lower House of the Prussian Diet, that administration of the Sacrament and celebration of mass are subject to several clauses of the laws of 1793, 1874 and 1875.

Dublin, January 20th.—It is stated that Rev. Mr. Condon, of Lishburn, has received several cases of rifles and ammunition for distribution among Orangemen, who drill nightly in Orange halls.

St. Petersburg, January 20th.—It is reported that very disturbing news has been received from official sources to the effect that great military preparations are being made in the Chinese Manchuria, in the direction of the Siberian frontier.

London, January 20th.—One of the mines at Red Ruth, Cornwall, was suddenly flooded to-day, and eight persons drowned.

Constantinople, January 20th.—A Kurdish chief, Sheikh Sadyk, offers to furnish the Porte with 5000 cavalry, in the event a war with Greece.

Paris, January 20th.—The Chambers reassembled to-day. In the Senate, Leon Say was reelected President, and Count Rampon Leroyer and Cameron, Republicans, and Baron de Laucy, Legitimist, were elected Vice Presidents. In the Chamber of Deputies, Gambetta was reelected President, receiving 282 out of 376 votes. Brasseur, of the Republican Union, Philippoteaux, of the Left Centre, and Renard, of the Republican Left, were elected Vice-Presidents.

London, January 20th.—Lauvazoghi, Pericles & Co., Manchester, have failed. Liabilities, £80,000.

London, January 20th.—The bark *Barons Uranczany*, Captain Cobusick, from Lech, January 15th, for New York, has been totally wrecked off Kissingland, Suffolk. One man of all on board was saved.

London, January 19th.—Numerous wrecks, attended with loss of life, are reported around the coast. In several instances on the East Coast, the storm was so violent that it was impossible to render help to the crews. The severe weather continues, but the gale and snow-storm have abated.

In London street traffic is paralysed, the snow-drifts in some cases being five feet high.

Later—It has again commenced snowing. The reports from all parts of the country indicate that the storm is the severest within the memory of living persons. Railway traffic and telegraphic communication are almost suspended throughout the Kingdom, and the interruption has extended to the Continent.

Seven vessels are ashore at Yarmouth, and it is feared that fifty persons have been drowned there.

Truth says the marriage of the Baroness Burlett Counts with Ashmead Bartlett will take place one day next week, at her own residence, by special license.

New York, January 20th.—The *World's* cable has the following details of the weather in London and England: Street traffic is entirely suspended, not a cab or omnibus to be seen and but for underground railroads there would be no getting about. Hundreds of poor families are made homeless, the floor rising to the height of ten feet at many places. Even the houses of Parliament were flooded; at one time it was thought that it would be necessary to adjourn the session on account of the lack of a quorum, many members being unable to reach the building. Biggar solved the problem of a quorum by engaging several cabmen at fabulous prices to venture forth and gather up the members of the Irish party.

Berlin, January 20th.—The Rector of the University took advantage of a meeting of the students in honour of German unity to advocate abandonment of the anti-Jewish agitation. Such an uproar followed that neither Dr. Mommsen nor the Rector could make themselves heard. A number of challenges to duels have passed between the advocates and opponents of the agitation.

Constantinople, January 20th.—A meeting of the Alban-

ian League of Debra has adopted a scheme for the autonomy of Albania.

Paris, January 20th.—It is semi-officially stated that 800,000 francs' worth of redeemable 3-per-cent rentes to complete military material and public works will not be issued until July next, and it may not be indispensable to issue them even then.

Madrid, January 20th.—In the Cortes to-day, an address in reply to a speech from the throne was adopted by a vote of 202 to 65. This is regarded as a great triumph for the Ministry.

Vienna, January 20th.—The Porte has formally declined arbitration of the Greek question. France has not altogether abandoned the scheme of arbitration, but has allowed it to rest.

Berlin, January 20th.—The proposed meeting of workmen to protest against the anti-Jewish agitation has been prohibited by the police in virtue of provisions of the Anti-Socialist law. The prohibition caused considerable sensation in view of the fact that the Government had not interfered with any of the anti-Semitic meetings. Bismark has again introduced the Federal Council bill, to establish biennial Budgets and quadrennial Parliaments. This bill remained in abeyance last year, owing to the press of other business.

London, January 20th.—By the explosion of a boiler at Dewsbury, York county, eleven were killed and sixteen injured.

The Hague, January 19th.—The Directors of the Netherlands Red Cross Society announced that the statutes of the Society do not authorize them to assist the sick and wounded in the Transvaal, the fighting there not being a war, in the sense to which the regulations of the Society are applicable.

New York, January 20th.—The *Herald* has the following details: The Holyhead mail arrived 12 hours late in London. Twelve inches of snow stopped all traffic. At 10 in the morning trains ceased running; at 11, omnibuses; at noon—cabs and hansoms—being the only vehicles left since then. Business is practically suspended. Londoners do not remember such a total stoppage of busy life.

Constantinople, January 19th.—The Porte has received advices from Paris saying that France will accept the proposals for a fresh Conference on the Greek frontier question, provided the other Powers will also accept.

Athens, January 19th.—Great satisfaction is felt at the rejection by the Porte of the arbitration, which, it is considered, has finally disposed of the project. The fortification of the ports of Piræus and Choleis with torpedoes, is discussed.

Durban, January 19th.—In a fight between Major Carrington and Basutos on the 14th instant, 950 Burgers, mostly Dutchmen, deserted, it is believed, owing to sympathy with the Boers. The Pondo chief, Umbhlohulo, uncle of Chief Letsea, was killed during the engagement between Pondorose and Colonial troops. Five hundred volunteers for Basutoland left Cape Town.

Durban, January 19th.—The leaders of the new Republic have wired to London for the appointment of a royal commission to inquire into to claims of the Boers.

St. Petersburg, January 19th.—General Skobeloff telegraphs under date of the 15th: On the nights of the 11th and 12th an immense force of Turcomans made a sortie upon the front and flanks in the siege works. Another body simultaneously attacked the camp in both flanks and rear. A hand to hand fight ensued, which lasted until after midnight. The Turcomans were ultimately repulsed from camp and from front and right flank of the siege works, but on the left flank they captured a redoubt from a company of Trans-Caspian troops, who lost their commander and 39 men killed and 4 wounded. The Turcomans here captured two mountain guns, all gunners being killing at their posts. The Russian reserve recaptured the redoubt of one of the guns, but the Turcomans dragged away the other gun, which however, had previously been rendered useless. The enemy retreated, with great loss, to within a short distance of the fortress. The total Russian loss was 1 officer and 52 men killed; 5 officers and 96 men wounded. The siege works were completed during the night. The Russian mortars threw shells into the interior of the place next day, and the Russian camp advanced to the first parallel. The siege is still proceeding.

London, January 18th.—A snow storm extends nearly

all over the Kingdom. The weather is the severest experienced in twenty years. A heavy gale prevails on the Cornish coast. A French vessel has been wrecked at the Scilly Islands, and there are no tidings of her crew. Two vessels are ashore at St. Ives. The cold and stormy weather on the Continent is obstructing navigation, and also railways and telegraph lines.

Paris, January 18th.—It snowed heavily on Sunday. Thermometer 12 degrees below centigrade. The skating is good. The country reports floods. There are accounts of snow and rain at Nice and Ronen.

Madrid, January 18th.—There has been terrible damage by strong gales. Telegraphic and railroad communication are interrupted. Steamers have been delayed. The Castelo mines are flooded. Several wrecks are reported.

St. Petersburg, January 18th.—Russia dissents from the declaration of France that the Powers are not bound to maintain the decision of the Berlin Conference on the Greek frontier question.

Rome, January 18th.—The pope sent a request to Archbishop McCabe of Dublin, to immediately publish throughout Ireland the recent Papal letter concerning agitation there. The Pope expresses regret, that contrary to his instructions, the publication of the letter has been delayed.

London, January 18th.—The Government is said to be fully aware of the dangerous conspiracies among the Irishmen in the several large towns of England.

The origin of the fire which destroyed the Edinburgh County Military Barracks was purely accidental.

Forty members who voted in the minority on Saylor's motion, in the House last night, for adjournment of the debate, were all Home Rulers.

A special meeting of the Home Rule Parliamentary Committee is to be held, to consider Shaw's secession from the party.

The first meeting in connection with the movement in England against coercion, for the organization of which the Committee of Home Rulers has been formed; will probably be held in Birmingham, Saturday next. Parrell will attend.

Berlin, January 14th.—It is stated that Bismarck sent a special messenger to Constantinople to advise the Porte to assume the defensive, so that, in case of war, Greece may be considered responsible.

London, January 17th.—The Hanlan and Laycock race is postponed because of drift ice in the Thames. It will be postponed from day to day until the ice and tide give proper water. Betting is three to two on Hanlan. Unless the water permits of the race taking place on or before Wednesday, the tides will not come for another week.

London, January 16th.—A correspondent at Constantinople says official news has been received there that the Tekke Turcomans were severely defeated by General Skobeloff.

A despatch from Vienna states that Herr Uremer von Auenrode, late Minister of Commons, will probably be appointed Ambassador of Austria to Washington.

London, January 16th.—The Court of Appeal to-day ordered the discharge of the writs of attachment against Revs. T. Pelham Dale and W. E. Enright. The Court held that the proceedings before Lord Penzance were regular and the prohibitions forbidding Dale and Enright to perform service must hold good; but the writs ordering their imprisonment were defective, because they were not brought into the Court of the Queen's Bench. Enright will be immediately released, Dale is already out on bail. The Court consisted of Lord Justice James, Sir Wm. Brett and Lord Justice Cotton.

London, January 16th.—The ship *Leonora*, Capt. Bailey, sunk off Hartlepool in a collision with the steamer *John Dixon*. Nine persons were drowned, including Capt. Bailey.

London, January 15th.—Owing to a scarcity of coal, caused by a strike of the Lancashire miners, several mills and foundries have been stopped, and distress among the working classes is apprehended.

London, January 15th.—The explosion at Salford is supposed by a Fenian attempt to blow up the armory of the infantry barracks. It was heard for a distance of miles. The barracks are in a very populous district. A woman and a boy are probably fatally injured. Several thousand stand of arms were in the armory at the time.

St. Petersburg, January 15th.—The report of Abaza, Minister of Finance, states that to restore equilibrium be-

tween the revenue and expenditure the strictest economy in all branches of the Administration will be necessary. Nearly a third of the expenditure is devoted to the War Ministry, and Abaza is consently convinced that it is imperatively necessary to reduce the military and naval expenditure.

New York, January 17th.—The *World's* London special says: I have been told by well-informed persons to-night that the British Ministry regard war between Greece and Turkey as inevitable, and fear that it will sooner or later involve all Europe.

Madrid, January 16th.—In the Chamber of Deputies, to-day, the Minister of the Colonies announced that the pacification of Cuba was complete.

St. Petersburg, January 15th.—The Russian Grand Duke Michael telegraphs as follows relative to General Skobeloff's investment of Groketo on the morning of the 4th inst.: The first Russian parallel was opened at 500 paces from the chief fortification. The fighting was most deperate and sanguinary. The Russians were victorious, but General Potrusovitch and nineteen men were killed, and three officers and fifty-three men wounded. The enemy, who were reinforced by 5000 picked men from Merv, lost 300 killed in the engagement with the Russian right wing alone; this wing was commanded by General Petrusovitch.

London, January 15th.—The deputation of members of Parliament waited on Gladstone to-day on the Irish land question and presented a memorial recommending as essential, in order to secure unity and enthusiasm among the Liberals in Parliament and contentment in Ireland, that the Land bill shall include a comprehensive scheme of peasant proprietary, accompanied by the three "F's;" also recommending the consideration of the subject of reclamation of waste lands. Gladstone said he was glad to have an opportunity of hearing their views, and hoped the Government would not introduce any bill which would be ineffectual.

Gladstone, in his reply to the delegation, declared that to give specific form to the existing evil was the first step in dealing with the land question. Remedial measures must come after. It was explained on the part of the deputation that 56 Liberals shared their views, and many English and Scotch members expressed sympathy therewith. The members of the deputation dwelt on the necessity for the adoption of their programme. They said if such a measure is passed tenants generally would be satisfied and the agitation would subside. They insisted that a general feeling of insecurity prevailed among the tenants under the existing state of things, and that a great majority of the landlords would accept their programme. Gladstone replied that the great object of the Government was to promote the welfare of the tenants without inflicting injustice on other sections of the public.

London, January 15th.—The Earl of Kimberly, Colonial Secretary, replying to a deputation of the Peace Society, said the slaughter of a portion of the Ninety-fourth Regiment by the Boers in South Africa must be investigated and the garrison relieved at the same time. If the Boers desisted from armed opposition now, he did not despair of some satisfactory arrangement.

London, January 15th.—O'Connor, Honorary Secretary and O'Neil, Secretary of the Cork Land League have been summoned, on charges of intimidation in writing threatening letters.

Eleven fresh informations have been sworn to in reference to the Tralee Land League.

London, January 15th.—Betting is nine to four in favor of Hanlan. There is some prospect that the race will be off on account of ice in the river. The postponement favors Laycock.

London, January 14th.—A despatch to the *News* from Cape Town says the Boers have issued a proclamation charging the British with firing the first shot at Potchefstroom, and with shooting the Boers at Pretoria, complaining of the bombardment of Potchefstroom, and taking the credit for sending the wounded of the 94th Regiment to Pretoria.

Berlin, January 14th.—The anti-Jewish agitation has extended to Saxony and Bavaria.

London, January 14th.—The *Times* learns that Mitchell

Henry, Home Ruier, who has spent much money in Ireland and done much for the tenantry, has been obliged to quit Ireland, on account of threats for repudiating the League.

Liverpool, January 14th.—A leading grain circular says: Prices for wheat at the various markets during the past week have been maintained, and sometimes rather improved. A few cargoes of coast are firmly held, as are also those for future arrivals. Business in wheat and corn on spot, and in the neighbourhood has been moderate at Tuesday's prices. To-day the attendance was an average one. Wheat and flour were in moderate consumptive demand and steady. Corn was in improved demand, and rather higher.

London, January 13th.—A riot occurred yesterday near Wigan, growing out of the strike of the coal miners. The police charged upon the crowd, but were repulsed. Several persons were severely injured.

London, January 13th.—Forty to fifty thousand colliers in Lancashire are striking, owing to the masters trying to evade the law, which compels them to pay for accidents. Two companies of infantry have arrived to protect the process servers.

San Domingo, January 13th.—A party of insurgents were defeated near Banica, five killed, two wounded, and Jean Dios shot during the fight.

Vienna, January 13th.—It is denied that the three Emperors alliance has been reestablished, but Russia made advances to that end.

Ragusa, January 13th.—Fourteen battalions of Turkish regulars leave for Janina, with Dirvisch Pasha.

Berlin, January 13th.—An anti-Semitic petition to Bismarck has 40,000 signatures. It will be presented about the middle of March.

Berlin, January 13th.—In the Lower House of the Prussian Diet to-day, Herr Windhorst, leader of the Catholic party, supported by all the members of Centre and the Polish Deputies, introduced a resolution declaring the administration of the sacrament and the celebration of mass are not subject to the penal clauses of the laws of 1873-74 and '75. An amendment to the resolution is being prepared, proposing that the malcontent clergymen shall only be exempt from liability to prosecution for the exercise of the above functions, when not performed in churches or chapels, but privately. The *Germania* warns the adversaries of the church of the political consequences of the rejection of the resolution.

Dublin, January 12th.—At a meeting of the Land League to-day, Michael Davitt called attention to the immense services of the Land League in America. Parnell advised postponement of the National Convention until the Government had dealt with coercion.

A meeting of the Orange Emergency Committee was held to-day, and it was resolved to send assistance to several "Boycotted" persons.

London, January 12th.—The *Daily News* says: We understand that Shaw, M. P. for Cork, has written to Parnell, formally disassociating himself from the Irish agitation and from the Parnell Parliamentary party.

Berlin, January 12th.—Twenty-five hundred persons were present to-day at a meeting to condemn the anti-Jewish movement, recently inaugurated here. Resolutions expressing the greatest indignation that the city had been the scene of such meetings, were adopted.

Vienna, January 12th.—The Porte is buying arms largely in the United States.

Panama, January 1st.—The *Herald's* Lima correspondent says: Lynch (Chilean) has respected the Luchaman Plantation, owned by citizens of the United States, and says that although he would always endeavor to protect the property of neutrals, he would use the utmost rigor towards foreigners who shield the property of the enemy or have it transferred to them in order to protect it from Chileans. He was deceived by the United States Consular Agent at Chimbote, who claimed that the railroads and stock there were property of an American citizen—Citizen Dubois—who in fact only leased them from the States. He will therefore be treated as an enemy in the probable event of another occupation of Chimbote by the Chileans.

THE Japan Weekly Mail,

A WEEKLY REVIEW OF
JAPANESE COMMERCE, POLITICS, LITERATURE, AND ART.

Vol. V. No. 7.]

Yokohama, February 19th, 1881.

[\$24 PER ANNUM.

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The Japan Weekly Mail.

'FAIS CE QUE DOIR; ADVIENNE QUE POURRA.'

NOTICE TO CORRESPONDENTS.

No notice will be taken of anonymous correspondence. Whatever is intended for insertion in the JAPAN WEEKLY MAIL must be authenticated by the name and address of the writer, not for publication but as a guarantee of good faith.

It is particularly requested that all letters on business, relating to Advertisements, Job-printing, or Accounts, be addressed to the MANAGER.

And that literary contributions of every description be addressed to the EDITOR.

YOKOHAMA: SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 19TH, 1881.

JAPANESE ERA 2541, MEIJI 14TH YEAR, 2ND MONTH, 19TH DAY.

BIRTH.

On the 12th instant, at No. 203, Bluff, the wife of J. REEVES, Commander, P. & O. Co.'s Service, of a daughter.

DIED.

On the evening of the 17th instant, A. ROSENSTAND, Secretary to the Danish Consulate-General, aged 56 years.

The Italian Minister resident at Shanghai, has made a report to his Government respecting the Chinese and Italian silk trade, which will probably be of interest to the commercial section of our community.

The silk export from China to Europe is, he says, from sixty to seventy thousand bales, almost all of which is from Shanghai. That exported direct from China to Italy is between two and three thousand bales per annum, while that going to Italy, via France and England, is twelve or thirteen thousand, including some four or five thousand bales sent from England and France to Lombardy. It thus appears that Lombardy alone consumes about ten thousand bales of Chinese raw silk for its own manufactures. Mr. de Luca is not certain whether Sicily does not also import silk from China for its factories at Catania, but thinks it very probable, as many bales are shipped at Shanghai for Brindisi. Assuming the average value of a picul to be 360 taels (2520 francs) and the approximate weight of a bale to be 116 lbs., it follows that the value of a bale is 2200 francs. The manufacturers of Lombardy

consequently spend twenty-two millions of francs per annum in the purchase of Chinese silk. France and England compare ill with this, since in 1879 they only imported silk to the value of about fifteen millions (francs). The writer deplores the fact, that Italy, instead of purchasing all her silk direct from China, obtains a large quantity through other countries; and is thus obliged not only to pay a higher price, but also to depend upon rival markets for her supply. No difficulty, he observes, will attend the direct importation of silk from China to Italy, as the M. M. and P. & O. Companies offer the same facilities for Italy as they do for France and England, and would, if required, ship silk for Milan just as they do for Venice. Fifty-two steamships enter the Mediterranean each year from Shanghai, one-half of which touch at Italian ports and the other half at the doors of Italy (Port Said and Marseille). Notwithstanding these facilities, and those offered by the telegraph, Italy is content to purchase ten thousand bales of Chinese silk—representing an expenditure of twenty two million francs—from other countries, thereby squandering six hundred and sixty thousand francs per annum in commission. In view of these facts the Minister naturally regards it as matter for regret that the Italian manufacturers are not represented by any firm in Shanghai. The interests of America, Switzerland and Germany—countries whose trade with China is comparatively small—are well looked after by competent agents in the East, whereas Italy loses more than a million francs every year in freight and commission paid to England and France, to say nothing of the moral benefit she would derive by emancipation from the restrictions imposed upon her by foreign markets. The completion of the St. Gothard tunnel enables Lombardy to take the place of France as the great central emporium of the silk trade, since Italy is now in a position to supply Swiss and German manufacturers direct from China. The Minister urges the principal firms in Italy, in connection with the manufacturers, to establish representative agencies in Shanghai, or at least to employ some foreign firm of known respectability for the purpose. Home manufacturers could then be furnished not only with raw silk, but also with cocoons and silk-worms' eggs, which would be a consideration of some moment, seeing that out of 1,060 piculs of cocoons sent to Europe in 1879, only one found its way to Italy direct. In conclusion M. de Luca points out that thirty years ago France had no firm to represent her interests in Shanghai and was consequently obliged to obtain all the silk she required from England, whereas in 1879, the direct export to France exceeded that to England by five thousand bales.

A general meeting of the Military Club, was held on the 15th instant at Shokonsha, Tokijo, for the purpose of opening the Club's new building, which stands in the beautiful garden of the Military Mausoleum. About two hundred and twenty officers of the army were present and the affair passed off with great éclat.

The following address from H. I. H. Prince Arisugawa, who was prevented by indisposition from attending, was read to the assembled officers:—"It is with sincere pleasure that I offer my congratulations to the Military Club on the occasion of the institution's fourth anniversary, and more especially on the fact, that a suitable building has been at last provided for the club's use within the grounds of the Kudan Park. You have hitherto been obliged to hold your meetings at the Military Academy, a course which entailed various inconveniences, and the completion of your new building cannot but prove beneficial in many ways. I have also to congratulate you on the prosperous condition of the Club. I observe that your list of members has been increased by no less than eighty-five names during the past year. This fact testifies better to your welfare than any comment of mine could, and I shall therefore content myself with assuring you of the hearty satisfaction I feel at the success of the institution."

Attached to the Club is an armoury, where it is proposed to form a collection of swords, bows and arrows, suits of mail and other weapons formerly used in Japan. The idea is excellent and we trust it will be followed up with perseverance. From an æsthetic no less than a technical point of view some of the old armour of Japan deserves to be cherished with the utmost care, and among the weapons are swords of such size and bows of such strength that it seems scarcely possible they can have been wielded or bent by human thwags. Sold as old iron, or purchased by foreigners, who though they know nothing of Araki Matayemon or Taifubo, can yet appreciate a richly enchased helmet and a delicately jointed hauberk, much of the harness worn by Japan's ancient heroes has no doubt left the country, but much still remains, and a little trouble will no doubt bring together a collection full of historic interest and worthy of a nation, every page of whose annals is inscribed with the name of some warrior not easily to be rivalled nor soon to be forgotten.

Among the items of news brought from Corea a few years ago by occasional travellers, was a story of certain machines which were lying half buried in the sand on the sea shore, encrusted with barnacles and rust. These were the only remaining evidences of two attempts made by western traders to introduce the implements of civilization into that most unsocial of countries. Under the direction of their officials the people had carried out the foreign devil's importations, and cast them down to be the plaything of the wanton waves that had helped to bring them to Corea.

There was not much to marvel at in the tale, neither could we afford to criticise too severely the spirit that dictated such destruction. Little more than half a century before, a member of our own parliament had not hesitated to oppose the introduction of gas for lighting purposes, on the grounds that the scheme would ruin that most important branch of English trade, the whale fisheries, and throw out of employment ten thousand seamen as well as a still larger number of rope-makers, sail-makers and so forth! Even in the most progressive communities the birth of every great industrial improvement has been attended with terrible vaticinations of disastrous effects to vested interests, and England above all has been for two cycles in a chronic state of perilous approach to the edge of a precipice dug by the restless energy of her people. We therefore easily appreciated the Coreans' mood, but at the same time we could not but argue ill for the immediate prospects of any sensible improvement in their condition. Even when Kuroda Kiyotaka with his men-of-war succeeded, just five years ago, in concluding a treaty of peace amity and commerce with the "hermit nation," the world did not pay much attention to the achievement, and as though

to justify our indifference things have ever since seemed to drift on pretty much in the same old groove of stubborn seclusion. Something, however, has apparently shaken the Coreans out of their sleep. Perhaps the change is attributable to Japan's advice and example, perhaps to the seeming imminence of Russian aggression, but at any rate there are at last evidences of a change, evidences not very conspicuous indeed, but still unmistakeable. Corea has determined to work her mines after foreign methods, and in pursuance of this idea has asked permission to employ two experts—Kanesugi and Kanesaburo of the Shiga prefecture—giving also an extensive order for the necessary machinery to Otani Ihei, a merchant of Osaka. What the mineral wealth of the country may really be, it is at present impossible to say. Gold dust at any rate has always been tolerably plentiful, and improved processes will no doubt largely increase the yield, but in the meanwhile what seems to us most interesting in this affair is, not the prospects of any particular industry, but the fact that foreign aid has at length been deemed worthy of solicitation. With the example of China before their eyes men are not likely to over-estimate the results of first impressions, but Corea has less inertia to oppose to outward impulses, and if she be once fairly moved from her pedestal, it is scarcely likely she will ever again be able completely to arrest her progress.

According to the continental journals, the prospects of Russian trade in the Pacific, and especially with China and Japan, are not very promising. Want of regular communication, deficient knowledge of the neighbouring waters and difficulty of access to the River Amoor, are said to militate gravely against the prosperity of the colony on the Pacific coast. Beyond a few vagabond Chinese, who come and go irregularly, the residents consist mainly of employes whose only desire is to be removed as speedily as possible. A great change for the better in this respect would, it is believed, be effected, could the Coreans be induced to immigrate, but this could only be accomplished by making commercial treaties with Corea, and by *persuading the Japanese to act as agents of communication* between the two countries. This latter item is considered to be of paramount importance, for a regular maritime communication is indispensable to the welfare of the colonists. Japan has therefore acquired considerable importance in the eyes of Russia, and it is probable that some action having reference to the above scheme will constitute a corollary to the problem just solved in China.

His Majesty the Emperor is, we hope, to-day enjoying one of the very few genuine holidays his multifarious duties permit. He left Tokiyo yesterday morning by the 8 o'clock train and rested last night at Hachôji, a name which recalls memories of many a happy day spent in pursuit of the glorious "Copper Cock" in the years when pleasant shooting in Japan was still a reality. His Majesty however has gone hare hunting, a pastime which seems to afford him special amusement just now. The first essay was made lately at Oji, and was followed by a second in the park at Fukiage, on which occasion the proceedings were unexpectedly enlivened by the sudden appearance of a fox, which jumped into the lake and was pulled out by a soldier after a most exciting chase. Hare hunting, as it is carried on here, does not much accord with our English ideas of sport. It consists simply in netting the hills, as we do for rabbits at home, and then beating the covers, but the method employed in staking the nets is said to render the struggles of an entrapped animal particularly entertaining. Care is of course taken to provide against the possibility of a blank day when His Majesty is in the field,

but it must be confessed that however the results are "arranged," there is not overmuch to entice one in such a programme.

Our old friend crazy Sada, the "Kerosine Cenobite," has again come upon the scene, this time as "Mr. Sata," a gentleman who has "established a society called the Kankosha, the members of which bind themselves by oath to abstain from using imported good of any description." We are told also that "many persons have joined the society, among whom are H. E. General Kuroda, M. Sakurai and other high official.

We are sorry to be obliged to interfere with this "storm in a tea-pot," but the truth is that Mr. Sada's story has not entered upon any new phase since we gave it to our readers in detail some weeks ago. He is now delivering a course of lectures at Asakusa, but the Sumidagawa is not yet on fire, nor has General Kuroda or any other "high official" given his adherence to a scheme too visionary to delude even the drowsiest intellect.

We can heartily sympathize with the appeal contained in "An English Professor's" letter which we publish to-day. It is of course very possible that the words "Kobu Daigakko" to which the Professor takes exception, were inserted by our correspondent of last week without any idea beyond the desire of furnishing an easily recognized land-mark, but that they were intended to convey a different impression, is by no means an unjustifiable inference. Rumour, at any rate, seems to have made them the basis of a surmise which cannot but be highly offensive to the foreign staff of the Engineering College, and it now behoves "H." to state distinctly, not only that no such allusion was intended, but also that the guilty party does not belong to the Kobu Daigakko. We need hardly say that so far as we are concerned ourselves, any assurance is quite unnecessary. It did not occur to us for a moment to contemplate the possibility of such an accusation, but since others have viewed the matter differently, it is absolutely essential that their false impression should be thoroughly and unequivocally dispelled. Our community is so small that a very tiny grain of misconception suffices to infect public opinion. "H." leads us distinctly to understand that she knows the name of the person who insulted her companion, and it consequently becomes her duty to be more than commonly careful lest suspicion should point in a wrong direction.

It appears that a very great improvement in the process of breeding silk-worms has been effected by the use of artificial heat. Experiments lately made in the division of Yofu, prefecture of Hiogo, are said to have been eminently successful, not only as regards celerity of hatching, but also in the quantity and quality of the silk produced. Hitherto the heat of the sun has been trusted altogether, and consequent variations of temperature have caused very uncertain results. A little attention to matters of this sort, supplemented by a Government edict prohibiting the export of silk-worm eggs, would soon cause an appreciable increase in the export returns.

A visitor to the scene of the late conflagration beyond Nihon-bashi, will be astonished to see a monster shop standing, intact and scarcely soiled by the breath of the flames, in the very midst of ruin and debris. It is the well-known Dai-maru, the Swan and Edgar of Tokiyo; an elysium of dry goods, second only to the looking-glass in its claims upon the attention of the Capital's gentle demizens. Probably the fate

of this edifice attracted more attention and was the subject of more comment last Saturday morning, than any other circumstance of the fire. Its escape, or rather preservation, is little short of a miracle, for though its sealed godowns might fairly have been expected to survive, the shop itself seems utterly incapable of resistance. Its roof indeed is protected by solid tiles, and its walls in part by thick plaster, but for the rest it is built entirely of timber,—stout, massive timber certainly, but still for all that, timber—while its wide expanse of wooden eaves makes it anything but a first-class life in the eyes of an insurance agent. Its rescue from the fierce flames that destroyed everything in its neighbourhood, was therefore little short of a miracle, and affords a good illustration of the old adage "unto him that hath, to him shall be given." The colossal mercers, who for so many years and through so much sunshine and shadow, have stendily held their place there as the wealthiest tradesmen in Tokiyo, would not have been fatally inconvenienced by the loss of their warehouse, seeing that their stock in trade—costly silks, rich embroideries and curious finery—must have remained tolerably uninjured in the shelter of their ample godowns. Nevertheless fortune was kind to them, and inexorable to those who could ill endure her harshness. The merchant prince stands serene with scarcely scathed garments, while his humbler neighbours lie prostrate in the dust. Not indeed that the Dai-maru came off absolutely scot free. The pluck and energy to which it owes its preservation, were at once the outcome of gratitude for past favours and the earnest of future largesse. Carpenters, joiners, masons, mat-makers, store keepers of all descriptions, and in short every tradesman engaged in the embellishment or maintenance of the great shop, have always been wont to receive yearly retaining fees in contemplation of this very contingency, so that at the first sound of the Kanda fire bells, the Dai-maru was surrounded by a crowd of zealous saviours. That they succeeded, however, in keeping the furious flames at bay from first to last, is a memorable triumph of courageous perseverance, and the owners of the monster store have done wisely in rewarding with three thousand riyos labours that achieved so happy a result.

Early in the eight century, in the days when friars were mendicants, and soldiers monarchs, there used to issue daily from the gates of Daian temple, a cenobite carrying a huge wallet wherein to store the victuals offered by the pious for his own and his brethren's sustenance. He was perhaps the jolliest old man that ever went a-begging. Everlasting merriment dimpled his cheeks and danced in his twinkling eyes, and every wrinkle on his brow seemed an evidence, not of carking time, but of genial sympathy. Nothing came amiss to him. However inclement the season, it only served as an occasion for fresh good humour; however hard the times, they might have been worse and would presently be better. In fact the old man was such a thorough personification of everything kind and congenial in human nature, that his passage through the street ultimately became a daily jubilee, and the children looked forward to nothing more than the chance of carrying a bean-cake or a measure of rice to be stowed away in the wallet of their much loved friend. Thus it fell out that the jovial friar had generally no small pains to carry home the never-ceasing donations of his parishioners, and at the last his bulky wallet, filled to overflowing and scarcely yielding even to his good-humoured persistence, came to be so associated with the man's appearance, that people changed his name of "Kaian" into "Hotei," or linen (ho) wallet (tei).

A very different character was Mokokiyara Sonten, or

Daikoku as he was subsequently called. A miser of the most approved type, he thought of nothing from year's end to year's end but some process of making money or some device for hoarding it. It did not suffice that his whole moral being was saturated with the poison of greed, or that he was fortified from within against the attractions of every expensive foible. Dreading even to look up when he went abroad, lest some of nature's or life's beauties should divert him from his sordid purpose, he covered his eyes with a black hood, and so, never deviating by a hair's breadth from his unworthy object, became at last a synonym for wealth and thrift. Standing now upon two rice bags, his effigy is worshipped in Japan by those who revere the divinity of riches, while Hotei, the jolly, jubilant Hotei, is adored as the guardian of little children.

The figures of these two demigods have been chosen as ornaments for the prize medals to be awarded at the forthcoming National Exhibition, and the choice is particularly commendable; not indeed because the effigies of Hotei and Daikoku furnish designs of a notably æsthetic character, but because they are inseparably connected with the palmiest days of this country's art, and because their reappearance, under official auspices, will be a timely protest against the unreasoning spirit of innovation before which Japan's most cherished traditions, nay her very moral individuality and artistic originality, are fast disappearing.

A curious evidence of this winter's exceptional severity is furnished by recent accounts of deer hunting in the neighbourhood of Hakodate. It appears that as the snow accumulates on the hills, the deer gradually make their way down to the sea-coast, where they fall an easy prey to the hunters. This season, however, they have appeared in such numbers that the country folk one and all have set themselves to trap them; so successfully too, that a father and his two sons are said to have captured no less than fourteen in one day. Still, however, it seems impossible to reduce their numbers. If a hundred are slaughtered to-day a hundred others take their place to-morrow, until at last men have ceased to kill them for the sake of their flesh, and are content with the hide and horns. Venison is of course at a discount under such circumstances, and a deer's carcase, worth from twelve to fifteen yen as an ordinary rule, may now be purchased in Hakodate for a yen and a half. This has a pleasant sound in our ears who are beginning to be seriously harassed by the fat prices we have to pay for lean beef and mutton. If some enterprising speculator would pack a cargo of venison in ice, and bring it down here in time to furnish pasties for our spring picnics, we should award him whatever portion of the public gratitude survives our debt to the promoters of the gas scheme.

The cross action of *Abbott v. Cook* and *Cook v. Abbott* was decided in H. M.'s Court this afternoon. His Honour, in summing up, gave the jury these three points to consider:—

1.—Did Abbott forcibly take away the *Parmenio* as alleged?

2.—Was Abbott entitled to wages during the time he acted as master of the *Parmenio*, and if so at what rate?

3.—Has there been any settlement of accounts between the two parties or are they still open?

The jury after an absence of about twenty-five minutes returned and handed in the following finding:—

To the first question—No: To the second—Yes; at the rate of \$200 per month: To the third—The accounts still remain open.

Season tickets of three sorts will be issued for the forthcoming Exhibition at Uyeno—viz: Sunday tickets, Saturday tickets, and tickets giving admission every day and all days. From what we have been able to gather, the arrangement of specimens does not appear to have made much progress as yet, and the opinion we expressed before on the subject of unnecessary haste, seems to be borne out by the event. Some of the most important exhibitors assure us that they cannot possibly send in more than a very few specimens by the end of this month, so that visitors will probably find just cause to complain during the first fifteen or twenty days. Exhibits from the provinces however are in a more forward condition, and there will certainly be no lack of interest even at the outset, but still we could have wished to defer the opening ceremony, if possible, until the cherry bloom was beginning to show, for we do not believe that the whole world contains anything more beautiful than Uyeno park on an early May day. However, it is too late now to repine and we must look forward with what contentment we may. The opening ceremony at any rate promises to be a very brilliant affair. The Emperor himself will be present, supported by Princes of the blood, the Privy Councillors, Ministers of Department, and in fact all the notables. The Foreign Representatives will of course be invited, as well as the principal foreign residents, naval, military and civil, and, let us hope—the editors of newspapers.

Speaking of Princes of the blood reminds us to notice that H. I. H. Prince Higashi-Fushimi has lately been raised to the rank and position of a hereditary prince. This probably sounds somewhat inexplicable, but the fact is that His Imperial Highness is an only adopted son (of the present Emperor's father), and his princely rank is therefore not hereditary by right. His promotion, carrying with it an increase of income from eighteen thousand to twenty-three thousand seven hundred yen per annum, is, we understand, intended as a recognition of the signal services he rendered the State at the period of the Restoration. In 1868 he held the post of Minister for Foreign Affairs, and the following year saw him at the War Office. He was then known as Prince Ninnaji, but subsequently, on retiring from public life, changed his name to Higashi-Fushimi.

The cruel and long protracted struggle between Chili and Peru would seem to be at last drawing to a close, so far at least as the latter State's powers of resistance are concerned, but whether submission will really prove the prelude of peace, is apparently a matter of grave doubt. A Montevideo correspondent of the *Giornale delle Colonie*, writing on the subject, says:—"The example set by Chili and Peru seems likely to be followed elsewhere. Argentina has expressed an intention of participating, and has commenced military preparations, while the people of Brazil are considerably excited and demand immediate armament. Accordingly the Brazilian Chamber has sanctioned a loan of 9,000 contos for the construction of ships of war, etc., and fortifications are in course of erection at points of strategical importance on the Rio Grande and Mato Grosso frontiers. It is hoped, however, that fighting may still be avoided. The Emperor Pedro II. is decidedly averse to it, and would rather, it is said, abdicate and retire to Europe than expose his country again to the hazards of war. Meanwhile it is announced from Buenos Ayres, that military preparations on a large scale are in progress. Fifty kilometers of telegraphic lines have been laid in the direction of Patagonia, and strong fortifications commenced at Martin Garcia. Fresh votes for military expenses will be proposed next session in the Argentine Congress, and in short, warlike preparations are almost universal."

What a veritable pandemonium all this suggests! Truly if there is to be a free fight between all these vicious little States of South America, and if the Chili-Peruvian contest may be regarded as a precedent, the Great Powers of Europe might employ themselves as mediators with much larger gain to humanity than anything likely to accrue from their pompous wrangling over a strip of barren land in the East.

The establishment of a Mission in Japan, by the Evangelical Association of North America, was decided on at the General Conference of that body held in Philadelphia in October, 1875.

The first missionaries consisting of Rev. A. Halmhuber, Miss R. J. Hudson and Rev. F. Kreeker, M.D., and Mrs. Kreeker, with their three children, arrived at Yokohama, November 13th, 1876.

On the 18th of July of the following year Rev. and Mrs. Kreeker with their family and Miss Hudson took up their residence permanently in Tokio, while Mr. Halmhuber later on removed to Osaka and there established the second station, and in December of that year Miss Kaechele also arrived in Japan and became his wife.

In March, 1880, a girls' school was opened in the western part of the city under the supervision of Miss Hudson, and recently for the purpose of giving more especial attention to its wants, she took up her residence in its immediate vicinity.

On the 24th of May, 1880, the mission was reinforced by the arrival of Rev. J. Hartzler and Mrs. Hartzler. Mr. Hartzler, who came out as Superintendent of the Mission, had for the previous eight years been a member of the Executive Committee of the General Board of Missions, and also editor in chief of the *Evangelical Messenger*, a leading periodical of the church.

Though not unaccompanied by the usual difficulties and discouragements incident to the establishment of a new work, a reasonable measure of success has attended the efforts put forth, and its progress has been characterized by a healthy growth. At Osaka there are two preaching places with a good attendance of hearers at each, and two Sunday schools are also sustained. Two native helpers and a Bible woman are in training. At Tokio there are five preaching places with Sunday schools, and special meetings for the instruction of women at each. A Bible woman, three female teachers and four young men in training for the ministry, comprises the native help at this station.

This mission, in conjunction with the mission of the Methodist Church of Canada, also sustains a Theological school for the education of native candidates for the ministry.

After considerable difficulty and deliberation the members of the two Rice Guilds of Kabuto Street and Kakigara Street, Tokiyo, have determined to remodel their constitutions, and form one large Guild with a capital of a hundred and eighty thousand yen. The alleged reason for this change is the difficulty of carrying on business successfully under the regulations issued by the Government last year, but if the truth were told, we believe that dissensions among the members themselves have had more to do with the matter. The profits realized by these Rice Guilds before the State interfered with their transactions last year, are said to have amounted to sixty or seventy per cent on their capital. A good many abuses had no doubt crept into their proceedings, but on the whole their effect must have been to facilitate trade, and we cannot persuade ourselves to believe that the measures adopted towards them were altogether justifiable. The total number

of Rice Guilds in Japan at present is fourteen, and the largest amount of business is said to be done at Doji, Osaka and Kwana in Ise.

We observe that Count Fè d'Ostiani, who preceded Count Barbolani as Minister for Italy in Japan, has been appointed Envoy Extraordinary and Minister Plenipotentiary of His Majesty the King of Italy at Bruxelles, in succession to Count Barral.

For those who really appreciate Japanese art one of the greatest attractions of the Exhibition at Uyeno will be a tea pavilion, built in strict accordance with the rules of the Tea Clubs, and furnished with utensils handed down from father to son for twenty generations. The originator of this idea is a gentleman of Kioto by name Senô. He is a lineal descendant of the renowned Sen no Rikiu, master of Tea Ceremonials to Nobunaga and Hideyoshi (1550-1596). It is characteristic of the reverential affection Japan bestows upon the gentle arts that now, at a distance of three centuries, the names of Sen no Rikiu is known to every educated man in the Empire. Sen was indeed the Epicurus of Japan; the founder of a philosophy that teaches, not that happiness is to be derived from sensual pleasures, but that the greatest good within mortal reach is the peace of mind springing from virtue. Many may remember him now merely as a dilettante; a man who devised forty-six varieties of tea pavilions and persuaded the world to discover occult beauties in the rude uncouth productions of ancient Keramists, but those who have studied his life and philosophy, know that with him aesthetics were but the outcome of moral beauty, and that the history of his own doings and death gives the truest possible idea of the faith he possessed.

So insufficient are the commissariat arrangements made for the Chinese troops at Shang Hai-kwan, that the soldiers, unable to endure the hardships of the winter, have deserted, it is said, in large numbers.

A meeting of prefects from the western provinces has been lately held at Ozaka for the purpose of devising a code of regulations applicable to coasting steamers flying the Japanese flag. Complaints of irregularities and incivilities have been constantly preferred against ship-owners by traders and passengers alike during the past year, so that official interference was at last found unavoidable. It is believed that the strict by-laws now promulgated in the various prefectures will be effectual in remedying these abuses, but we do not altogether share such sanguine expectations. Legislation has not proved very successful among ourselves in matters of this sort. Their conduct comes rather within the province of influences emanating from another source, and the Government will probably find its efforts barren until they are supplemented by keener industrial competition and a stouter assertion of public opinion.

It is doubtful whether the prospect of receiving a goblet of gold, silver or lacquer from the Board of Public Works or some other Department of State, would be found a very effectual device in our own country for causing guineas to gravitate in the direction of funds for constructing schools, bridges, roads, dykes and so forth. Considerable success has nevertheless attended the method in Japan. Humble contributors, who might scarcely muster fifty or sixty yen, have been infinitely less proud of their lacquer cups than those whose munificence, passing a hundred but still falling short of a thousand, entitled them to a silver token of public gratitude, while these in their turn

have striven hard to reach the four figures that constitute the standard of golden goblet generosity. Of late too these Government gifts have carried with them a certain social status which largely adds to their efficacy, for in proportion as distinctions of caste disappear, the reverential value attaching to anything received directly from a superior, grows daily less appreciable. Well, indeed, did the ancient fudal chiefs know how to trade upon the grateful humility of their inferiors, but as a perfect master of the art Hideyoshi (Taiko) carries off the palm. A comparatively worthless object of virtù bestowed by his hands, often satisfactorily took the place of a deed conferring broad acres, or of a Treasury note for thousands of gold pieces, and since his time the Japanese have learned thoroughly to appreciate the proverb "the value is in the giver not the gift." This particular custom of bestowing gold, silver or lacquer goblets as State recognitions of public service, is supposed to have originated under the Emperors of the Tang Dynasty (618—907) in China, and has been followed more or less by Japanese notables for several centuries. Of late, however, considerable doubt has arisen as to the propriety of a Government reward assuming the shape of a wine goblet, and we hear that a regulation will presently be issued ordering the substitution of medals. Whether these latter will be equally valued is more than problematical. When the question is one altogether of sentiment and not of intrinsic worth, a very slight deviation from time-honored institutions may make a vast difference in public estimation, and unless there is some better reason for the proposed change than that suggested by the affinity between a goblet and vinous excess, we should be inclined to postpone ethical considerations and go on giving goblets.

Some idea of Japanese munificence in religious matters may be gathered from the fact that the province of Owari alone has contributed five hundred thousand yen towards the fund required for the rebuilding of the Mouto Monastery of Hong-wan at Kiyoto. The cenobites of Hong-wan however, have wisely concluded that the payment of so large a sum could not fail more or less to cripple the resources of the Owari merchants. It has accordingly been determined to receive the subscription in kind, not coin, and to this end detailed descriptions of various internal fittings required for the building have been forwarded to Nagoya—the chief town of Owari—where the work will be executed by the local artisans. All this does not very strongly support the theory of Japan's impending bankruptcy, though a country which squanders half-a-million of money on the internal fittings of a temple can scarcely be counted very clear sighted in the matter of productive and unproductive expenditure.

THE "MODERN MODE."

"O good old man; how well in thee appears
The constant service of the antique world,
When service sweat for duty, not for meed!
Thou art not for the fashion of these times,
Where none will sweat but for promotion."

IT is a curiously significant fact, that among the Japanese mercantile community the expression "modern mode" is synonymous with unprincipled craft and selfish speculation. Such at any rate is the interpretation given to the term by gentlemen of the old school, who once found life long enough to have their queues oiled every day, and to devote a third part of their existence to performing polite obeisances or shaping conventional formulae. Added years, however, bring increased appreciation of the

past. Probably no section of society altogether lacks some unit of the "Justice Shallow" type, and Japan certainly is least of all deficient in that respect. It would seem in truth as though the times had travelled too fast for the men that live in them. Mortal powers may be strained without any very serious shock to a point closely approximating their limit of endurance, but it were contrary to all precedent to expect that the sudden plunge of an "antique world" into the vortex of western fever and flurry, could be attended by anything else than grave moral perturbation. The Japanese merchant of bygone days is left seated among sorobans and amulets, watching with bewildered eyes a rout and riot that surges onward towards a goal he can scarcely discern and never hope to attain. There was a time—nor that so far distant either—when the only factor he had need to consider was the simplest possible correlation of supply and demand. It mattered little to him whether other manufacturers and wholesalers held large or small stocks of his staple; whether the Colonial and foreign markets were glutted or otherwise; whether recent prices had induced retailers to lay in considerable supplies or not; whether production by foreign manufacturers was large at the time or likely to be so in the future; whether other merchants were waiting for a fall of price or buying in anticipation of a rise; whether speculation was active at the great trade centres at home and abroad; whether the stocks at these places were large or small; whether many or few cargoes were on their way from the producing countries; whether the prospects of the forthcoming crops in these districts were good or bad; whether the supplies and prices of other cognate staples were such as to influence his calculations; whether prevalent mercantile opinion was reliable or not, and whether the rate of discount was likely to be high or low in the immediate future. All these complex differential factors, which the European merchant must needs include in his equation before he can proceed to integrate the prospects of a speculation with any accuracy, were matters of no moment to the Japanese of twenty years ago. Even the fluctuations of fashion were to him comparatively unimportant, for their limits were so narrow and their indications so palpable, that they could scarcely be called a disturbing element. Etiquette, only permitting deviation from the veriest minutiae of its codes, prescribed definitely what articles would be required for apparel or furniture, and social conditions almost invariably foretold the exact relations of demand and supply. Moreover, there was little or no competition. Those engaged in any particular trade constituted one immense guild rather than an aggregate of separate companies. That this should have been the case in the various fiefs we can readily understand, but why it was so in the Eastern and Western capitals as well, is not equally easy to comprehend. History, however, proves that the constant effect of very sharply defined distinctions of caste is to encourage combination on a large scale among the members of each social section. This is nothing but an illustration of the old adage, "common dangers make common causes." Under an austere feudal system like that which obtained in Japan, their disabilities in one direction and liabilities in another cannot have failed to impress the mercantile community with the sense of a militant condition and the

consequent necessity of unified action. They knew that they could trust nothing but resources of their own creation. The law, which protected them against one another, gave them no aid against oppression from without, and so, like the heathen in the scripture, they became a law unto themselves. Underselling, collusions to influence the market, secret processes of vitiation, and in short most of the devices inseparable from a system of intense competition, were well-nigh unknown. It is not of course intended to assert that a condition of very high trade morality obtained. Men were pretty much the same then as they are now, but their field for duplicity was narrowed by a wider community of interest. The members of each social section were able to trust one another, because they knew that the verdict of their class condemned mutual spoliation. Briefly then, we may say, that trade, as it formerly existed in Japan, was comparatively free from complications, and that it was pursued in a simple straight-forward fashion, demanding no great exercise of intelligence or foresight. Now, however, all this is completely changed. The merchant who was more than tolerably successful under the old régime, finds himself worse than incompetent under the new. He is unable to grapple with a tithe of the perplexities that beset him, and in a majority of cases is compelled at last to choose between the alternatives of indigence and duplicity. It would seem also that in a majority of cases he chooses the latter, at least if any plain inference may be drawn from a movement of some magnitude lately set on foot in Tokiyo. Many of the merchants there have, it is said, become painfully sensible, that all the old codes of integrity and good faith which were once in force, are fast falling into complete disuse. Men are growing indifferent to everything but individual profit, in the pursuit of which they unscrupulously sacrifice the interests of their fellows, and engage in speculative enterprises which might be lucrative if carried on conjointly, but are disastrous when undertaken separately. Those who find themselves unable or unwilling to adopt the same methods are naturally distanced in the struggle and disgusted at the cause of their disadvantage. They have accordingly determined to organize a combined movement of opposition, and we understand that meetings are now daily held in the capital to discuss the details of the scheme. Among its chief promoters are men of some note as well as of considerable influence, so that it is not impossible they may achieve a certain measure of success; but for our own part, we suspect it will be their fate to find human nature less docile than they fancy.

Whether however their mood be the offspring of honest zeal or of less admirable sentiment, we detect in its form of expression something that needs a passing comment. This term "modern mode" is not suggested simply by the spirit of fond retrospect that all old folks cherish more or less. Its popular interpretation has undeniable reference to foreign intercourse and to the effects of that intercourse upon the national morality. What these would-be reformers tell each other is, not that a self-developed change has come upon Japan, but that the conditions of her existence have been modified to such an extent by external influences as to render her former obedience to guileless unselfish principles no longer compatible with temporal success—in short, that she must needs wear the same

wings as her new competitors, or be hopelessly distanced in the race. The fallacy is not surprising, and contains moreover a grain of truth that renders it doubly dangerous. Foreign intercourse must certainly be accredited with much of the change to which the Japanese merchant of the old school is unable to adapt himself, but nothing is more calculated to perpetuate that inability than the supposition that foreigners have brought with them some strange and subtle mechanism of chicanery and finesse. On the contrary, if we were asked to define something as far as possible removed from the secret of mercantile prosperity in the west, we should not hesitate to name this very artifice which certain Japanese believe to be inseparable from our system. We are ready to admit at the outset that illicit practices of every form and shade, tricks innumerable, and elaborately devised frauds, have too often disfigured European trade-morality, but in nine cases out of ten such things have tended to impede rather than to promote fortune. At any rate, whatever be the history of their results in particular cases, it is certain that an English merchant's idea of permanent well-being is indissolubly associated with probity and good faith. We do not claim for him any inborn excellence or seek to extenuate his constant defections from a loyal creed, but we do say, that traditions he dare not despise and examples he cannot ignore, have taught him the advantages of integrity and the inexpediency of fraud. Such operations as "footing" sugar, "top-ending" ribbon, "weighting" silk and so forth, have been fashionable and are still fashionable among a certain class of tradesmen, but to argue from this that honesty is the road [to ruin and conscience a barrier to success, were about as logical as to declare, that because there have sometimes been coiners the Mint assays are unreliable.

But this is essentially a case where words are powerless to convince. That European merchants should be aspersed is not a matter of much moment, since time cannot fail to vindicate their reputation, and we could therefore well afford to have kept silence, did we not desire to indicate the mischief this erroneous belief may work in another direction. For it is now beyond question that Japanese merchants are intent upon establishing a direct commerce with the outer world. They are resolved to essay open competition with their Occidental *confrères* on the latter's own ground, prematurely perhaps, but not unnaturally. Whether they have a sufficient perception of the difficulties that await them, or whether they are morally qualified to grapple with those difficulties, are points we do not propose to discuss here, but of this they may be well assured, that no weapon will serve them worse in the struggle than improbity. To fancy that this so called "modern mode" is prescribed by the conditions of the contest were to invite failure from the outset, and whatever temporary advantages they may have obtained by counterfeiting trade marks or other flagitious habits, will be as nothing compared with the injuries such practices will ultimately entail. If therefore this movement among the Tokiyo merchants be designed to reestablish commercial honesty on the broad principle of ultimate necessity, we can sympathize with it most heartily, but we fear that what it teaches by implication may be scarcely less pernicious than what it denounces by precept.

THE CURIO MARKET.

I.

IT is sometimes very difficult to balance the relative advantages of speech and silence. Charles Lamb declared, that eating roast pig must be sinful because it is so pleasant, and on the same principle some thinking men hold, that when one is puzzled to discern the comparative wisdom of two courses, the best chance of avoiding error is to adopt the less agreeable. If there be any truth in this doctrine, we have no occasion to hesitate in the present case, for certainly our inclination is altogether in favour of reserve. In speaking therefore, let it not be supposed that we assail our neighbours' delusions without remorse. On the contrary we would fain leave them unmolested, for life is not so rich in beatitudes that it can afford to be robbed of the complacence attending credulity. But there is no longer any choice. The evils of the misconception we are about to describe had once a chance at least of qualification: now they are totally inevitable. A deception of the most ruthless description is being daily practiced in our midst, and it scarcely seems honest to keep silence through fear of dispelling heresies which have proved very comfortable to their disciples and are still proving highly profitable to their promoters.

The victims of this deception to whom we would particularly address ourselves are tourists. Their case seems at once most pitiable and most inexplicable. For it is to be presumed that they came here with at least some fragment of purpose. They have included Japan in their pilgrimage for the sake of the interest that attaches to its art not less than to its history, and as a general rule they must have determined beforehand whether or not they will carry off any tangible reminiscences of what they see. Indeed that they do so determine, it would be impertinent to doubt, while the prevalent nature of their resolve is pretty well indicated by the first question we put to them ourselves after the usual interchange of greetings:—"Have you bought many curios?" Buyers they are to a greater or less degree with scarcely any exception, and it were preposterous to suppose that their acquisitive propensities are entirely accidental. Coming as they believe to the very source and fountain head of all the bric-a-brac streams that have flowed incessantly westward during the last ten years, they cannot but expect to find something better than the bazaars of London or Paris provide, and yet there is ample reason to doubt whether they take the smallest trouble to ascertain beforehand what the resources of those bazaars actually are. At any rate they almost invariably carry away collections of articles very much inferior in quality to those they might have found at home, and considerably more expensive. It is for these reasons that we have called their case inexplicable, since while deliberately engaging in so expensive a hobby as curio collecting, they apparently eschew all attempts to qualify themselves for its successful pursuit. This remark is not of course intended to apply to tourists alone. We who live here are equally victimized and not less illogical in our conduct, but our malady, when it is not beyond the reach of remedy, is generally soon cured. We have time to discover our mistake and friends who are not backward in pointing it out, so that our case, though sufficiently deplorable, is not hopeless. The tourist on the contrary

is generally in a hurry and moreover seldom sees any reason for deliberation. He is on the spot, has a well-furnished purse, and must be ready to start by a certain mail; conditions not very compatible with patience and reflection. Perhaps too he has studied books with pretensions that amply justify his independence: Jacquemart, whose classification of Chinese, Korean and Japanese wares is a delightful compound of enthusiasm and ignorance; Hoffman, who deems it superfluous to make any distinction between porcelain, pottery and faience, or Messrs. Audsley and Bowes, who by the aid of splendidly executed chromo-lithographs and engravings, have done more to propagate mischievous delusions than any other writers on the same subject. With such guides the tourist may well err, but there are other and graver sources of mischief, and of these perhaps the most serious is his first purchase. It is not that he squanders his money or that he becomes possessed of something worthless, but that in nine cases out of ten he buys on the strength of his own judgment and so renders useful counsel inaccessible in the future. For his friends will neither tell him the true value of his acquisition, nor even point out what is really good lest the comparison offend. "If that's the sort of thing he wants, it can be had without our help," they say, and so in the end the buyer is left to the guidance of—his curio merchant; a man of whom it may be truly said, that beyond a certain sympathetic experience which enables him to detect evidences of doctoring, he has no accurate knowledge whatsoever of the wares he vends; who applies to his counterfeits and teaches his customer to trust tests having reference to characteristics that do not exist at all in the originals, and who to this crass ignorance adds a condition of moral obliquity almost without parallel in any other class of dealers. It is scarcely necessary to say that these accusations do not refer to the whole class of curio vendors. A small fraction of their numbers are honest and a very much smaller fraction, expert, but of the pedlar section, and above all of those that haunt hotels, no possible denunciation were hyperbolic. Brett Hart's "Heathen Chinee" was a child to them. As a rule their first step is to purchase the right of ingress and egress by an ample douceur to the domestics, taking care at the same time to obtain all possible information as to the social position, previous transactions, predilections and probable movements of their intended victim. They are never the owners of the articles they exhibit, but only paid hucksters, receiving a percentage on whatever they sell and fobbing everything they can realize above fixed prices, and thus, unlike the too scrupulous shopman of whom Herbert Spencer tells us, they have learned to lie as though they thoroughly believed their own statements. Admitted to the tourists' chambers, their first care is to examine diligently whether any compatriot has preceded them, and here they are so well versed in the ways of their craft, that they can generally tell at a glance, not only where any particular article has been purchased, but also the approximate price asked and given for it, nay even the very story that was concocted to exalt its antecedents. It very rarely happens that they have a rival, for however ruthless towards their customers, they are lavish of mutual concession among themselves, and the cost of a temporary monopoly in any particular case is not excessive. But if

by some chance they come upon the tracks of an interloper, their diplomacy is exquisite. They will admire and laud everything in the neighbourhood of the article he has sold you, but persistently ignore the thing itself, until pressed to give an opinion. Then, indeed, after a vast show of reluctance they will tell you that they have seen it before; that it has been in the market for many a month; that it was bought some time ago by a traveller but returned after careful examination, and finally that they had it originally in their own possession, but were obliged to get rid of it for a song as perfectly unsaleable. All this they will disclose gradually, taking care not to cause you too much chagrin, and if they find you a ready listener, they will point out defects, palpable enough indeed but for all that hitherto undetected, illustrating them perhaps by similar flaws in some of their own wares, which they frankly confess to be common and worthless. Should it happen on the other hand that the scene being Yokohama, you show them something purchased in Kobe, or even at the shop of a coadjutor in the Main Street, they will probably without further parley, offer you four or five times what you have actually paid, and profess much disappointment at your refusal to deal. This is the most subtle device of all and at the same time the most generally effective. Let a man be ever so shrewd, he cannot choose but believe something of what he is told, more especially when it jumps with his mood to do so. He will not perhaps make his faith public till he finds himself quite beyond the range of refutation, but for all that, he cherishes the idea that he has made a bargain and "when he goeth his way, then he rejoiceth." It does not apparently occur to him to reflect that the dealers who have suffered themselves to be thus over-reached, make their livelihood by shrewdness; that they are every day buying and selling articles similar to those they have so unaccountably under-estimated, and that the very pedlars who point out the error, offer almost identical wares for the same price. All such considerations are eclipsed by the single fact that a vase worth a hundred yen has come into his possession for twenty, and the immediate result is a sort of airy exaltation, an ecstatic self-complacency, incalculably valuable to the curio merchant. Of course too this latter "honey-suckle rascal" has his goods directly from a prince or daimiyo. That is an essential item in his tale, and he may well expect to be credited, seeing that European dealers are sufficiently audacious to advertise a similar fiction, and old residents artless enough to believe them. To detail these "tricks of the trade" were however a Sisyphean task, and would not much impede their success. What we desire to emphasize is, not the fact that the curio merchant's repertoire of wiles is inexhaustible, but that his ability as an expert is absolutely nil. *He has never seen any such wares as he professes to sell*, which is after all a not inadequate explanation of his ignorance. Probably this statement may appear scarcely credible, but it is nevertheless absolutely true; always, of course with the reservation, that it applies not to the whole body of curio merchants, but to denizens of the smaller shops in foreign settlements, and above all to their itinerant agents. It would obviously be absurd to assert that there are no experts in the trade, but their total number may be estimated from the fact, that in all Tokiyo there are only two, or at most three, really worthy of the name.

"Is one then to conclude," it will be asked, "that knowing their customers' desire to procure old and valuable specimens, these bric-a-brac vendors are so short-sighted as to furnish themselves with new and worthless wares alone?" By no means. There is another and a very much simpler reason for their conduct: inability. It would scarcely be an exaggeration to say that the market is completely denuded of everything satisfying the accepted definition of a curio. Porcelains, bronzes, ivories and so forth, of any age or any real worth to the connoisseur, no longer exist at all as articles of traffic, or if they do occasionally find their way into the dealers' hands, command prices which make them inaccessible to any but the most wealthy merchants, and altogether disqualify them for purposes of common barter. If, for example, the tourist supposes that the huge plates and brilliantly decorated bowls he buys for ten, twenty or thirty yen, are either old or in any sense rare, he must be prepared to admit that three or four years constitute antiquity, and that a monthly manufacture of hundreds upon hundreds is not incompatible with scarcity. Nay, if this alternative does not seem conclusive, we may add, that there is not at present, and has not been for twelve months, in any shop in Tokiyo, a large plate or dish of genuine old Imari. Small pieces indeed are occasionally to be found, but the value set upon it is out of all reason, and they are eagerly sought after by Japanese amateurs, whose appreciation of such things is very much keener than our own. If this be true of Imari, Japan's staple ware, what shall we say of Satsuma, a faience that has only begun to be produced in any quantity during the last fifteen years? Simply this; that not more than three or four genuine specimens find their way into the market each year—tiny pieces, cups, incense holders or miniature censers—whose appearance nevertheless creates in bric-a-brac circles a commotion not unlike that produced in the astronomical world by a transit of Venus or the discovery of an asteroid. Does anybody believe that he can go into a curio shop and procure an old specimen of this ware whenever he pleases? He might as well look for the Kohinoor in the tub of Diogenes, or the Portland vase in a Maori Kriol. Satsuma has always been the most valued and the least plentiful of Japan's ceramic productions. Not such a faience as that manufactured wholesale to-day, when crudeness of pâte and innumerable "solutions of continuity" in the glaze are matters of no moment, provided only there be a sufficient profusion of gaud and ornament in the decoration. Such blemishes did not exist in the pottery of the past, and their absence was due to two causes; first, that all the processes of manufacture were infinitely superior in point of care and skill to anything compatible with modern conditions, and second, that the outcome of the workshops in Sasshiu, being destined entirely for private use, anything like a flaw or fault immediately necessitated the destruction of the piece in which it occurred. The lustrous, ivory-like glaze, hard well-fired pâte, and marvellously fine, uniform crackle, that distinguish the old Satsuma faience, seem to be *tours de force* entirely beyond the capabilities of modern workmen. It is not, as some people suppose, a mere point of age that gives value to a piece of Japanese pottery or porcelain. Whether in the employment of clay seasoned and manipulated with incredible care, or in the use of glazing materials that required years for their preparation, or in the application of pure and brilliant vitri-

fiable enamels instead of crude clauy pigments, the wares of the past are incomparably superior to those of the present. The distinction is of paramount importance, but its discussion would evidently lead us quite beyond our limits. Indeed we have only noticed it here for the sake of emphasizing our assertion, that the Ceramic specimens offered for sale to-day are neither what they profess to be, nor can by any means be made to do duty for such. Their acquisition can only entail one issue for inexperienced purchasers—disappointment and disgust.

(To be continued.)

THE LAST PROSECUTION OF NIHILISTS.

THE essential difference between this trial and those preceding it lies in the fact, that in all the latter the Nihilists were charged with a single crime only, whereas in the former, they are brought to the bar, indicted with having perpetrated a series of complicated crimes. The principal points of the accusations refer:—1st to the murder of Prince Krapotkin, 2nd to the attempt made by Solowiew on the life of the Emperor, 3rd to three other attempts on the life of the Czar by the undermining of the railroads near Alexandrowskoje, Odessa and Moscow, and 4th to the dreadful attempt at the Winter-palace. Sixteen persons, among them two women, are detained in custody. Here it must be observed that many others, especially a number of women, have not been arrested, although proved guilty either by the depositions of their accomplices or by other circumstances. Others, as Solowiew, have already expiated their crime on the gallows. These sixteen individuals, of whom we can say that they are implicated in almost all the crimes of the Nihilists, as well as being the leaders of this secret league, form a motley and singular society. Workmen, disgraced students, one physician and eight persons without any employment, all aged from 22 to 30 years. Their religious faiths too are no less varied than their social positions. Two profess *no creed*, one is an *atheist*, another declares himself to belong to the *socialistic-revolutionary-religion*, two are *Jews*, and the rest *orthodoxes*.

The accused were first examined for the murder of Prince Krapotkin. According to the indictment, all the information was obtained from a certain Goldenberg, who was the leader of the whole conspiracy, but who had meanwhile died in prison. Two of the accused demanded to see the certificate of Goldenberg's death, but the Court refused to grant their request. The description of the preparations for this crime as set forth in impeachment is very remarkable. Not less than ten people, including two women, met in different places, travelled, borrowed money, and, under many assumed names and carrying with them various forged documents, continually changed their residences and quietly planned the murder of Prince Krapotkin. According to the indictment all confessed their crimes more or less directly and corroborated the statements made by the late Goldenberg. The latter was the assassin who shot the Prince, and in this crime he was assisted by a certain Kobiljanski, who also took part in all the succeeding crimes. Both escaped at first, but were afterwards arrested.

It seems that the success of this murder filled Goldenberg with a kind of exultation. He directly went from Charkow to Petersburg and there, with a number of companions, agitated the assassination of the Emperor. It was Solowiew who undertook to make the attempt and who has since paid the penalty of his crime with his life. But he did not betray his accomplices; and it was not until the confession of Goldenberg that light was thrown on that dark conspiracy. Six of the fraternity deliberated on the expediency of murdering the Czar, and as the others assented, they proceed to arrange the details—Goldenberg offered his services and was urgent for their acceptance; but in view of the fact that he was a Jew, and therefore very unlikely to make any considerable impression on the mind of the Russian people, his offer was declined—Kobiljanski, a Pole, who also aspired to the honour of becoming the Emperor's murderer, was likewise rejected on account of his nationality, and at last Solowiew was chosen as the only worthy person. But Goldenberg still pressed his ser-

vices at least to help Solowiew, and it was only after Solowiew had proved himself on the rifle-range of the Semenov Guards, to be a skillful shot, that Goldenberg withdrew the offer of his help. This withdrawal was probably the means of saving the Emperor's life, for at Charkow Goldenberg also had proved himself to be a good marksman.

The failure of Solowiew's attempt did not discourage the Nihilists. On the contrary at a meeting of fifteen members of the society held at Lipzek two months afterwards, they determined to reorganize their party on a surer basis, and to renew the attempt on the life of the Czar by means of dynamite. Goldenberg again bore a prominent part at this meeting, and distinguished himself by special zeal. The programme read as follows: *Organization of a systematic terrorism* in three forms: (Form A) Destruction of persons directly pernicious to the party, whether belonging to the Government or in private positions. (Form B) Vengeance on high officers of the Government for their repressive orders. (Form C) Assassination of all persons whose death might contribute to the importance of the society.

It must be acknowledged, that the members of this society set themselves to work with a resolution worthy of a better cause. They determined to undermine the railway at three points in order to secure the success of their attempt. In pursuance of this project charges of dynamite were laid at Alexandrowskoje and Odessa. As the Imperial train passed, the first charge was fired, but it failed to explode. The train was therefore saved, and the passengers did not know the awful peril to which they had been exposed. Tichonow, Boris and Okladski had been entrusted with the conduct of this attempt and when they saw the failure, they immediately carried their instruments etc., to the house of one of their friends, a student of the technical schools, leaving the conductor, however, in the earth, where it was afterwards discovered. The mine at Odessa was made with the hope, that the Emperor would make a trip thence from Livadia, but as he did not go, this attempt also proved abortive. Many of the accomplices in these affairs are still unknown but others, especially the leaders, are in custody.

The time when the Nihilists made these attempts with dynamite may be called the most active of their conspiracies. Two mines having missed they looked with increased anxiety for the success of the one at Moscow, which had been constructed with special care.

The particulars of this last attempt are generally known, as also the fruitless representations made by the Russian Government to obtain from France Hartmann's extradition. As the indictment claimed that Snehomkow—Hartmann—was one of the principal accomplices in the crime, it is very difficult to understand, on what grounds his extradition was refused in spite of all the depositions and documents handed in. It is an interesting incident that when the mine at Moscow was ready, the conspirators (ten persons) suddenly fancied their dynamite would not be sufficient to produce a thoroughly destructive explosion. They had expected a quantity of this material from abroad, but as it did not arrive, they decided to carry that lying in the mine at Odessa to Moscow, as it was now certain that the Emperor would not visit the former place. Goldenberg, who also was concerned in this affair, went to Odessa, received there the dynamite and certain monies, but in returning was arrested at Elisabethgrad. It was from him that the Government obtained the most important information concerning the crimes and their authors, of whom six have not yet been arrested whilst the seventh, Hartmann, lives unmolested in England. According to Shirajew's deposition Hartmann, who understood the preparation of dynamite, had a small laboratory in which he produced this deadly explosive. He worked four months and manufactured about 100 kilogrammes. The mine was fired by Schirajew whilst a woman, by name Perowska, observed the approaching train and signalled to him.

It thus appears that these attempts were not the work of a single person, but of a society, and as the same names—those of Goldenberg, Shirajew, Kwiatowski, Perowska, etc., almost always appear, we may assert, that all those crimes were perpetrated by a murderous league composed of a few persons only, whilst the participation of the majority of the Nihilists appears uncertain. It appears that a band of terrorists separated themselves from the Nihilists or formed an independent branch. The attempt at the Winter-palace,

REUTER'S TELEGRAMS.

LONDON, 14th February, 1881.

London, 3rd February.—After a sitting lasting for forty-eight hours, the Speaker stopped the debate.

The House of Commons assented to the introduction of a Ministerial Coercion Bill, when the Home Rule Members left *en masse*. The House then read the Bill the first time, and the debate on the second reading began an hour afterwards.

4th February.—Mr. Parnell and the Home Rulers were expelled the House for obstructive proceedings, and there was an unexampled tumultuous scene in the Commons.

5th February.—The House agreed without division by a majority of three-fourths of the members to a resolution on the motion of Mr. Gladstone giving the Speaker complete control over the proceedings.

It was agreed to adjourn the debate as to coercive measures.

The Boers have been defeated with heavy loss, but with a loss to the British in killed and wounded of one hundred and fifty.

The House of Commons has read a second time the Bill for Coercion.

LATE INDIA TELEGRAMS.

Calcutta, January 14th.—A telegram from Kandahar received in Calcutta on the 13th instant, reports that there is still considerable uneasiness in the Trans-Helmaud districts. A band of men in the Mohmund Pass are stopping and robbing caravans, and the road between Garmair and Shornwak is also infested with robbers. In consequence supplies are not coming in as freely as before. Ishak Khan, Hashim Khan's brother, is said to have written to the Awjais of Zamindawar not to obey the Governor appointed by the English at Girishk as he himself was shortly coming to their country. The Awjais replied that if he came they would send him prisoner to Kandahar as they did not wish for a visit from British troops. The graves on the battle field at Maiwand have been repaired.

General Hume held a parade of all the troops in the garrison yesterday; nine regiments of infantry, one cavalry and four batteries of artillery.

Small caravans continue to arrive from Herat but none from Cabul, whence there is consequently no news.

The price of wheat has slightly fallen, but forage and grain remains steady.

The weather is still bright and cold.

The report published in the *Civil and Military Gazette* of January the 11th, that Hashim Khan and Hassan Khan have captured Maiwand has been for some time current, but is not confirmed by inquiry from best available sources of information. Hashim Khan is positively stated to be still in the neighbourhood of Furrak.

Jan. 15.—It is understood that Sir Steward C. Bayley, K. C. S. I., Chief Commissioner of Assam, will succeed Sir R. Meade as Resident at Hyderabad when the latter retires in April next.

January 16th.—The general substance of intelligence received from Kandahar to January 15th, shows that the districts on the Helmaud and beyond the river in Zemindawar, are being disturbed by the movement of various bands of men who rob caravans, infest the roads and endeavour to hinder the import into Kandahar of supplies for our troops there. This causes a feeling of uneasiness and uncertainty which may be expected to increase as the news published by Reuter's telegram of the intention of the British Government not to remain at Kandahar becomes widely known through the country. These disturbances might thus affect materially the regular influx of supplies from a part of the country whence we have been receiving considerable quantities, and where we have depôts and where friendly sirdars are endeavouring to maintain some order and to prevent lawlessness one against the other, who are inclined to assist the British forces by facilitating the collection of supplies and maintaining tranquillity require support. General Hume is accordingly moving out to Maiwand the following forces under the orders of General Wilkinson:—Thirteenth Hussars and Poona Horse, numbering 600 sabres, first Beluch Regiment, 400 bayonets, a mountain battery, and half a company of Sappers.

Heliographic and postal communications should be at once established over the 38 miles distance from Kandahar, and a strong post will be established as a connecting link. There will be a detachment at Kokeran.

From Kabul there is no authentic news of importance.

There has been an insurrection of Sheikh Ali tribe, a Hazara tribe towards Gharband and Bania on the Hills north west of Kabul, which is giving the Amir some local trouble.

Sir R. Sandeman has effected a complete settlement with the Marri tribe against whom General Macgregor's expedition was directed; the whole tribe has now submitted to the penalties imposed for their raid upon the British convoy.

Allahabad, Jan. 14.—The greatest break at billiards made in India, was accomplished at Calcutta on last Wednesday night in a game of 750 up by Roberts, who beat Cook by 246, running out with an unfinished break of 522 including 147 spots.

The Viceroy is fast regaining strength; the change to Calcutta had no ill effect.

Abergh Mackay, more famous as Ali Baba, died of tetanus at Indore on Wednesday last. He was quite well and playing lawn tennis on Saturday, but on Sunday symptoms of lockjaw was observed, and though every medical aid was afforded the disease overcame all remedies.

Allahabad, Jan. 15.—An Emissary from Ayub Khan is proceeding to Kandahar to interview Colonel St. John.

Major White, the Viceroy's Military Secretary, has applied for leave to proceed to the Cape with the 92nd Highlanders, but it has been decided that he could not be spared.

The statement is inaccurate that Sirdar Wali Mahomed is to receive three lakhs from Government as a solatium for not being appointed Governor of Kurram, or Khost, which post is said to have been promised to him. The simple explanation is that, the Sirdar lent General Roberts, as representative of the Indian Government in Cabul, little over five lakhs, chiefly in tilahs and these are now being repaid to him.

Jan. 17.—with reference to the threatened disturbances in the Jaipore Agency, Madras Presidency, information has been received that all cause of uneasiness is believed to have been removed without bloodshed, and before the arrival of reinforcements.

JAPANESE ITEMS.

[The following Notes on various Japanese matters are chiefly derived from the native papers, occasionally supplemented from original sources of information, and are carefully collated and edited, so as to make them readable and intelligible.]

COURT, POLITICAL AND OFFICIAL.

The *Mainichi Shinbun* states that Lieutenant General Shijo has been promoted to the rank of General and appointed Senator; Mr. Sekiguchi, Governor of Yamaguchi Ken, has been promoted to Senator, and Mr. Hara, the chief secretary of Hiogo Ken, succeeds him.

The same paper states as a rumour, that some important foreign affair is now occupying the attention of the Cabinet.

The *Nichi Nichi Shinbun* states that His Excellency Sanjo, the Prime Minister, accompanied by Mr. Yoshikawa, the Assistant Vice-Minister of the Foreign Department, visited the Eastern Admiralty Office at Yokohama last Monday by the twelve o'clock train. Another paper says that on his arrival he paid a visit to one of the Russian men-of-war now in the harbour.

A vernacular governor states that His Majesty the Emperor was to proceed to the Hibiya parade ground last Tuesday to witness the disbandment of those soldiers attached to the Imperial Guard whose terms of military service have expired. Also, as formerly announced, His Majesty was to go to Oji and the neighbourhood on the 18th instant, to witness some rabbit hunting.

The same paper says that many telegrams have lately been received by the authorities from Mr. Inouye, Chief Secretary at Peking.

A native paper announces that, as was formerly rumoured, the Regulations for the Local Assemblies, and those for the Local Taxes have been altered and greatly added to.

The *Mainichi Shinbun* states that Their Imperial Highnesses Arisugawa-no-Miya, Higashi-Fushimi-no-Miya, Fushimi-no-Miya, Yamashina-no-Miya, and Their Excellencies Okuma, and Suigo, Privy Counsellors, Yamao, Minister of the Public Works Department, Inouye, Minister of the Foreign Department, and the British and Italian Representatives, all left Tokio for Yokohama by the 9.15 train on Tuesday morning, to visit the Russian man-of-war *Africa*. A hospitable entertainment was given on board and the party returned to Tokio by the 1.30 p.m. train.

The *Choya Shinbun* contains the following:—"It is said to have been rumoured two or three days ago that Mr. Shishido, our Minister at Peking, has already left that city and arrived at Shanghai, but we think this must be a false report."

Another native paper says that the Postal Regulations for this year, which have just been issued, contain only a few minor changes. Those for next year, however, will be greatly altered and increased, and the draft alterations have been under deliberation in the General Post Office since January last.

We learn from the same source that Mr. Kawase, Superintendent of the Commercial Bureau, have been despatched on the province of Shinano, on some official business.

The *Mainichi Shinbun* states that Their Excellencies Iwakura, Assistant Prime Minister, General Saigo, Yamada, and Yamao, Ministers of the War and Public Works Departments respectively, and several other leading naval and military officials went to Yokohama on the morning of the 10th instant and thence, accompanied by Port Admiral Nakamura, visited one of the Russian men-of-war in the harbour, where an entertainment was given. The party returned to the capital at about five o'clock in the afternoon.

The same paper says:—There is a rumour abroad, probably trustworthy, that Mr. Matsuda, Governor of Tokio *fu*, will be promoted to a very high office in the Home Department, and that Mr. Sekiguchi Governor of Yamaguchi *ken*, will succeed him in his present position.

We learn from the same source that His Excellency Privy Councillor Ito a few days ago summoned, to his private residence, Mr. Kinashi, a second secretary of the Home Department, who resided at the port of Nawa, Okinawa *ken* (Loochoo) some years ago, as Commissioner for that department, and enquired into the state of affairs in that island since Okinawa *ken* has been established. The paper states that the secretary gave a most lucid description of the general condition of the prefecture.

A paper native says that General Saigo, and Oyama, and Admirals Kawamura, and Enomoto, visited His Ex. Inouye, Minister of the Foreign Department, at his private residence on the 16th instant at 6 p.m. and had a conference which lasted till eight o'clock at night.

We learn from the same paper that Mr. Sugi, Vice-Minister of the Imperial Household Department, went on some urgent official business to the Russian Legation on the 17th instant at about 1.30 p.m.

The *Mainichi Shinbun* says that General Saigo went from Tokio to Yokohama on Thursday morning, and visited one of the Russian men-of-war in the harbour. He returned to the Capital the same afternoon.

The same paper states that His Excellency Inouye, Minister of Foreign Affairs, visited His Excellency Iwakura, Assistant Prime Minister, on the afternoon of the 16th instant and explained to the latter the subjects on which several conferences were lately held by General Saigo and Oyama, and Admirals Kawamura and Enomoto.

A native journal publishes the rumour that General Oyama, Minister of War, will be appointed Envoy Extraordinary and Minister Plenipotentiary to France. General Tani is named as his successor.

It is stated in another vernacular paper that Mr. Takahashi, Superintendent of the Custom House at Kobe, accompanied by a subordinate, came to the Capital by the *Takamago Maru*, which arrived at Yokohama on Thursday morning. Mr. Goto Shojiro, the director of the Coal Company at Nagasaki, also arrived by the same steamer.

The same paper says:—In the National Exhibition office, H. I. H. Kita Shirakawa-no-Miya, the Chief Commissioner, and about 80 other officials connected with the Exhibition, held a meeting on Thursday afternoon. It is said that while the Exhibition is opened a temporary branch telegraph office will be established on the premises, and both official and private communications will be sent at the same rates as at other branches, but that only telegrams addressed to the Exhibition, or to exhibitors holding stalls, will be received from outside.

NAVAL AND MILITARY.

We learn from a native source that at a locality which is not known yet, but which is said to be in one of the prefectures near to the capital, a sham fight will be held by the troops next April, and that His Majesty the Emperor will be present.

The *Mainichi Shinbun* says that General Yamagata, and several other Generals, held a special meeting on same days ago in the Naval and Military section of the *Daijokkan*. It is rumoured that in the said section the total number of both soldiers and sailors is being thoroughly examined.

The *Nichi Nichi Shinbun* states that of the three torpedo boats, which were purchased abroad by the Naval Department, and shipped out in sections, one was put together last year, and another one will shortly be got in order.

A native paper states that the firm of Messrs. Okura & Co. some time ago applied to the Arsenal that the obsolete rifles and other useless weapons now stored there should be sold. The application was received and acknowledged, and it was reported privately that permission would be granted. However, owing presumably to some change of opinion, answer has recently been returned refusing the request. The paper we quote asks if this is owing to the authorities deeming it necessary to take precautions.

The same paper informs us that fifty of the naval cadets in the Naval College, who are shortly to graduate, will be despatched by either the *Kankokuen* or the *Settaukuen*, now in Yokosuka, for the China seas, on a cruise of instruction.

The *Nichi Nichi Shinbun* states that the 15th inst. being the fourth anniversary of the establishment of the *Kaikosha* (the Military Society) the members held a general meeting and entertainment. More than 200 guests, consisting of Generals, Colonels, Lieutenants, other military officers and foreigners were present. H. I. H. Arisugawa-no-Miya, Field Marshal, and President of the society, owing to unavoidable circumstances could not attend, but sent an address congratulating the members on the occasion.

Another native paper informs us that great reforms are shortly to be made in the navy.

INDUSTRIES, TRADE AND FINANCE.

We learn from a vernacular paper that in the Okinawa *Ken* (Loochoo) lacquer trees were planted in former times in great numbers, but that the treatment of the sap produced has never been a success. To remedy this, and make the business pay, several skilled workmen have now been engaged from Osaka.

A native paper says that in the Yokohama bourse paper shows a further downward tendency and seems to depreciate more and more. The 11th inst. morning the market opened at 174.3, but soon fell to 173.3. At noon it receded to 175.2. This sudden depreciation is said to be owing to the fact that the Mitsui Bank has been recently making purchases of silver to the amounts of many thousands of yen daily. Consequently the quotations of paper against specie of various kinds have fallen 3 yen, as follows. For 100 new gold coins, 192.30; for *Nisaba* 206; for *Ichibana*, 224.30; for Sakuru, 146.50; for *Isshu*, 207.50, and for the new subsidiary silver coins 147.

We learn from the same paper that in Yokohama foreign cotton yarn, although there is no change in price, has resumed a rather active condition. Deliveries from foreign firms are pretty numerous, and consignments to various provinces are carried on, on a small scale. On the 10th instant, over 10,000 bags of sugar arrived by the German schooner the *Anna Wickhorst*, from Takao. This commodity fallen in price lately, as buyers will not effect purchases at rates over \$4.50 to \$4.60 per picul, and therefore we learn from Chinese that the consignment will prove a great loss.

A vernacular journal states that the sugar manufacturers in Shikoku, Kinshin, Chugoku, and Tokai, intend holding meetings in Osaka for one week, beginning on the 1st March next, with a view to exchange ideas for improvement of the manufacture of sugar. Two subordinate officials from the Agricultural Bureau have been despatched to attend the meeting. It is said that this meeting is to be held yearly in future.

The same paper says that the woollen cloth manufactured in the Senju factory has so improved in quality, that it is found to be better for use than that now imported, and therefore it is said to have been decided in the Naval Department that the clothes of the sailors will be made of that cloth, instead of the imported cloth which has hitherto been employed.

We read in another paper that Mr. Nishikawa Hajime, President of the Osaka Fu Assembly, intends to establish an iron factory with the view of manufacturing the iron pipes to be used for the proposed aqueduct in Osaka. It is said that the expenses for the construction of the aqueduct will be raised by private subscription.

The same paper says that the authorities of the Okinawa *ken* (Loochoo) intend to establish a cotton factory there, and that an official has been sent to Osaka to purchase the necessary machinery.

The *Nichi Nichi Shinbun* says, that with the view of teaching the silkworm industry to the military settlers in the Hokkaido, several proficient, with all necessary implements, are to be shortly sent thither from the capital.

One of the native local journals informs us that the Yokohama Native Chamber of Commerce intends shortly to publish a market report, to be entitled the *Soba Shinbun*.

The same paper announces that in Yokohama tea has become slightly active, and prices have advanced three yen as compared with what they were one or two months ago. Superior grades are mostly sold, but stocks are very small and arrivals are also few. There is no appreciable activity in silk. In foreign cotton yarn, although prices are unchanged, but little has been done, both buyers and sellers waiting for favourable terms. Consignments to the interior provinces are small, owing, as formerly stated, to the observance of the New year holidays there according to the old style. Deliveries from foreign firms are slightly delayed, in consequence of the unsettled state of kinatsun.

The *Hochi Shinbun* informs us that the specie and bullion received by the Branch of the Mint in the Finance Department, from February to December (inclusive) last year, amounted to a total of 329,409.61 oz.

It is stated in another paper that with a view to develop the production of various kinds of woods, a competitive exhibition of wooden wares will shortly be opened at Tokio, by authority. The paper we quote from considers that this will certainly have good effects. It is also announced that another competitive exhibition of cereals, tobacco, and rape seed, will be opened in the Capital from the 1st February to the 30th March, next year, the regulations for which are already being discussed. As soon as the draft has been compiled it will be forwarded to the *Daijokkan* by the Home and Finance Ministers, and will be published later on.

We take the following from the *Nichi Nichi Shinbun*:—"The Korean Government, with a view of developing the mining industry, and benefitting commerce, has communicated to our authorities that it wishes to employ Mr. Kauesugi Kamesaburo, a *shizoku* of the prefecture of Shiga, who is well known to the public for his proficiency in the science of mining. Korea has sent an order for all the machines and implements necessary for that industry to Otani Ihei, a merchant at Kura-ato-machi, Osaka. Lately many boxes of sulphuric acid have been sent from the Osaka Mint to Gensuashin, Corea. This is said to be owing to the fact that Mr. Hasegawa, an merchant who has some connection with the Mint, has opened a *Rinsen Kwaisha* (sulphuric acid shop) at that port, with a view to create a market for the acid and other similar commodities manufactured in Japan."

The same paper says that, when several privy councillors were at Atami lately, they used to hold various conferences, as is well known. It is said now that, owing to a proposal made by a wealthy merchant from Osaka, who was staying at Atami at that time, the scheme was discussed of establishing another specie bank, with the capital of 5,000,000 yen, under the protection of the government.

Another paper says that by mutual consent of the several wealthy merchants, a Chamber of Commerce has been established at Matsumoto, in the prefecture of Nagano. The opening ceremony was held on the 30th ult., when about 200 guests, consisting of the local government and district officials, the editors of the local papers, and many others, were present.

It is said in the same paper that fifteen enterprising men in Yoichi-gori, Shiribeshi province, Hokkaido, have lately forwarded to the authorities a sum of 36,400 yen, requesting that

a telegraph line may be constructed between that place and Otaru, the distance being 6 *ri*. The amount they send is to be used towards defraying part of the expenses. They expect that their application will be favourably received.

It is stated in a local native journal that Mr. Minami Teisuke, of the prefecture of Yamaguchi, who is now in the capital, has projected a society under the name of *Kioyu Gikwai*, composed of 150,000 persons of both sexes from any portion of the Empire. A subscription of one *yen* per head is asked, with which works considered to be for the good of the country, can be commenced without official aid. The scheme is founded on motives of patriotism; the bye laws have already been drawn up, and our informant states that many high government officials and private gentlemen have joined the society already.

The *Mainichi Shinbun* states that a brewer at Imatamura, Kawabe-gori, in the province of Settsu, with a view to export *Seishu* (ordinary sake) on a grand scale, contemplates opening branch shops at San Francisco, and Sapporo, Hokkaido. He has sent an order to the Hiogo shipbuilding yard for the construction of three sailing vessels on the foreign model, which he will use as transports.

We learn from the same source that several energetic men in Tsunaki-mura, Gifu-gori, in the prefecture of Gifu, have decided to establish an earthenware factory under the name of *Tsunekonisha*, with a capital of 10,000 *yen*, with a view to encourage the manufacture of this ware, which is one of the principal products of Japan. An application to the local authorities, for the necessary permission, was at once granted, and the factory is shortly to be opened.

A native paper says that in Mommye, Usugori, Hokkaido, sugar has lately been manufactured from beetroot. The result was far better than was expected, and an examination of it has been made by the authorities. With a view to carry on the manufacture, a factory is shortly to be started.

The same paper writes as follows: "In the mines of Wani, and Inuni, both in the prefecture of Akita, a yearly profit of about 50,000 yen has been obtained since they became government property, in the 8th year of Meiji (1875), but owing to the primitive methods employed the outturn was still small. The year before last, therefore, a German mining professor was engaged on a monthly salary of 500 yen in the Wani mine, and another German, on the same salary, in the Inuni mine, to teach improved styles. The appropriations for these mines were 1,400,000, and 500,000 yen respectively, but latterly the sum of 250,000 yen has been deducted from the former, and 150,000 yen from the latter. Some days ago Mr. Niwa, superintendent of the former mine, accompanied by the two German employees arrived at the capital, it is said, to give some information to the government."

We learn from another source that several Chinamen in Kobe have gone to Takashima in the province of Hizen lately and have purchased coal there, which they shipped to Nagasaki, whence it was reshipped in steamers for Shanghai in considerable quantities. They have also purchased coal whenever it has arrived at Kobe. The paper asks if these purchases are made on account of the recent trouble between their country and Russia.

The following is taken from a native contemporary:—"Messrs. Takada, Ofuruta, and three other energetic men have established a weaving factory named the *Kenshoku Kwaisha* at Tamagawa-mura, Sonto-gori, Smdzuoka *ken*, and work has been in full swing since last December. The origin of the establishment is said to be that although the silkworm industry has improved in Japan during the last four or five years the weaving industry is still in its infancy, and consequently all our silk is exported in cocoons. This not only gives all the profit to foreign countries, but at the same time causes the reputation of our woven goods to disappear. This is a deplorable matter, and therefore the manufacture of them should be encouraged. With this view the factory is opened and in order to have the female employees properly instructed and to show the public the prosperity of the establishment in order to stimulate them indirectly in the matter, a man of the Kai province, named Takimori Yohei, who is skillful in manufacturing various valuable stuffs, has been engaged as instructor.

Also, in the manufacture of the exhibits to be shown in the competitive exhibition in that *Ken*, over 20 women are now employed. The factory is said to be far superior to any similar establishments."

The *Nichi Nichi Shinbun* states that in the calico factory at Mitajiri, Suwo province, in the prefecture of Yamaguchi, which has been established with a capital of 60,000 *yen*, with a view to provide the unoccupied *shizoku* with employment, 433 *jo* (one *jo*=ten feet) of stuff, 5.25 feet in width, is manufactured daily. Calculating the working days to be 300 during a year, the total amount manufactured annually would be 129,600 *jo*. Estimating one foot to be $5\frac{1}{2}$ *sen* in price, the annual income is 71,380 *yen*. Such being the fact, if the calico manufacturing industry be encouraged more and more the *shizoku* will, on the one hand, be provided with constant occupation, and on the other, imports will be checked to some extent.

MISCELLANEOUS.

The *Nichi Nichi Shinbun* says that for the construction of the Palace, which has been postponed for a long time, a special Committee has lately been appointed, in the Public Works Department, to enquire into the number of acres required, and the plans &c., of construction. The Audience Hall, which has been removed from the Akasaka palace to the *Nishimura*, is, we learn, to be allowed to remain there without any change.

We learn from native sources that the *Tochigi Shinbun* was suspended, by order, on the 9th instant.

We note in another vernacular journal that Mr. Sata Kaiseki, who has before now expressed his great regret at the yearly increase of imports and the corresponding drain of specie, which have brought about a depreciation of the currency, has now established a society named the *Kaikaisha*, and is rapidly enrolling members. Each one on joining pledges himself not to use any imported wares. It is reported that General Kuroda and other high officials have already joined, as have also a large number of private individuals.

The *Hochi Shinbun* states that great inconvenience is felt in the Okinawa *Ken* in consequence of the Loochoo language being incomprehensible to the people of the mainland, but that as it is very difficult to make the Loochoos understand Japanese properly, the Governor has allowed some of his subordinates to compile a book of dialogues in the Japanese and Loochooan languages. This work, which is said to be well drawn up and very intelligible, is divided into two volumes, and is now being issued throughout the prefecture.

A native paper informs us that the *Kaimu-Kiodo-Kwai* (the United Society at the south), which was some time ago established at Kochi, in the province of Tosa, has prospered greatly and the majority of the people in the seven districts of which the province consists, have enrolled themselves. With a view to encourage the society more, and to unite together all the people in the province, (500,000 in number), so that similar societies may become established in every province throughout the Empire, and thus enable people to inaugurate a private National Assembly, many energetic men have bestirred themselves, and have elected committees for each of the seven districts, whose duties will be to endeavor to unite together the people in their respective districts in this cause.

The same paper states:—Some days ago the ceremony of conferring diplomas on the graduates in the Female Normal School was held in the premises of that institution. His Excellency Kono, Minister of the Educational Department; Messrs. Kanda, and Nomura, Senators, and many others were present. Several addresses were delivered by the Minister of Education and other officials connected with the school, and suitable replies and speeches were made by the female graduates.

One of the Tokyo vernacular journals informs us that, with a view to propagate Christianity more widely, it is said to have been decided that churches are to be established in various provinces in the north-eastern part of the mainland, at Sapporo and other eight places in the Hokkaido, and also in the islands of Hachijo, and Ogasawara-jima (Bonin). All the expenses are to be disbursed by the Christian Association.

The *Hochi Shinbun* says it was telegraphed to the authorities from Hakodate on the 14th instant, that the British sailing

vessel *Albatross* was wrecked off Totsumura, Awomori *Ken*, on the 6th instant. The vessel was completely broken up, but fortunately no lives were lost.

The *Choya Shinbun* states that several enterprising men in Ito, Kamogori, Idsu province, have agreed to construct a harbour at their port, and have applied to the authorities for permission to do so. This has lately been granted, and therefore the work is to be undertaken shortly. They are said to contemplate making the harbour so deep that any large vessel can enter freely, so that it will surpass that of Shimoda or Shimidzu.

We take the following statistics from a Tokyo paper:—During the month of October last the deaths in Tokyo were 897 males, and 738 females; births 929 males, 932 females; marriages 574, and divorces 276.

The *Choya Shinbun* publishes the following:—"How is this? Lately anonymous letters have been sent to four or five wealthy merchants residing in Ikenohata, Kayacho, and two or three other streets in the Capital, couched in the following words:—'We shall burn down your part of the capital in a few days, and we therefore beg to inform you of our intention previously.' This has caused great anxiety among residents, in these days when incendiarianism has been so frequent lately, and they have conveyed their furniture &c., into godowns, the openings of which have been closed with clay so that lights are required inside even in day time. The number of night watchmen has also been greatly increased."

Another journal states that some time ago several doctors in the Capital, combined to establish a medical society under the name of *Seikwan*, with a view of holding meetings every Wednesday, to deliberate on the various methods of medical treatment. Five or six weeks have barely elapsed, and yet numbers of other doctors have already joined this society. The news has come to the ears of His Majesty the Emperor, and a sum of 200 *yen* was specially given to the society on the 12th instant, from the Imperial Household Department.

The same paper announces that the *Kumamoto Shinbun* was suspended by the Home Minister on the 10th inst.

We take the following extract, which removes any doubts that may have existed as to the frequency of fires this season being in a great measure attributable to incendiarianism, from the *Mainichi Shinbun*:—"In Shiba Ku and its environs, repeated attempts at incendiarianism have occurred recently, although fortunately they have been detected in time to render them comparatively harmless. This state of affairs has naturally caused much anxiety and alarm, and people dwelling there hardly felt safe in lying down to sleep at night. One night last week, however, some six or seven fires broke out in as many different places, in two or three of which the incendiaries were captured before their designs were fully matured. They all proved to be little boys of only eight or nine years of age. On being asked why they did such a wicked action, without thinking of the terrible distress it must cause to so many people, they all gave the same explanation, as follows:—"We are not pleased if a fire takes place, but some men who had their faces masked came and told us that they would give us some money to spend if we would set fire to such and such houses, and as we wanted to have some money, we agreed." What abominable scoundrels these men are! fearing detection they use these little boys, who are ignorant of consequences, as their tools. We beg the police force in every station in the capital to exercise the greatest vigilance when patrolling the streets."

IMPERIAL GOVERNMENT RAILWAYS.

TOKIO AND YOKOHAMA SECTION.

Statement of traffic receipts for the week ending Sunday, 13th February, 1881.

Passengers, parcels, &c.	Yen 9,252.20
Merchandise, &c.	" 969.90

Total.....	Yen 10,222.10
Miles open 18.	

Corresponding week last year.	
Passengers, parcels, &c.	Yen 6,707.67
Merchandise, &c.	" 894.17

Total.....	Yen 7,601.84
Miles open 18.	

KOBE AND OOTSU SECTION.

Statement of traffic receipts for the week ending Sunday, 13th instant, 1881.

Passengers, parcels, &c.....	Yen 17,995.25
Merchandise, &c.....	" 2,951.80

Total..... Yen 20,947.06

Miles open 58.

Corresponding week last year.

Passengers, parcels, &c.....	Yen 12,045.23
Merchandise, &c.....	" 1,393.70

Total Yen 13,438.93

Miles open 55.

THE JAPANESE PRESS.

A TRADE MARK FOR CARTONS.

(Translated from the *Bukka Shimpō*.)

THE public must be well aware, without any of our explanations, that the silkworm rearing industry is a source of enriching our country, and one that occupies a most important position in our foreign commerce. The industry may be divided into two heads, the first being the manufacture of cocoons to answer the demands of the silk-manufacturers, and the other that of cartons to supply to the silkworm producers. Thus, although both the cocoon manufacturers and carton producers are similar in respect of their both being engaged in the silkworm industry, they are thoroughly distinct from each other, just as much as carpenters and cabinet-makers. Nevertheless, since those of our merchants, who exported cartons some years ago when there was a mortality among the worms in Europe, gained extraordinary profits thereby, everyone inclined towards this industry throughout the country, and not only did the cocoon manufacturers commence to produce cartons, but at the same time, even those who possessed a piece of a newly reclaimed ground with mulberry trees and who were quite unskilled in the industry have produced and exported an attempt at cartons. Consequently, the cartons became inferior and almost worthless, and the quantity manufactured increased so extravagantly that the foreign markets were flooded. Such a state of affairs brought indescribable confusion, and it seemed that no measures could be adopted that would prove adequate to remedy it. At that moment our Government issued several schemes to protect the industry, but in vain, and finally it discontinued any attempts at protection. However, last year the quantity produced was greatly diminished, and we were pleased to see that it resulted in the carton trade resuming a proper position. A village named Shimamura, in Saigori, Joshiu province, in the prefecture of Gumba, is well known for its cartons, even abroad. This village, like many others, suffered more or less injury in consequence of the bad manufactures exported, but since then many enterprising men combined and established a company under the name of *Shimamura Kwangio Kwaisha*, with a view to secure the confidence of merchants abroad by paying great attention to manufacture of cartons. In the 12th year of Meiji (1879) many thousands of these cartons were exported direct to Italy and France, and after selling them the company found it had made an excellent start towards obtaining the wished-for confidence. Some knavish dealers however, who were jealous of the high reputation the Shimamura cartons were gaining abroad, commenced to sell some inferior cartons to foreigners under the name of Shimamura, counterfeiting the trade mark of the said company. Even some of the foreign brokers purchased these cartons, knowing these to be counterfeit, at cheap prices, with a view to deceive the silk manufacturers at home. The injuries which these dishonest acts have caused to the sale of the true Shimamura cartons are not few and therefore in order to prevent these counterfeits, the company formerly applied for the protection of their trade mark to the Gumba *Kencho*, but the application was not received favourably. Therefore the director of the Company has now memorialized the Tokio Chamber of Commerce, in order to get assistance from them for petitioning the Central Government on the subject.

This memorial would, no doubt, be a request for the protection of the said company alone, but on the whole it is

an important matter, bearing upon the trade of cartons throughout the country, and we believe therefore that the members of the Chamber of Commerce, after carefully deliberating the circumstances of the case, will not neglect to memorialize the government; while the government, who some times ago made some enquiries to the Chamber of Commerce about the regulations of trade marks, will, on receipt of a memorial from this institution, not hesitate to issue the Regulations. We have received a copy of the memorial addressed to the institution by the above mentioned company, which is as follows:—

MEMORIAL.

Gentlemen:—In the *Shimamura Kwangio Kwaisha*, which was established under an official permission on the 5th year of Meiji (1872) carton manufacturing alone is carried on, and by strict care in manufacturing them well the quality has improved more and more, so that both from native and foreign silk manufacturers extensive demands for our cartons are made. We have supplied the Yokohama market with our stocks, for export abroad, for several years with more or less success. In the 12th year of Meiji (1879), we transacted all the orders for export sent us by foreigners in Tokio, and the remainder of our stock, which was more than one half, was taken by one of our members to Italy in the month of December, in the same year, and was sold direct in that country. By this process we have obtained the confidence of the silk-manufacturers there, so that it seemed probable that in the districts in that country where the silkworm industry is carried on, there was none who did not know the name of the Shimamura carton. In spite of our efforts, however, some dishonest manufacturers in our country have manufactured counterfeit cartons, and sold them under the name of Shimamura. Canning foreign brokers wittingly purchased them and sold them to home manufacturers, many of whom, through their being unable to judge the cartons, have been deceived. Our representative in Italy has, on enquiry, found that the counterfeit cards purchased in this country were 13,000 pieces in number. He brought back one of them with him, and, on comparing it with the true kind, it is found that the letters, signs, and cards &c., are all imitated. If this dishonest action be not duly prevented counterfeits will make their appearances more and more, so that however we may endeavour to produce a good article, we shall be overpowered by the counterfeits, and be unable to accomplish our upright intention. To check this act there is no means but that of asking for the protection of our authorities, and thus obtaining the privilege of a trade mark. We therefore petitioned, as the supplemental document states, to our local authorities, but their answer was that, at present, the privilege cannot be granted. Thereupon we were unable to take proper preventive measures against the dishonest act last season. However, we have intended to petition the authorities earnestly, to get permission for the privileges of our trade mark, and signs, etc. on the cards to be manufactured next year (this season). Now we hear that your Chamber is an assembly where any commercial matters are deliberated upon as to their advantages and disadvantages; and that some time ago a draft of the Regulations for the trade marks were submitted to you by the authorities to be deliberated upon, and therefore we trust that you will take some interest to our petition for trade marks. At any rate, we hereby sincerely request that, after due consideration, you will recommend this matter to the authorities so that our petition may, owing to your kind assistance, be favourably accepted.

The 10th December, the 13th year of Meiji, (1880).

(Signed) *TAJIMA YAKKI*,
Director.(") *KURIHARA KANZA*,
Vice-Director.of the *Shimamura Kwangio Kwaisha*,
Sai-geri, Joshiu province, Gumba *Ken*.

To the Tokio Chamber of Commerce.

LAW REPORTS.

IN H. B. M.'S COURT FOR JAPAN.

Before R. T. RENNIE, Esq., Judge.

Tuesday, February 15th, 1881.

A. REIMERS & Co. v. The Captain of the *Ellerbunk*.

This was a claim for \$65 compensation for alleged short delivery of 41 piculs of pig-iron, consigned to the plaintiffs. Both parties appeared in person.

C. W. Reynders, sworn, stated:—I am a German subject and represent the firm of A. Reimers & Co. in this case. When the *Ellerbunk* brought the iron here, I took delivery at the hatoba. It was agreed between the Captain and ourselves to have the iron landed at the hatoba by the landing agent, Captain Seitz, and weighed there. It was weighed by the second officer of the vessel, by Captain Seitz and ourselves. The amount that I claim is based upon the actual price at which I sold the remainder of the iron. I admit that the landing charges and duty should be deducted.

By the defendant:—I asked Captain Seitz to go round and make the arrangement about the landing at the hatoba and he told me he had done so. The proof of this was, to me, that the second mate came off to weigh. Captain Seitz was employed by us.

By the Court:—I do not know enough about pig-iron to say if it would lose in weight, at any rate as much as is claimed. I know bar-iron does not. We are the original consignees. At the time it was shipped it was the property of A. Reimers & Co. It was bought for us for shipment at Middleborough, by our Agents in London.

Captain Parker, sworn, stated:—I am a British subject and master of the ship *Ellerbunk*. The Bill of Lading contains the clause "weight and contents unknown," and I particularly pointed out that clause to the landing agent, who was acting for Messrs. Reimers & Co. With respect to the second mate coming to see the iron weighed, I sent him in the lighter more to guard against theft by coolies than for anything else. I can fortunately produce a plan of the 'tween-decks in which the iron was stowed, showing that all this iron was in one place under the main hatch. It would have been next to impossible for any of it to have been stolen. Each pig weighed about a hundred weight. I can easily account for a considerable loss of weight in the iron. It came direct from the works to the ship. Pig iron is run out into sand moulds and being very rough much of the sand clings to it. As it left the works direct it probably had an unusual quantity of sand and in the loading, unloading, weighing &c. this would get shaken out. The different styles of weighing here and at home would all tell. At home, it was weighed in trucks of 10 or 12 tons each, but out here in lots of about 2 cwt. When the claim was first sent in, I offered Mr. Reimers, without prejudice, to split the difference.

By E. F. Kilby, agent for the ship:—When the bill of lading was brought to me by the landing agent, I particularly pointed out the clause as to "contents unknown." He had every facility for seeing each bar of iron taken out.

By the Court: I don't think there was any chance of the iron being stolen.

E. F. Kilby, sworn, stated:—I am a British subject, of the firm of Hudson & Co. I know something about pig-iron, and know that it always loses weight between shipment and delivery, owing to sand, &c. I agree with what the Captain says about this. A certain loss may be also incurred by reason of rust. The difference of 41 piculs out of 1680, as mentioned in the bill of lading, would be slightly over the average loss. We have had two shipments, total 150 tons weighed together, which showed a loss of over 2½ per cent. That was a London shipment, which would have been more handled and less liable to loss than one from Middleborough.

His Honour said that had the bill of lading passed into other hands for a consideration, as purchasers of the iron, the matter would have been different and the captain would have had some trouble in disproving his liability. As, however, it appeared to be between the captain and the shippers, the former had no obligation beyond showing that he had delivered all that he had received, about which His Honour considered the evidence conclusive. The Captain had declared upon oath that all this iron delivered to him was stowed in one place and had produced a plan of the stowage

of the ship in evidence, and he was entitled therefore to credence. The possible reasons of loss of weight had also been satisfactorily explained and he considered it right therefore to dismiss the case, with costs.

Before R. T. RENNIE, Esq., Judge.

Jury. Messrs. H. Barlow, A. Marcus, R. B. Cuthbertson
C. J. Frischling, and Alanawston.

Thursday, 17th February, 1881.

R. H. ABBOTT v. H. COOK.

H. COOK v. ABBOTT.

Mr. Hill appeared for Mr. Abbott, and Mr. Lowder for Mr. Cook.

This was an action for \$9,843.81 by the master and chief owner of the *Parmenio*, which was wrecked off Formosa in January 1880, against his co-partner Mr. Cook, for wages due from September 27th 1873 to May 17th, 1880, at the rate of \$200 a month, and disbursements in connection with the working and repairing of the ship.

The defendant denied that he was ever indebted as alleged, complained that proper accounts had not been rendered, and said that if they were taken it would be found that the plaintiff was indebted to the defendant in respect of the earnings of the ship; and in respect of this he instituted a cross action claiming a balance of accounts in his favor of \$5,625.

Mr. Hill read the petition and reply to the same.

Mr. Lowder wished to know whether the case was supposed to come on under Common Law, or the Statute.

His Honour said that it would not actually make a difference.

Mr. Lowder maintained that the action could only be brought under the Statute and quoted lengthily in support of his opinion. His argument was that under Anne IV. Chap. III. §27 plaintiff must be non-suited unless he amends his petition by expressly alleging that the defendant has received more than his share or proportion of money or profits arising from the subject in which they are tenants in common. He also objected to his client being called upon to produce accounts.

His Honour said he failed to see the point of the objection. The accounts of both sides would have to be called for, to be handed over to the investigation of the referee.

Mr. Lowder said he would not pursue the point further.

Mr. Hill now said that the form in which His Honour had stated the points at issue seemed to him to be very suitable and suggested that they should follow them.

His Honour said that in going through the petitions he found the points mentioned which he considered were those which would have to be decided by the jury, after which the referee would have to speak of the accounts.

At Mr. Hill's request His Honour read his synopsis of the points again; Mr. Lowder asked if a copy might be furnished to the bar, on which they could, he thought, base their line of action in the hearing of witnesses, &c.

His Honour consented, and suggested an adjournment until 1.30 p.m. during which copies of the document should be supplied to Counsel for both sides.

The Court then adjourned.

On the Court reopening both Counsel said they had agreed as to the points before mentioned being actually as follows:—

ISSUES.

1.—Were Abbott and Cook in partnership in respect of the earnings and investments of profits of the barque *savo* and except as joint owners and *savo* and except as regards the cargo of coals mentioned in paragraph 12 of defendant's answer in cross suit?

2.—Was Abbott managing owner of the barque from 1873 to 1877 and after that managing owner *de son tort* up to 3rd April 1880?

3.—Was Abbott during the whole period in question managing partner and did he receive all the profit of the partnership or did Cook act as Agent and receive portion of the profits?

4.—Was Abbott bound to keep and render accounts to plaintiff and did he make default in so doing?

5.—Did Abbott forcibly take the ship out of the possession of Cook and against his consent carry her away until 1880 or did Cook consent to her employment?

6.—Was there a partnership venture in coals as alleged in paragraph 12 of the answer to cross petition and did Cook receive a portion of the profits thereof?

7.—Was Abbott entitled to wages as Master of the barque and if so at what rate?

8.—Is any part of Abbott's claim barred by the statute of limitations?

A considerably lengthy discussion took place as to what the issues were upon which the jury would be called to decide.

Mr. Lowder said that it seemed to him that there were only two issues, viz: if the plaintiff was to account to the defendant, and if the defendant should account to the plaintiff. From this a further issue would arise as to the partnership in the ship.

His Honour said that the accounts would have eventually to be furnished, for the use of the referee. The points to be left to the jury seemed to him to be as follows. Whether there was an open partnership, beyond what is admitted. Was Abbott the managing partner from 1877 to 1880. Did he during that period receive all the profits—and if so did he retain them. Did he take the ship away forcibly or with Cook's consent. Was there a partnership in the cargo of coals brought from Sydney to Yokohama, and there sold at a great profit, and did Cook keep the sums of money accruing from the sale. Was Abbott entitled to wages as master of the barque.

Mr. Hill said that before calling any witnesses he would go over the facts of the case briefly, for the benefit of the jury. Seven years ago the *Parmentio* was purchased by the plaintiff and fitted up and overhauled by Mr. Cook. To start from 1873. The first issue is the partnership of plaintiff and defendant, which we deny. The next is as to the wrongful possession after 1877. Mr. Cook says that the plaintiff had possession as master, but nothing beyond that. The next issue is whether the plaintiff was managing partner. The defendant alleges that there was a general partnership and that therefore the plaintiff was responsible for the profits. This plaintiff denies, alleging that there was an open account between both parties. Now in 1877 the ship was in Yokohama: there is no question as to the shares in her being disputed. The other shares had been bought in and Messrs. Abbott and Cook were the sole owners. It is alleged that the plaintiff ran away with the ship secretly, and later on ran her ashore in Formosa. This running away with the vessel is also denied most strenuously. As to the question whether the defendant received any part of the coal sale, plaintiff alleged that he did. Last came the question of wages on which point they would have the evidence of Mr. Abbott whom he would now call.

Robert H. Abbott, sworn, stated:—I am a British subject residing at No. 217, Bluff. I have been master of the ship *Parmentio* from 1873 to the date of her loss. When I became master, beside Mr. Cook and myself, Frederick E. White held eight shares. I became master on the 22nd September 1873. Mr. White owned 8/64, I owned 36/64 and Mr. Cook 20/64; Before that date, I had owned the whole ship. On that day I sold White 8 shares and Cook 20; the transaction was put through at the British Consulate. There was no contract between me and them other than the bill of sale. My partners first proposed that I should become master. I consented at once. There was a verbal agreement that I should receive \$200 per month. There was no agreement as to any more than doing the duties of master. I went to Hakodate first, in ballast, seeking, by general consent. I got chartered there for Yokohama, for a lump sum of \$1,600. From Yokohama, I chartered for Australia, via Kobe. I was to go to Adelaide for orders and thence I went on to Melbourne. During my absence from Yokohama, there was no appointed agent for the ship in Yokohama. I corresponded with defendant. I reached Melbourne in April 1874. I went thence to Sydney, and next back to Hiogo. I had no appointed agent in Yokohama but recognized Mr. Cook as such and remitted him £600. The draft was drawn in Melbourne, but I remitted it from Sydney. This was earnings of the ship from Kobe to Melbourne. I have not the second or third of exchange. I know that Mr. Cook received the money. From Hiogo I went to the northwest coast of Japan on a Japanese Government charter made through Mr. Cook at Yokohama. The first intimation I received of it was a telegram from Mr. Cook.

Mr. Hill:—I will show you the telegrams on this subject and ask you to identify them. [Telegrams shown to witness and put in and marked B] I will read them to His Honour and the jury.

Witness continued:—While at Hiogo, I received a letter from Mr. White: this is it [put in and marked C] I received the copy of the charter party referred to. It was signed by Mr. Cook. I sent replies to the telegrams: I wanted to give Mr. Cook power to sign for me but the superintendent of the telegraph company said it was impossible to do so by wire. However it was so signed and I received it.

Mr. Hill:—I have called for the other side to produce this charter party.

Mr. Lowder produced it, and it was put in, marked D, and handed to the jury for perusal.

Witness continued:—During my absence from Yokohama, I looked upon Mr. Cook as the Agent, as he was the second principal owner. I proceeded on, and fulfilled the charter. I have received no money on this charter, I know that Mr. Cook received \$1,000, as advance and I was present when he received the balance of \$3,000. As far as I remember, it was paid to Mr. Cook in No. 61 Yokohama. Mr. Farmer, Mr. White, myself, and two Japanese were present. The nett balance paid was \$2,900. I laid in Yokohama some time coppering and repairing generally. Mr. Cook superintended it. While at Shimogawa I collected demurrage to the amount of \$941 which I paid over to Mr. Cook. I remember Mr. Cook's bill being \$2,285.55. Carroll & Co.'s bill for copper &c. was over \$2,000, also paid by Mr. Cook. These repairs put the vessel into good condition. I left about January 7th, 1875, for Formosa. I recognise this paper [put in]. It is a promissory note for \$2017. I received it from Mr. Cook at his own house I see it is dated January 8th. I can't explain why unless it be a wrong date, or that I was windbound. Up to that time there had never been any dispute between myself, Mr. White or Mr. Cook. There had been no statement of accounts. There was a larger amount due to me than that mentioned in the promissory note. I don't know how the figures in it were arrived at. I went from Takao to Melbourne, discharged and went to Sydney. I could not get a charter at Melbourne. At Sydney, I purchased coal on the ship's account. I purchased 600 tons coal and brought it to Yokohama, arriving in September 1875. Mr. White was bought out then. I recognise these papers as Mr. White's receipts.

Mr. Hill put these in, and also an estimate of the proportionate share of the profits of the ship up to the time mentioned.

Witness:—Mr. White made the estimate himself. It was paid in coal which I delivered to him, as captain of the *Parmentio*. Mr. Cook knew of it. The coal was valued at \$11 per ton. One lot of 197 tons was sold to a Russian man-of-war. Mr. Cook and I hauled alongside her and discharged it. Another lot of 127 went to another Russian man-of-war. We hauled from one ship to the other. Mr. Cook helped me with coolies &c. The coal was sold to the Russians at \$12 per ton. 97½ tons were sold to the U. S. man-of-war *Saco* at \$12.50. This was sent in lighters. 100 tons was sent but 2½ tons returned as she had no room for it, and it was landed at Mr. Cook's yard, as was also the balance 150 tons. It was all one kind of coal.

I think Mr. Cook sold the coal to the Russians. He received the money for it. I received that from the *Saco*. Mr. Cook brought the money alongside the *Parmentio*. He had it partly in bags, and some in rolls of notes. He called out to me "Old man, do you want any money?" He unrolled a \$100 note and gave it to me. He was in a Japanese boat. I might have been often on board the Russian man-of-war. I have no means of knowing what Mr. Cook did with the money. I have not received any of the money from the 152½ tons of coal landed at Mr. Cook's. I have received cash from time to time, but not on account of that. My next trip was to San Francisco with freight from Shimogawa. Thence I went to British Columbia, and then to Shanghai. I next made two trips to Foochow and back to Shanghai. I returned to Yokohama in January 1877. I went next to Kobe and loaded with rice for Melbourne. On the voyage I struck on a reef, and discharged cargo at Sydney. After the repairs to the ship there was not enough money to pay for a full cargo, I therefore advanced some myself filled her up with coal and left for

Yokohama. I arrived there in September 1877. I sold two lots of coal one of 107 tons and one of 134 at \$10 per ton to Russian ships and collected the money. I was also the means of selling 100 tons to an Italian man-of-war at the same price. It was effected through Domoney & Co. Mr. Domoney deducted his bill against the ship from it and gave me a note of the balance which I gave to Mr. Cook. 120 tons was sold to the steamer *Strathairly*. The price was \$10 per ton. This was paid to Mr. Cook. 135 tons were sold to the U.S. frigate *Tennessee*. It was done, I believe, between Mr. Cook and Messrs. Langfeldt and Myers. The price was \$9.25 per ton, which was collected by Mr. Cook. 42½ tons, the balance, were landed at Mr. Cook's yard. I kept the money I received for the coal supplied to the Russians and credited the ship with it, with the exception of \$240 which I gave to Mr. Cook. Except the amount deducted by Mr. Domoney, and the amount received from the Italian, I have received no money. I left Yokohama again in December 1877. The ship was chartered by Edward Fischer & Co. to load wheat in native bags. We lay here some time loading. We left for Amoy. The loading took about twenty days. Mr. Cook told me there was such a charter in the market. I went ashore the following day and closed the charter with Fischer & Co. Mr. Cook supplied me with goods for the voyage. Our relations were amicable. Mr. Cook towed me out the day that I left. He came on board before he left me altogether, shook hands and exchanged oil coats. From the first time I was made master Mr. Cook never had possession of the ship. From the time I left until the loss of the ship, I never received any protest from Mr. Cook as to the manner in which I was employing the ship. There was no change whatever in my position after September 1875. From Amoy I went to Bangkok and thence to Hongkong. From Hongkong back to Amoy. Next I chartered either for Chefoo or Newchwang. I kept the ship going all the time to the best of my ability. I made small coasting voyages all the time. In September 1879, I recaptured the ship at Amoy. I wrote to Cook in January 1879, asking his permission to do this in Yokohama. I got no reply to that. In January 1878, I wrote a friendly letter from Amoy saying that I was chartered. While at Amoy I received a letter from Mr. Cook. I got it in May as I had been down at Bangkok. It was very friendly, wishing me the compliments of the season. After recapturing I chartered for Penang and back to touch at Taiwan-foo; the charter was for \$3,500; I took tiles and crockery down and brought back mangrove bark. I was on the return trip, within a day's sail of Taiwan on the 15th of January 1880, when as we were wearing ship, she struck on a sand beach. A light had been reported ahead, in consequence of which I was wearing ship. This was at 9 p.m. with very thick rainy weather. I had had no observations for three or four days in consequence. I could not see the land; the light must have been some lantern ashore. I had a sailor and an officer always on watch. I was on deck when the ship struck. I was anxious to get along as times were so bad. I took every proper precaution. At 8 p.m. I sighted an island. I was under easy sail standing toward the eastward. I had been looking all the afternoon for the island called Fonio Island. On sighting the island I wore ship and stood to the westward. About an hour afterwards I was ashore. I had taken Steep Island for Fonio Island. This made me 56 miles out of my course. When the ship struck I was actually wearing. We could see no land. After she struck, I got the boats ready but did not land. I hoisted cargo overboard all night to try and get her nearer shore. It cleared next morning but there was a very heavy sea and no boats could near us. We remained helpless for three or four days. As soon as I could I applied to Mr. Ford British Consul at Tamsui for assistance, and the next day he sent a Chinese gunboat. She could not venture in owing to the heavy sea. The cargo was afterwards landed in native boats. These papers [produced] I received from the British Consul at Tamsui. They are replies to my letters to him. The cargo was stored. I made several attempts to get the ship off, but all were unsuccessful. When the Consul refused to advance any more money on the ship I was helpless and had no alternative but to sell the ship; she realized altogether about \$2,900. Mr. White had placed himself down in Lloyds register as sole owner

of the ship and this caused difficulty in me obtaining funds in the absence of a certificate of sale. Mr. Cook and myself applied for a certificate of sale. One came to Yokohama accordingly and was received by Cook. I saw it on his possession. It was useless then, and I did not ask him when it arrived. I believe I wrote for it in December 1877. There has never been my balance struck between Mr. Cook and myself.

The Court here adjourned until 10 a.m. to-morrow.

Friday, February 18th, 1881.

On the opening of the Court Mr. Lowder commenced his cross-examination.

Witness:—I admit that if Mr. Cook asked for them, it was my duty to furnish him with accounts of the ship while I was sailing her. Also of investments on profit arising from them, on account of the ship, which came into my hands. I have given no accounts of any kind. I admit the partnership as to the ownership and the division of profits in proportion to the shares. Except the money alleged in the evidence yesterday, to have been collected I admit that from 1873 to 1880 I received all the monies paid on account of the ship. The ship made forty-one voyages in all; she was on her forty-second trip when she was lost. I have kept an account of all these sums. During the period mentioned, I was not managing owner of the ship.

Mr. Lowder:—Now before you answer so positively, I would ask you to refresh your memory with a perusal of this letter addressed by you to Mr. Cook.

His Honour asked Mr. Lowder what he intended to prove by this cross-examination.

Mr. Lowder said that it affected one of the points at issue.

Witness:—This letter is dated September 2nd, 1880. I still say I was never managing owner.

Mr. Lowder now read an extract from the letter in which were the words "you know I am the managing owner."

Witness:—If there were any earnings I paid ship's expenses and remitted the balance to Mr. Cook. I have kept accurate accounts of the receipt and expenses. I have accounts of the monies which I allege that the defendant has received. I deny entirely that in 1877 an agreement was come to between myself and the defendant, before I left Yokohama, that the ship should be sold, and no more expenses incurred in repairing her.

Mr. Lowder here showed the witness a proposed bill of sale, dated 10th February 1877, given to empower him to sell the ship.

Witness:—I still deny there was any such agreement come to. What I said yesterday, that I made an application for a certificate of sale, does not recall to me any agreement of the kind. There was no agreement that I should return from Amoy and sell the ship. I deny there was any agreement that I should return straight back from Amoy and sell the ship if possible. I was to find employment for the ship. I wrote afterwards from Amoy asking if I should return in ballast, if I could not find her employment. Mr. Cook induced me to buy the *Parmenio*. We had been on friendly terms for twenty years. There was a verbal agreement that I should get \$200 per month; I can't say when or where it was made but it has never been disputed. I don't consider it was too high; I only got \$75 per month from the ship, the rest came from my own shares in her. I have drawn no wages. Had the defendant met me I would have reduced them, to make a settlement. I didn't draw my wages for the last two or three years. The ship found me, all but my clothing. I can't tell what my average monthly expenses may have been. I have no recollection whatever of going with Mr. Cook to the Oriental Bank and drawing the £600 and \$1,000 mentioned in a letter yesterday as having been deposited there. It is the biggest falsehood that ever was stated. I never went there with him in my life. I had instructed him to place the money I remitted from Australia to the credit of the ship. I have received no portion of it. I paid the \$941 demurrage mentioned yesterday, to Cook at my cabin table. No one was present but my servant, a Chinawoman. Mr. Cook gave her \$5 there and then, as a present, to make buttons for her coat. When the \$2,900 balance of the charter money was paid, I myself, Mr. Farmer, Mr. White, Mr. Cook, and two

Japanese were present. I did not receive the money myself. Mr. Cook himself paid the bill for \$2285.55 for repairs. At any rate, he kept the money. I never asked for the promissory note, but Mr. and Mrs. Cook both proposed that I should take it, as I was going away to sea and no one knew what might happen. I could not tell if the sum mentioned was due to me and said it was quite unnecessary for me to take it.

Mr. Lowder here referred to the letter previously shown to witness dated 2nd September, 1880, in which he stated that the promissory note was for wages to date and a few other items.

Witness:—I can't say what those other items are. If Cook had said to me that the sum mentioned when he gave me the note was all that was due to me I should have believed it, and would have accepted it, with the understanding that the accounts should be gone through afterwards. It is my opinion now that a larger amount is due to me. I have no acknowledgment from Cook of a larger amount being due. I am not sure whether the Russian man-of-war I mentioned yesterday was the *Boyan* or not. The coal supplied her fetched \$2,364. Mr. Cook never came on board the *Parmenio* and handed me the money. The coal supplied to the other Russian was \$1,923. I do not recollect Mr. Cook ever paying me that amount. I do not recollect collecting \$1,250 for 100 tons of coals sold to the *Dwarf* and the *Charybdis*. I gave credit for the \$100 Mr. Cook gave me. It is all I ever received out of that coal. By referring to my accounts I could tell exactly what I drew. About the time of selling the first cargo of coals, I may have drawn \$2,000 or thereabouts, including the \$400 I took to sea. I advanced £79 for the purchase of the second cargo of coals. This money was the proceeds of the sale of some curios I had taken down to Australia. They were bought with my own money. I drew £35 for the first lot of coals, on my Melbourne Agents. In my letter of 14th July, 1877, I said I had succeeded in saving enough money to buy coals for the ship, but I had not gone properly into the accounts. This letter [dated 23rd July, 1877] does not make any reference to my having advanced the £35. I employed an accountant to make up my claim against Mr. Cook, and he has done that from my rough accounts. In my letter of 30th May [exhibit M] I wrongly debited Mr. Cook with half the I.O.U. for \$1,000 advanced to Domoney & Co. but he has since passed the I.O.U. over to me, and I have charged it all to myself. It was the ship's money, but I have taken over and charged it to myself. We both sold the coal to the *Strathairly*. Mr. Cook did not pay this money to me in banknotes. I did not sell the coal to the *Tennessee* through Carroll & Co., for a less sum than \$9.25 per ton. I am not certain that it was sold through Langfeldt & Mayers. Mr. Cook took the matter out of my hands. We had a slight dispute about this, as I had given Carroll & Co. the refusal. It was the first dispute we ever had. I did not collect the money, and do not know to this day if it has been collected. I don't recollect writing any letters to Mr. Cook except in January 1878, and January 1879. I remember them because one was about coppering, and the other about going to Bangkok. I kept no copies or memoranda. Mr. Cook generally replied to my letters when I wrote to him. I didn't correspond very regularly from 1873 to 1877.

Mr. Lowder quoted the following passage from plaintiff's letter dated September 2nd 1880: "I am sorry for what you call my neglect in not writing," and asked if that did not remind him of not having written at all.

Witness:—Certainly not. It seems odd Mr. Cook should have received all my letters but the two I mentioned. I have not accounted to him for the sale of the *Parmenio*. I do not believe Mr. Cook would have met me to go over the accounts. I tried some five months before this case came on to come to a settlement with him.

The Court then adjourned until 1.30 p.m.

On the Court re-opening Mr. Hill said he had a few questions to ask.

Witness:—The proposed certificate of sale shown me now was sent home for registration, but was returned because it was not accompanied with a declaration of ownership. Afterwards I sent this, to Dundee. In reply a certificate of sale was sent out; I saw it and read it. It came out addressed to me but Mr. Cook received it during my absence. I couldn't tell the date but I think it was 1878

When I saw the certificate of sale I didn't take much notice of it because the limitation had run out.

The document was handed to His Honour for examination. After perusing it and the Registrar's letter accompanying, His Honour said that the letter pointed out that the application was still erroneous and imperfect. Doubtless the witness had jumped at the conclusion that it was correct.

Witness:—When I bought the *Parmenio*, at Mr. Cook's suggestion, she was dismantled. Mr. Cook was to rig her and come in as owner of 20/64, the ship being valued at \$16,000. The first agreement was that his whole bill should go in as contributed by him. At the settlement with Mr. White my wages were computed at \$200 per month. There was no dispute. The amount of my personal expenses, for which I have given credit to the ship had nothing to do with my wages. There were 111 tons of coals, of the second cargo, which I omitted to mention yesterday. They were sold to a Russian man-of-war at \$10 per ton. I did not collect that money.

By a juror:—I think Domoney & Co. were connected with Mr. Cook in the sale. I have omitted this sum from the account I have drawn up, as my mind is not clear if it is collected. When I squared up with Mr. White both he and Mr. Cook knew I was getting \$200 per month. The money I received at Shinagawa was 800 yen in paper and 135 gold yen. I took receipts from the Russian man-of-war but nothing from Mr. Cook. When I left Japan, I had no special agents abroad. When in Yokohama, I paid all the shipchandler's accounts. Up to the time of this action, we were always on amicable terms. The day before I sailed for Amoy in 1877 Mr. Cook put \$500 on board the ship. It was at my own request, to be used for ship's disbursements, or in case of trouble. It was well understood between us that Mr. Cook had power to sell this coal. We worked together.

Mr. Hill by consent now put in the *Japan Gazette* of the 21st December 1877, with the advertisement of sale of coal ex *Parmenio*, application to be made to H. Cook.

Robert Beattie, sworn, stated:—I am a British subject residing at No. 121, settlement. In 1875 I was employed in Yokohama, by Mr. Cook. I know Captain Abbott of the *Parmenio*. I recollect his arrival here at the fall of that year with a cargo of coal. I received, into Mr. Cook's yard, about 150 tons of that coal. It was in December. I was in Mr. Cook's employ some time after. 100 tons of the coal went to Her Majesty's Navy and the remainder was sold in small lots. Several lots of the cargo itself was sold to the Russian navy. I made the bills out by Captain Abbott's and Mr. Cook's instructions. I was present with Mr. Cook on board the Russian corvette *Askol*, when Mr. Cook received payment for 197 tons. That is the only one I was present at. The bills were made out in the name of the captain and owners of the *Parmenio*. I did not keep Mr. Cook's accounts. I made out the bills, and a mark was made on the rough book. I was employed as clerk. I have not got the book. I remember checking off some other bills. The *Saco* was there. I handed that bill to Captain Abbott to collect. I checked off small lots also. Beyond the bills for the *Saco*, the Russian Corvette, and what went out of the yard, I did not make out any other bills. I did not see anything paid for the coal supplied to the other Russian man-of-war. I have lived in Yokohama nine or ten years and am acquainted with many ship captains who come here. I was at sea myself, in my young days. I can't say what would be a fair remuneration for a captain of a 600 tons barque.

Cross-examined by Mr. Lowder:—Mr. Cook instructed me not to trouble my head about the *Parmenio*'s accounts as Captain Abbott would attend to them himself. I made out the bills for the *Dwarf* and *Charybdis*. I gave them to Mr. Cook. I occasionally collected bills for him, but not these. Mr. Cook and brought the money from the *Askol* ashore, it was all dollars tied up in a black bag with my own necktie. The following day I helped Mr. Cook to put the same bag into a boat. It seemed to be about the same weight as before and had my necktie still round it. It appeared to me not to have been opened. He told me he was going to take it to Captain Abbott. I saw him afterwards, but he did not refer to the matter. I was in Mr. Cook's employ in December 1877. I remember hearing a conversation between the two parties in Mr. Cook's dining-

room that month. It was with relation to the voyage of the *Parmenio* to Amoy. Mr. Cook's brother was present. I gathered from their conversation that the barque was to return to Yokohama to be sold as soon as possible.

By a juror:—Mr. Cook and Mr. Abbott were always very good friends then and seemed to trust each other implicitly. The conversation had been lasted sometime before I overheard this remark.

In reply to a question from Mr. Hill, His Honour said that he thought he should leave only Issues 5 and 7 to the decision of the jury.

Edward Fischer, sworn, stated:—I am a British subject residing at No. 24, Yokohama. I am a merchant of a number of years standing in Japan. I chartered the British barque *Parmenio* in December 1877. The freight was wheat for Amoy. She was about fifteen days loading. The negotiations for the charter took many weeks. I tried during the time to get other vessels, but she was the only one disengaged. I understood the *Parmenio* belonged to Messrs. Cook and Abbott. My house has had the agency of ships and has been accustomed to make disbursements on account of ships. I should call the *Parmenio* a 600 ton ship. From my own experience, I should say that \$130 would be fair wages, \$100 would be low, and \$200 would be high for the captain of such a ship. I had personally no dealings with Mr. Cook. I didn't conduct all the details. Mr. Macbrill Smith conducted the majority.

Cross-examined:—I only chartered the ship to Amoy.

William MacDonald, sworn, stated:—I am a British subject. I remember the *Parmenio* coming here with a cargo of coal, and having five tons of it myself. Captain Scott got it for me, and I believe it was from Mr. Cook. I have had some experience about ships and have been a master myself. I know that wages out here run 100 per cent. higher than in Great Britain. I think that for a ship of 600 tons like the *Parmenio* £600 a year would be a fair sum.

The Court here adjourned until 9.30 a.m. to-morrow.

THE DEMON ARCHITECT.

In connection with the recent great opening ceremonial at Cologne Cathedral the following legend, as suggesting its plan, will be found of interest:

Mighty was the Archbishop Conrad de Hochsteden, for he was lord over the chief city of the Rhine, the City of Cologne; but his thoughts were troubled and his heart was heavy, for though his churches were rich beyond compare in relics, yet other towns not half so large or powerful as his had cathedrals whose fame extended over Europe, and whose beauty brought pilgrims to their shrine, profit to the ecclesiastics and business to the townspeople. After many sleepless nights, therefore, he determined to add to this city the only thing wanting to complete it, and sending for the most famous architect of the time, he commissioned him to complete the plan for the Cathedral of Cologne.

Now, the architect was a clever man, but he was more vain than clever. He had a dreamy notion of magnificence, which he desired to achieve without a clear conception of how he was to do it, or without the will to make the necessary sacrifices of labor, care and perseverance. He received the commission with great gladness, and gloated for some days upon the fame which would be his as the builder of the structure which the Archbishop desired; but after this vision of glory, when he took out his design, he was thrown into despondency. He drew and drew and drew, and added and erased and corrected, and began again, but still did not succeed. Not a plan could he complete. Some were too mean, others too extravagant, and others, when done and examined, were found to be good, but not original. Efforts of memory instead of imagination, their points of excellence were discovered to be copies—a tower from one, a spire from another, an aisle from a third and an altar from a fourth, and one after another they were cast aside as imperfect and useless, until the draughtsman, more than half crazy, felt inclined to end his troubles and perplexities by a plunge into the Rhine.

In this mood of more than half despair he wandered down to the river's edge, and seating himself upon a stone began to draw in the sand with a measuring rod, which served him as a walking stick, the outlines of various parts of a church. Ground plans, towers, finials, brackets, windows, columns, appeared one after another, traced by the point of his wand, but all, one after another, were erased as unequal and insufficient for the purpose, and unworthy to form a part of the design for a Cathedral of Cologne. Turning round the architect was aware that another person was beside him, and with surprise the disappointed draughtsman saw that the stranger was also busily inventing a design. Rapidly on the sand he sketched the details of a most magnificent building, its towers rising to the clouds, its long aisles and lofty choir stretching away before the eyes of the gazer until he mentally confessed it was indeed a temple worthy of the Most High. The windows were enriched by tracery, such as artist never had before conceived, and the lofty columns reared their tall length towards a roof which seemed to claim kindred with the clouds and to equal the firmament

in expanse and beauty. But each line of this long-sought plan vanished the moment it was seen, and, with a complete conviction of its excellence, when it was gone, not a portion of it could the architect remember.

"Your sketch is excellent," said he to the unknown; "it is what I have thought and dreamed of—what I have sought for and wished for, and have not been able to find. Give it to me on paper and I will pay you twenty gold pieces."

"Twenty pieces! ha! ha! Twenty gold pieces!" laughed the stranger. "Look here!" and from a doublet that did not seem big enough to hold half the money, he drew forth a purse that certainly held a thousand.

The night had closed in and the architect was desperate. "If money cannot tempt you fear shall force you," and, springing towards the stranger, he plucked a dagger from his girdle and held its point close to the breast of the mysterious draughtsman in the attitude to strike. In a moment his wrists were pinioned as with the grasp of a vice, and squeezed until he dropped his weapon, and shrieked in agony. Falling on the sands, he writhed like an eel upon the fisherman's hook, and plunged and struggled in vain. When nearly fainting he found himself thrown helpless upon the very brink of the stream.

"There, revive and be reasonable. Learn that gold and steel have no power over me. You want my cathedral, for it would bring you honor, fame and profit, and you can have it if you choose."

"How? Tell me how."

"By signing this parchment with your blood."

"Avaunt, fiend!" shrieked the architect. "In the name of the Saviour I bid thee begone." And so saying, he made the sign of the cross, and the Evil One (for it was he) was forced to vanish before the holy symbol. He made time, however, to mutter, "You'll come for the plan at midnight to-morrow."

The artist staggered home, half dead with contending passions, and muttering, "Sell my soul," "to-morrow at midnight," "honor and fame," and other words, which told the inward struggle going forward in his soul. When he reached his lodgings he met the only servant he had going out wrapped in her cloak.

"And where are you going so late?" asked her surprised master.

"To mass, for a soul in purgatory," was the reply.

"Oh, horror! horror! no mass will avail me. To everlasting torments I shall be doomed!" And, hurrying to his room, he cast himself down in tears of remorse, irresolution and despair. In this state his old house-keeper discovered him on her return from her holy errand; and her soul being full of charity and kindly religion, she begged to know what had caused such grief and spoke of patience in suffering and pardon by repentance. Her words fell upon the disordered ear of the architect with a heavy comfort and he told her what had passed.

"Mercy me!" was her exclamation. "Tempted by the fiend himself! so strongly, too!" and so saying she left the chamber without another word, and hurried off to her confessor.

Now the confessor of Dame Elfrida was the friend of the Abbot, and the Abbot was the constant counsellor of the Archbishop, and so soon as the housekeeper spoke of the wonderful plan he told her he would soon see her master, and went at once to his superior. That dignitary immediately pictured to himself the hosts of pilgrims that would seek a cathedral built with skill from such wonderful sketches, and (hoping himself one day to be Archbishop) he hurried off to the bewildered architect.

He found him still in bed, and listened with surprise to the glowing account of the Demon's plan.

"And would it be equal to all this?"

"It would."

"Could you build it?"

"I could."

"Would not pilgrims come to worship in such a cathedral?"

"By thousands."

"Listen, my son! Go at midnight to the appointed spot; take this relic with you;" and so saying the Abbot gave him a holy morsel of one of the Eleven Thousand Virgins. "Agree to the terms for the design you have so long desired, and when you have got it and the Evil One presents the parchment for your signature, show this sacred bone."

After long pondering, the priest's advice was taken, and in the gloom of night the architect was seen tremblingly hurrying to the place of meeting. True to his time, the Fiend was there, and with a smile complimented the artist on his punctuality. Drawing from his doublet two parchments, he opened one, on which he traced the outlines of the cathedral, and then another written in some mysterious character, and having a yellow brimstone space left for a signature.

"Let me examine what I am to pay so dearly for."

"Most certainly," said the Demon, with a smile and a bow that would have done honor to the court of the Emperor.

Pressing it with one hand to his breast the architect with the other held up the holy thumb bone and exclaimed, "Avaunt, Fiend! In the name of the Father and the Son and the Holy Virgins of Cologne, I bid thee, Satan, defiance!" and he described the sign of the cross directly against the devil's face.

In an instant the smile and the graceful civility were gone. With a hideous grin he approached the sacred relic as though he would have strangled the possessor; and yelling with a sound that woke half the sleepers in Cologne, he skipped round and round the artist. Still, however, the plan was held tightly with one hand, and the relic held forward like a soldier's rapier with the other. As the Fiend turned, so turned the architect, until, bethinking himself that another prayer would help him, he called loudly on St. Ursula. The Demon could stand the fight no longer; the chief of the Eleven Thousand Virgins was too much for him.

"None but a confessor could have told you how to cheat me," he shrieked in the most cynical voice; "but I will be revenged. You have a more wonderful and perfect design than ever entered the

brain of man. You want fame—the priest wants a church and pilgrims. Listen! That cathedral shall never be finished and your name shall be forgotten!"

As the dreadful words broke upon his ear the cloak of the tempter stretched out into huge, black wings, which were flapped over the spot like two dark thunder clouds, and with such violence that the winds were raised from their slumber, and a storm rose upon the waters of the Rhine. Hurrying homewards, the relic placed at arm's length over his head, he reached the Abbot's house in safety. But the ominous sentence still rang in his ears: "Unfinished and unknown."

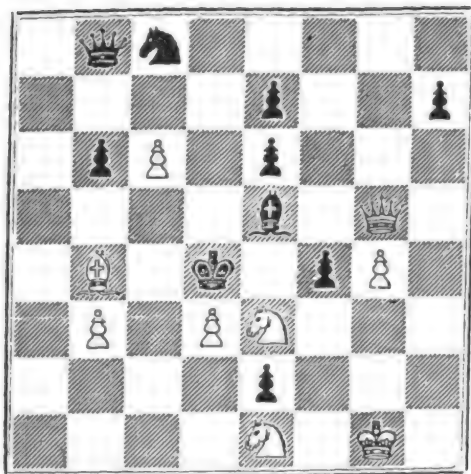
Day, months, years passed by, and the cathedral, commenced with vigor, was growing into form. The architect had long before determined that an inscription should be engraved upon a plate of brass, shaped like a cross, and be fastened upon the front of the first tower that reached a good elevation. His vanity already anticipated a triumph over the Fiend whom he defrauded. He was author of the building which the world could not equal, and in the pride of his heart defied all evil chances to deprive him of fame. Going to the top of the building to see where his name should be placed, he looked over the edge of the building to decide if it were lofty enough to deserve the honor of the inscription, when the workmen were aware of a black cloud which suddenly enveloped them and burst in thunder and hail. Looking around when the cloud passed away, their master was gone, and one of them declared that amidst the noise of the explosion he heard a wail of agony, which seemed to say, "Unfinished and unknown."

When they descended the tower the body of the architect lay crushed upon the pavement. The traveller, until lately, beheld the building as it was on the morning when he fell there, and thousands have sought in vain to learn the name of the architect of Cologne.

CHESS PROBLEM.

By G. B. VALLE.

BLACK.



WHITE.

White to play and mate in 3 moves.

SOLUTION OF CHESS PROBLEM OF FEB. 12TH, BY J. H. WESCOTT.

White.

1.—R. to Q. 4, ch.

2.—Kt. to Kt. 3.

3.—Kt. to B. 3, mate.

Black.

1.—K. to Kt. 4.

2.—P. advances.

Or

1.—K. to K. 4.

2.—P. takes Kt.

2.—K. to B. 7.

3.—Kt. to B. 3, mate.

Correct solution received from Q., and Omega.

NATIVE CURRENCY QUOTATIONS.

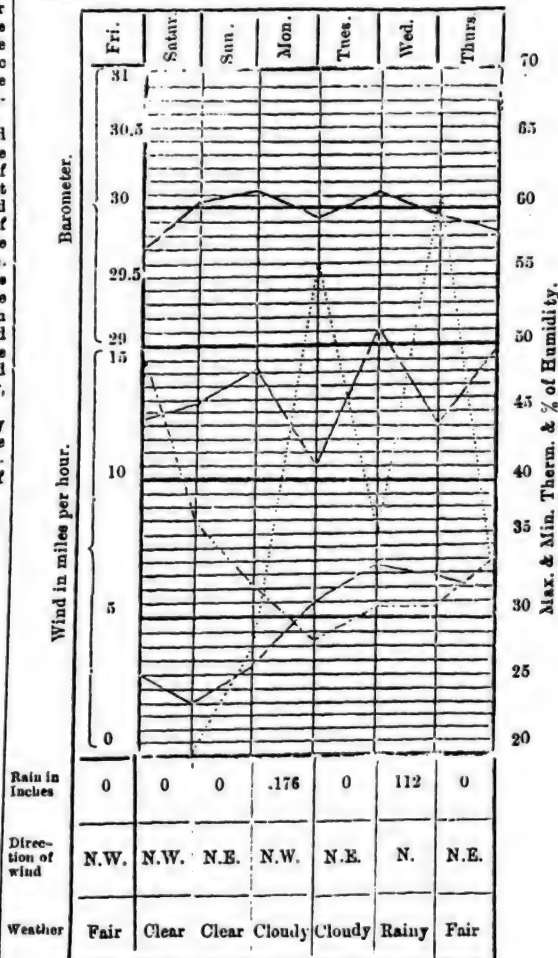
(For Week Ending 19th February, 1881.)

	A. M.	Discount on Yen Satz.		Gold Yen.	Nibus.	Silver Subsidiary (New.)	Silver Subsidiary (Old.)
		Open.	Closing.				
1881							
Saturday	12	74 3/4	75 1/4	75 1/4	—	—	—
Monday	14	75 1/8	75	76 1/8	—	—	—
Tuesday	15	76 1/8	75	74 1/8	—	—	—
Wednesday	16	74 3/4	75 1/4	75 1/4	—	—	—
Thursday	17	75 1/8	75	75	—	—	—
Friday	18	75 1/8	75	76 1/8	—	—	—
Saturday	19	76 1/4	76 1/4	76 1/4	—	—	—

METEOROLOGICAL REPORT

FOR WEEK BEGINNING FRIDAY, FEBRUARY 11TH, 1881.

Observatory of Daigaku, Moto-Fujicho, Hongu, Tokio, Japan.



REMARKS.

Heavy line represents barometer.

Light continuous line—max. & min. thermometers.

.....represents velocity of wind.

.....percentage of humidity.

Max. velocity of wind 43 miles per hour on Friday at 7 p.m.

The barometer is reduced to the freezing point and to the level of the sea.

The highest reading of the barometer for the week was 30.183 inches on Sunday at 10 a.m. and the same reading was made on Tuesday at 9.27 p.m. The lowest was 29.572 inches on Friday at 2 p.m.

The highest temperature for the week was 51° on Thursday, and the lowest was 34° on Saturday. The maximum and minimum for the corresponding week of last year were 63° and 34° respectively.

The total amount of rain for the week was .288 inches against a total of .975 inches for the corresponding week of last year.

SHIPPING INTELLIGENCE.

INWARDS.

Feb. 14, Japanese steamer *Niigata Maru*, Walker, 1,603, from Hongkong, Mails and General, to M. B. Co.
 Feb. 14, Japanese steamer *Wakanoura Maru*, Christensen, 1,300, from Kobe, Mails and General, to M. B. Co.
 Feb. 15, British steamer *Gleniffer*, Graham, 1,360, from London via Shanghai, General, to Jardine, Matheson & Co.
 Feb. 16, German schooner *Benedicta*, Jansen, 247, from Takao, Sugar, to Chinese.
 Feb. 17, Japanese steamer *Takasago Maru*, Young, 1,230, from Shanghai and ports, Mails and General, to M. B. Co.
 Feb. 17, Japanese steamer *Kinshin Maru*, Davidson, 690, from Kobe, Mails and General, to M. B. Co.
 Feb. 17, Japanese barque *Kanagawa Maru*, Eckstrand, 1,184, from Nagasaki, Coal, to M. B. Co.
 Feb. 17, British steamer *Sanda*, Reeves, 1,704, from Hongkong via Nagasaki, Mails and General, to P. & O. Co.
 Feb. 19, Japanese steamer *Shinagawa Maru*, Walker, 908, from Kobe, Mails and General, to M. B. Co.

PASSENGERS.

Per British steamer *Gleniffer*, from London via Shanghai:—Mr. George Ford.

Per Japanese steamer *Takasago Maru* from Shanghai and ports:—Mr. and Mrs. Pratteoff and servant, Messrs. Mototteof, A. Worth, J. Colomb, E. C. Kirby, J. Reid, and 11 Japanese in cabin; 2 European, 2 Chinese, and 200 Japanese in the steerage.

Per British steamer *Santa* from Hongkong via Nagasaki:—Two Chinese in steerage.

Per Japanese steamer *Shinagawa Maru* from Kobe:—Mr. Oliver Smith in cabin; 1 European, and 82 Japanese in the steerage.

OUTWARDS.

Feb. 12, British steamer *Guelic*, Kidley, 2,652, for Hongkong, Mails and General, despatched by O. & O. Co.

Feb. 13, Japanese steamer *Shinagawa Maru*, Walker, 908, for Kobe, Mails and General, despatched by M. B. Co.

Feb. 14, British barque *Bride*, Sutherland, 390, for Kobe, Ballast, despatched by Jardine, Matheson & Co.

Feb. 15, Japanese steamer *Takachiku Maru*, Nye, 1,407, for Kobe, Mails and General, despatched by M. B. Co.

Feb. 15, American ship *Huyenot*, Nickerson, 1,181, for Kobe, Original cargo.

Feb. 16, Japanese steamer *Tokio Maru*, Swain, 1,146, for Shanghai and ports, Mails and General, despatched by M. B. Co.

Feb. 17, Japanese steamer *Shario Maru*, Kilgour, 624, for Samowara, Mails and General, despatched by M. B. Co.

Feb. 17, Japanese steamer *Wakamatsu Maru*, Christensen, 1,300, for Kobe, Mails and General, despatched by M. B. Co.

Feb. 18, French barque *Caroline*, Voisin, 70, for Kobe, General despatched by M. Raspe.

Feb. 19, French steamer *Volga*, Guiraud, 1,502, for Hongkong, Mails and General, despatched by M. M. Co.

Feb. 19, Japanese steamer *Nigata Maru*, Walker, 1,603, for Hongkong via Kobe, Mails and General, despatched by M. B. Co.

PASSENGERS.

Per Japanese steamer *Nigata Maru* from Hongkong via Kobe:—Messrs. C. J. Strome, and Dujimura in cabin; 120 Japanese in the steerage.

Per Japanese steamer *Tokio Maru* for Shanghai and way ports:—Col. Fletcher and wife, Mr. and Mrs. Namba, Mr. and Mrs. Roth and infant, Messrs. Goble, Father, R. Gother, Dr. L. H. Gulick, Capt. Hay, Gergen, Mitani, Asaigi, Yamanaoka, Saito, J. A. Thomson, Takashima, Nagomatsu, Takinaka, Ide, C. C. Coleman, Sekiguchi, Hara, Katsura, and K. Elie.

Per French steamer *Volga* for Hongkong:—Messrs. P. Sarage, C. Fucher, A. Yuni, H. Geslin, and M. Sporer.

Per Japanese steamer *Nigata Maru* for Hongkong via Kobe:—Messrs. G. Sale, F. Elgar, Abe, Nishino, Kameshima, and Mori.

CARGOES.

Per Japanese steamer *Tokio Maru* for Shanghai and ports:—Treasure... .. \$303,000.00

Per Japanese steamer *Takasago Maru* from Shanghai and ports:—Treasure... .. \$15,000.00

Per British steamer *Santa* from Hongkong via Nagasaki:—Transshipment:

Merchandise... .. 292 pkgs.

Sundries... .. 302 "

Total... .. 594 pkgs.

Local:

Sugar... .. 1,411 bags.

Sundries... .. 170 pkgs.

Total... .. 1,581 pkgs.

Per Japanese steamer *Shinagawa Maru* from Kobe:—Treasure... .. \$15,000

Per French steamer *Volga* for Hongkong:—Silk for Continent... .. 456 bales.

" " England... .. 73 "

Total... .. 529 bales.

Per Japanese steamer *Nigata Maru* for Hongkong via Kobe:—Treasure... .. yen 50,000

REPORTS.

The Japanese steamer *Wakamatsu Maru* reports:—Had a 34 hours passage from Kobe; fine weather all the way.

The Japanese steamer *Nigata Maru* reports:—Left Hongkong February 5th, and Kobe February 12th; fine weather all the way. Arrived in Yokohama, February 14th, at 2.30 a.m.

The British steamer *Gleniffer* reports:—Fine weather and moderate N.E. winds till the 13th; rounded Satano Misaki at noon. On the 14th, experienced very unsettled weather, terrific squalls, and rain with a nasty cross sea. On the 15th at 4 a.m., weather more moderate. At 8 passed Rock Island; from there to port moderate northerly wind and fine weather.

The German schooner *Benedicta* reports:—Fresh winds and rain throughout the voyage.

YOKOSUKA STEAMERS TIME TABLE.

LEAVE YOKOHAMA.

DAILY:—8.30, and 9.45 a.m.; 12.00, 1.30, and 4.15 p.m.

LEAVE YOKOSUKA.

DAILY:—6.45 and 9.30 a.m., and 12.00; 1.30 and 4.00 p.m.

NEXT MAIL DUE FROM.

AMERICA	P. M. Co.	
AMERICA	O. & O. Co.	Feb. 28th
EUROPE, via HONGKONG	M. M. Co.	Feb. 22nd
HONGKONG	P. & O. Co.	Mar. 4th
HONGKONG, via KOBE	M. B. Co.	Feb. 28th
HONGKONG	P. M. Co.	Feb. 27th
HONGKONG	O. & O. Co.	
SHANGHAI, HIOGO & NAGASAKI	M. B. Co.	Feb. 27th

- 1.—Left San Francisco, February 8th, *Oceanic*.
- 2.—Left Hongkong, February 15th, at 3 p.m., *Tanais*.

NEXT MAIL LEAVES FOR.

AMERICA	P. M. Co.	Mar. 1st
AMERICA	O. & O. Co.	Mar. 18th
EUROPE, via HONGKONG	P. & O. Co.	Feb. 25th
EUROPE, via HONGKONG	M. M. Co.	Mar. 5th
HAOKODATE	M. B. Co.	
HONGKONG, via KOBE	M. B. Co.	Mar. 5th
HONGKONG	O. & O. Co.	Mar. 2nd
HONGKONG	P. M. Co.	
SHANGHAI, HIOGO & NAGASAKI	M. B. Co.	Feb. 23rd

The arrival and departure of mails by the "Occidental and Oriental," the "Pacific Mail," and the "Peninsular and Oriental" companies, are approximate only.

VESSELS EXPECTED IN JAPAN.

S A I L E D.

DATE.	NAME OF VESSEL.	FROM	FOR
July 23	Furness Abbey	LONDON	Hiogo
Sept. 26	Anna Seiben	ANTWERP	Yokohama
July 17	Ste. Lucie	PHILADELPHIA	"
" 11	Auguste	SWANSEA	Nagasaki
Aug. 7	Philip Nelson	HAMBURG	Yokohama
Nov. 18	Pakhoi (s.s.)	GLASGOW	Jap. via Manila
" 19	Ordovic	LONDON	Yokohama
" 22	Malacca	HAMBURG	Yoko. & Hiogo
" 25	Gleniffer (s.s.)	LONDON	" "
Dec. 8	Flintshire (s.s.)	"	" "
" 19	Telemachus (s.s.)	"	" "
" 17	Marie	ANTWERP	" "

CHURCH SERVICES.

CHRIST CHURCH.

Sunday Morning 11 a.m.

" Evening 5.30 p.m.

E. CHAMPNEYS IRWINE, M.A.,
The Parsonage, 101.

UNION CHURCH, No. 167.

Sunday Morning 11 a.m.

" Evening 8 p.m.

REV. LUTHER H. GULICK, M.D.,
Pastor.

LIGHTSHIP SIGNALS.

The following are the signals made from the lightship to denote the approach of vessels:—

Merchant steamer:—A black ball, with the national flag of the vessel below, at the yard arm.

Mail steamer:—A black diamond, with the company's flag below, at the peak.

Man-of-war:—National flag of the vessel at the peak.

Sailing vessels:—For a ship: flag B. (red); barque, flag C. (red ball on white ground); brig, flag D. (white ball on blue ground); schooner, flag E. (white ball on red ground) all commercial code, with the vessel's national flag below as soon as it can be made out.

SHIPPING INTELLIGENCE.

VESSELS IN HARBOUR. *

NAME.	CAPTAIN.	FLAG AND REG.	TONS.	FROM.	ARRIVED.	CONSIGNEES.
STEAMERS.						
Gleniffer	Graham	British steamer	1,273	London via Shanghai	Feb. 15	Jardine, Matheson & Co.
Menzaleh	Homery	French steamer	1,273	Hongkong	Feb. 10	M. M. Co.
Sunda	Reeves	British steamer	1,704	Hongkong via Nagasaki	Feb. 17	P. & O. Co.
Takasago Maru	Young	Japanese steamer	1,230	Shanghai & ports	Feb. 16	M. B. Co.
SAILING SHIPS.						
Anna Wichhorst	Brandit	German schooner	384	Takao	Feb. 10	Chinese
Alexander	Carson	American schooner	52	Nagasaki	Nov. 3	J. E. Collyer
Benedicta	Jansen	German schooner	247	Takao	Feb. 16	Chinese
Cilurnum	Beadle	British ship	1,850	Hongkong	Nov. 8	Edward Fischer & Co.
Killer Bank	Parker	British ship	1,145	Middlesborough	Jan. 9	Hudson & Co.
Helena	Ewalt	German schooner	60	Kurile Islands	Oct. 31	Captain
Lottie	Hiltz	German schooner	26	Kurile Islands	Sept. 4	Holnholtz & Co.
Mary C. Bohm	Petersen	German schooner	55	Kurile Islands	Oct. 24	P. Bohm
North Star	Johnson	Russian schooner	42	Kurile Islands	Nov. 16	H. W. Hohnholz & Co.
Otome	Hardy	American schooner	72	Kurile Islands	Dec. 13	H. Snow
Otsego	Isaacson	Russian schooner	46	Kurile Islands	Nov. 3	H. Cook
Pioneer	Maier	Russian schooner	72	Bono, via Hakodate	Jan. 17	Walsh, Hall & Co.
Presto	Laidman	British barque	384	Takao	Feb. 10	Tai Tuk Tong
Remonstrant	Stoddart	British barque	1,044	London	Feb. 10	Wilkin & Robison
Scottish Fairy	Toozes	British barque	750	Put in dismantled	Oct. 10	Malcolm & Co.
Stella	Werner	American schooner	30	Kurile Islands	Oct. 11	Captain

VESSELS OF WAR IN PORT.

NAME.	GUNS.	TONS.	H. P.	DESCRIPTION.	WHERE FROM.	COMMANDER.
BRITISH—Albatross...	4	894	838	Sloop	Chefoo	Captain Errington
RUSSIAN—Africa...	14	1,400	—	Cruiser	Nagasaki	Captain Aleasoff
" Ermak...	4	375	—	Transport	Hiogo	Captain Kolfohan
" Kniaz Pojarsky...	12	4,291	—	Ironclad	Nagasaki	Captain Tirtoff
" Minin...	16	5,300	6,300	Ironclad	Nagasaki	Captain Nasimoff

VESSELS ON THE BERTH.

DESTINATION.	NAME.	AGENTS.	TO BE DESPATCHED.
San Francisco	City of Peking	P. M. Co.	About March 1st
Shanghai and way-ports	Takasago Maru	M. B. Co.	Feb. 23rd, at 4 P.M.
For London via Kobe Nagasaki and H'kong.	Telemachus	Butterfield & Swire	Quick despatch
San Francisco	Gaelic	O. & O. Co.	March 18th
Hongkong via Nagasaki	Sunda	P. & O. Co.	Feb. 25th
Hongkong via Kobe	Sumida Maru	M. B. Co.	March 5th, at 4 P.M.

COMMERCIAL INTELLIGENCE.

IMPORTS.—A fair business on the whole especially in *Yarns 16/24, Medium* rather active at quotation. *Common* neglected. *Good to Best* holders inclined to be moving. *Shirtings* dull at quotations. *T. Reds* in less demand, arrivals having weakened the market. *Velvets* a shade lower. *Lawns* nominal. *Woollens and Cloth* dull: season drawing to a close.

COTTON YARNS:—

Nos. 16 to 24, Common to Medium ...	per picul	\$29.50 to 31.25
" " " " " " " " " " " " " "	"	\$31.75 to 33.00
Bombay, No. 20 do. ...	"	\$29.50 to 31.25
Nos. 28 to 32, Common to Medium ...	"	\$33.75 to 34.75
" " " " " " " " " " " " " "	"	\$35.50 to 36.50
" " 38 to 42 ...	"	\$39.25 to 40.25

COTTON PIECE GOODS:—

Grey Shirtings:—7 lb. per piece 28½ yds. 39 in.	\$1.25 to 1.65
" " " 8½ lb. " 38½ " 39 in.	\$1.50 to 2.00
" " " 9 lb. " 38½ " 45 in.	\$1.95 to 2.57½
T. Cloths:—7 lb. ... 24 yds. 32 in. per piece	\$1.52½ to 1.67½
Drills, English:—14-15 lb. 40 " 30 in.	\$2.50 to 2.70
Indigo Shirtings:— " 12 " 44 in.	\$1.47½ to 1.57½
Prints:—Assorted ... 24 " 30 in.	\$1.40 to 2.60
Cotton Italians & Sateens Black 32 in.	\$0.09½ to 0.15
Turkey Reds: 2 to 2½ lb. 24 yds. 30 in.	\$1.55 to 1.75
Do. 2½ to 2½ lb. 24 " 30 in.	\$1.70 to 1.85
Do. 3 lb. ... 24 " 30 in.	\$1.85 to 1.95

COTTON PIECE GOODS:—Continued.

Velvets:—Black ... 35 yds. 22 in. per piece	\$7.00 to 8.50
Victoria Lawns ... 12 " 42/3 " "	\$0.76 to 0.77
Taffachelase:— " 12 " 43 " "	\$1.70 to 1.90

WOOLLENS:—

Plain Orleans ... 40-42 yds. 32 in. ...	4.50 to 5.50
Figured Orleans ... 29-30 " 31 " ...	3.50 to 4.25
Lastings ... 29-30 " 31 " ...	10.00 to 11.00
Italian Cloth ... 30 " 32 " ...	0.18 to 0.31
Camlet Gords ... 29-30 " 22 " ...	4.50 to 5.50
Mousselines de Laines:—Crape 24 yds. 30 in. ...	0.16 to 0.17½
do. Itajime 24 " 30 " ...	0.23 to 0.29
do. Yuzen 24 " 30 " ...	0.35 to 0.40
Cloths, all wool plain or fancy ... 48 in. to 52 in. ...	0.80 to 1.50
Pilots ... 54 " to 56 " ...	0.30 to 0.45
Presidents ... 54 " to 56 " ...	0.45 to 0.55
Union ... 54 " to 56 " ...	0.30 to 0.55
Blankets, green, 6 to 8 lbs. ... per lb. ...	0.37 to 0.39

SUGAR.—The *Benedicta* is in from Takao with new crop. Sales have been made at a decline of 8,000 bags new, and 1,000 old at quotations. Stock 51,000 bags.

SAIGON RICE.—Sales of 5,000 piculs. Stock 19,000 piculs.

KEROSINE.—Six thousand cases have found buyers. Stock is reduced to 424,000 cases.

Sugar:—Takao in bag New ... per picul	\$4.37 to \$4.40	Japan Rice ... per picul	\$2.80 to 3.35
" " " Old ...	\$4.27	Japan Wheat ...	\$2.10
Taiwanfoo in bag ...	\$4.25	Saigon Rice [cargo] ...	\$1.79
Ching-pak and Ke-pak ...	\$7.75 to \$8.50	Kerosene Oil ... case	\$1.90 to \$1.89
China No. 4-5, Kongfun & Kook-fah ...	\$6.50 to \$8.75		

EXPORTS.

SILK.—Our silk market has been very active during the past week and a brisk demand has existed for all classes of silk, settlements amounting to about 700 shipping bales. Prices remain very firm indeed and are about \$10 per picul higher for Kakedas; besides this, exchange having advanced, exporters have been placed in a more unfavourable position.

Stock about 3,300 shipping bales.

Hanks.—No. 1 & 2	Exchange 3/9½	to 18/2	Exchange 4/80
" " 2	\$560 to \$565 = 18/	to 18/2	= fcs. 49/20 to fcs. 49.50
" " 2½	\$550 =	17/8 =	" 48.90
" " 3	\$530 =	17/2 =	" 47.00
" " 3 & infra.	\$500 =	16/2 =	" 44.80
Filatures.—Extra	\$640 to \$650 = 20/11	to 21/3	= " 57.90 to " 58.70
" " 1	\$590 to \$610 = 19/4	to 19/11	= " 56.10
" " 2	\$590 =	19/4 =	" 53.50 to " 55.20
" " 3	\$540 to \$550 = 17/9	to 18/1	= " 49.10 to " 50.00
Kakedas—Best	\$600 to \$640 = 19/8	to 21/	= " 55.40 to " 57.90
" Medium & Good	\$570 =	18/8 =	" 51.80
Re-Reels Medium to Best	\$580 to \$600 = 19/	to 19/8 =	" 52.20 to " 54.00

TEA.—Settlements for the past week amount to 1,000 piculs. The better kinds continuing to receive the most attention, the stock of these sorts is nil, all fresh supplies being bought up on arrival. Prices are higher, and firm at our quotations. Our stock is reduced to 2,800 piculs.

Common	...	...	...	...	Fine	...	...	...	...	\$24 to \$27
Good Common	...	...	...	...	Finest	...	...	...	...	\$29 to \$31
Medium	...	...	...	...	Choice	...	...	...	...	\$33 to \$35
Good Medium	...	...	...	...	Choicest	...	...	...	...	\$37 upward.

EXCHANGE AND BULLION.

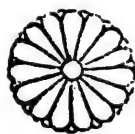
EXCHANGE.—There has been a considerable rise in Sterling rates during the past week and a fair amount of business was done for the last French Mail, principally again in Private Bills.

STERLING—Bank 4 months' sight	3/8½	ON SHANGHAI—Bank sight	72½
" " Bank Bills on demand	3/8½	" " Private 10 days' sight	73½
" " Private 4 months' sight	3/9	ON NEW YORK—Bank Bills on demand	89
" " " 6	3/9½	" " Private 30 days' sight	90
ON PARIS—Bank sight	4.65	ON SAN FRANCISCO—Bank Bills on demand	89½
" " Private 6 months' sight	4.78	" " Private 30 days' sight	90½
ON HONGKONG—Bank sight	1 ½ prm.	KINSALE	60½ dis.
" " Private 10 days' sight	1 ½ disct.	GOLD YEN	380 nom.

SHIPPING.—No movement whatever.

SHIPPING.

MISCELLANEOUS.



NOTICE TO MARINERS.

No. 1 of the 14th Year of Meiji, (1881)

KAGENO SIMA LIGHTHOUSE.

ENTRANCE TO NAGASAKI HARBOUR.

THE GOVERNMENT OF JAPAN hereby gives notice that, on the night of the 1st day of the 3rd Month of the 14th Year of Meiji (1st March, 1881), and every night thereafter, from Sunset to Sunrise, a Fixed Red Light of the 6th Order will be exhibited from the tower built on the Northern point of Kageno Sima, at the Entrance to the harbour of Nagasaki, in the province of Hizen.

According to the Japanese Admiralty Chart No. 108, and the British Admiralty Chart No. 2415, the Lighthouse is situated in latitude 32 degrees 42 minutes 42 seconds North, and in longitude 129 degrees 49 minutes 37 seconds East of Greenwich.

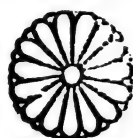
The Tower is built of stone, and is 15 feet 8 inches high from the base to the center of the lantern.

The Light will have an arc of visibility of 206 degrees, the cut off bearings being N. 81° 30' W. and S. 55° 30' E. Bearings true.

The total elevation of the Light above the sea will be 40 feet, and its range of visibility, in clear weather, about 8 Nautical miles.

YAMAO YOZO,
Minister of Public Works.

Tokai, February 3rd, 1881.



NOTICE TO MARINERS.

HIKU-FLAT BUOY.

WESTWARD ENTRANCE OF SIMONOSEKI STRAITS.

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN, that the Buoy Moored on the Shallow called HIKU-FLAT, at the Westward entrance of SIMONOSEKI STRAITS has broken adrift from its moorings.

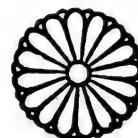
The buoy will be replaced in its position on an early date, of which due notice will be given.

BY ORDER.

Lighthouse Establishment,
Benten,

Yokohama, 15th January, 1881.

MISCELLANEOUS.



NOTICE TO MARINERS.

SHIMONOSEKI STRAITS BUOYS.

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN, that KANABUSE BUOY and MIDDLE GROUND BLACK BUOY, which were advertised as having broken adrift from their moorings, have been replaced

BY ORDER.

Lighthouse Establishment,
Benten,

Yokohama, 17th January, 1881.

NOTICE TO MARINERS.

No. 129.

CHINA SEA.

SHANGHAI DISTRICT.

WRECK NEAR THE AMHERST ROCKS.

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that the British Bark *CHINAMAN* lies sunk in 5 fathoms of water 7 miles to the S. 37° W. of the Amherst Rocks. The iron masts are at present visible.

By order of the Inspector General of Customs.

DAVID M. HENDERSON,
Engineer-in-Chief.

Imperial Maritime Customs,
Engineer's Office,
Shanghai, 24th January, 1881.

NOTICE.

THE UNDERSIGNED will tune Pianos from the 1st January, 1881, at the following rates:—

IN YOKOHAMA.

Single tuning - - - - - \$ 5.00
Annual „ - - - - - 30.00

IN TOKIO.

Single tuning - - - - - \$ 7.00
Annual „ - - - - - 40.00

Lessons given on the Flute, Violin, English Concertina & Guitar at moderate charges.

PIANOS AND HARMONIUMS REPAIRED.

C. WAGNER,
No. 220c Bluff

Yokohama, December 22nd, 1880.

MISCELLANEOUS.

IMPORTANT

—FOR—

WATCHMAKERS!

IMPORTANT

FOR

EVERYBODY!

THE Rodanow Manufacturing Company (Limited—Capital \$2,000,000), Boston (America), will forward, hereafter, even one single Watch to any part of the world at wholesale prices, i.e., 35 per cent cheaper than any watchmaker, as none of them is manufacturing Watches himself, but only buying them from here. We call the particular attention of every one intending to purchase a first-class reliable Watch to our following price list:—

Key-winding Watches.

SILVER WATCH.	£	s.
Crystal glass, seconds hand.....	0	10
Hunting case, engraved, highly finished..	0	14
Skeleton movement, extra jewelled, stout double cover.....	1	00
GOLD WATCH.		
Jewelled, maintaining power, crystal glass.	1	10
Half hunter, enamel or gold dial, lever escapement	1	16
Hunting case, superior nickel movement, best quality with all the latest improvements, two gold covers	2	03

Keyless Watches

(Stem-Winders.)

The keyless mechanism to a watch is one of the great modern improvements in Watch work, it does away with the old-fashioned key, with which so many persons have ruined their Watches. The Watch is wound by turning a knurled knob, placed on the handle or bow, instead of by the ordinary means; the hands are set in the same way. The advantages of these improvements are obvious, the case, which never need be opened in winding, is made airtight and dust-tight, thus preserving much longer the fluidity of the oil, and greatly prolonging the intervals between the necessary cleaning of the Watch.

SILVER KEYLESS WATCH.

Lever movement, flat, jewelled, crystal glass	£	s.
Double cover, enamel or ornamented silver dial	1	05
Superior skeleton movement, extra jewelled, stout double cover	1	16

GOLD KEYLESS WATCH.

Open face, lever escapement, ten jewels...	2	05
Half hunter, best movement, all latest improvements, fifteen jewels.....	3	00
Two stout gold covers, chronometer movement with centre seconds hands, a splendid Watch for presentation	3	15

GOLD KEYLESS CHRONOMETER.

Three gold covers, movement of finest workmanship, centre seconds hands, repeating hours and quarters.....	8	10
--	---	----

MISCELLANEOUS.

Imperial Chronometer, showing days, date, weeks, and month on dial, repeating hours, quarters, and eighths, three heavy gold covers, warranted for five years, and without doubt the best and handsomest Watch in existence..... 15 00

OBSERVATIONS.

- 1.—All the above Watches can be had in smaller size to suit for ladies' wear at the same price. Monograms, initials, armes, etc., engraved on the back of the Watch free of charge.
 - 2.—All our Watches are thoroughly finished and ready for immediate use, and will be sent securely packed in morocco case, *post free*, to any part of the world, together with spare mainsprings, glasses, and keys, these being a great convenience, as in many out-of-the-way places, it is almost a matter of impossibility to replace one of those articles.
 - 3.—Every watch is accompanied by a written warranty, guaranteeing the regularity and superiority of its workmanship for three years, during which time no charge will be made for repairing if the watch is returned *post free*.
 - 4.—All our gold cases are eighteen carat gold; the silver cases are of the best sterling silver.
 - 5.—Six per cent discount will be allowed on orders for six and more Watches.
 - 6.—All our Watches have compensation balance, which renders them equally accurate in either hot or cold climate.
 - 7.—All Watches may be ordered without seconds hand, with engraved, plain polished, or engine-turned cases, without difference of price.
 - 8.—No orders from abroad filled unless accompanied by a remittance to cover the amount, or a reference on a Boston house.
- Persons residing in any part of the world need not hesitate to forward their orders to this establishment as they may rely upon receiving the exact Watch ordered by them, which if not approved, will be exchanged free and safe by post, or money refunded. The best means of sending money is by draft on New York, Paris, or London, which can be procured at any banker and everywhere,—or enclose the amount in bank-notes, gold coins, or postage stamps of any country of the world. All orders, the smallest as well as the most important, will receive the same particular attention and will be forwarded without delay. We respectfully ask for a trial order.

THE

Rodanow Manufacturing Company,

5 and 7, Portland Street, Boston, U. S. of America.

MERRYWEATHER & SONS,

Fire Engine Manufacturers,

London.

THE undersigned having been appointed Agents for the above firm, is prepared to execute orders for

FIRE ENGINES & APPLIANCES

STEAM TRAMWAYS,

AND

HYDRAULIC ENGINES

OF EVERY DESCRIPTION.

MALCOLM & CO., No. 66.

Yokohama, 17th March, 1880.

MISCELLANEOUS.

SEVENTH DRAWING.

CHINESE
IMPERIAL GOVERNMENT
LOAN OF 1877.

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN, that in conformity with the stipulation contained in the Bonds of this Loan, 1146 Bonds of £100 sterling each—£114,600, to be paid off at par, on the 28th of February next, when the Interest thereon will cease, were this day Drawn at the Offices of the HONGKONG AND SHANGHAI BANKING CORPORATION, 81, Lombard Street, London, E.C., in the presence of GEORGE HENRY BURNETT, Esq., Accountant of the said Corporation, and of the undersigned Notary Public.

FOR THE HONGKONG AND SHANGHAI
BANKING CORPORATION,

(Signed) GEO. H. BURNETT,
Accountant.

Countersigned,

W. W. VENN, Jun.,
Notary Public,

2, Pope's Head Alley, Cornhill, E.C.

London, 13th December, 1880.

The Numbers of Bonds Drawn can be ascertained on application at this Office.

For the HONGKONG AND SHANGHAI
BANKING CORPORATION,

JOHN WALTER,
Manager.

Yokohama, February 5th, 1881.

"HIGHEST AWARD & PRIZE MEDAL PHILADELPHIA
EXHIBITION, 1876."



PREPARED EXPRESSLY FOR THE PATENT KNIFE-CLEANING MACHINES, INDIA RUBBER AND BUFF LEATHER KNIFE BOARDS. KNIVES CONSTANTLY CLEANED WITH IT HAVE A BRILLIANT POLISH EQUAL TO NEW CUTLERY. PACKETS 3D. EACH; AND TINS, 6D., 1/-, 2/6 AND 4/- EACH.



PREVENT FRICTION IN CLEANING AND INJURY TO THE KNIFE. OAKEY'S WELLINGTON KNIFE POLISH SHOULD BE USED WITH HIS BOARDS.



(NON-MERCURIAL), FOR CLEANING AND POLISHING SILVER, ELECTRO-PLATE, PLATE GLASS, &c. TABLETS 6D. EACH.



IN SOLID BLOCKS—1D., 2D. & 4D. EACH, & 18. BOXES.



July, 1879.

MISCELLANEOUS.

THE GREATEST

WONDER OF MODERN TIMES
HOLLOWAY'S PILLS.

Persons suffering from weak or debilitated constitutions will discover that by the use of this wonderful medicine there is "Health for all." The blood is the fountain of life, and its purity can be maintained by the use of these Pills.

SIR SAMUEL BAKER, in his work entitled "The Nile Tributaries in Abyssinia," says, "I ordered the dragoman Mahomet to inform the Fakry that I was a Doctor, and that I had the best medicines at the service of the sick, with advice gratis. In a short time I had many applicants, to whom I served out a quantity of Holloway's Pills. These are most useful to an explorer, as possessing unmistakable purgative properties they create an undeniable effect upon the patient, which satisfies him of their value."

SIMPLE, SAFE AND CERTAIN!
HOLLOWAY'S OINTMENT.

Is a certain remedy for bad legs, bad breasts, and ulcerations of all kinds. It acts miraculously in healing ulcerations, curing skin diseases, and in arresting and subduing all inflammations.

MR. J. T. COOPER,

in his account of his extraordinary travels in China, published in 1871, says—"I had with me a quantity of Holloway's Ointment. I gave some to the people, and nothing could exceed their gratitude; and, in consequence, milk, fowls, butter, and horse-feed poured in upon us, until at last a tea-spoonful of Ointment was worth a fowl and any quantity of peas, and the demand became so great that I was obliged to lock up the small remaining stock."

Sold by all Chemists and Medicine Vendors throughout the World May 17th, 1873.

tf.

ASTHMA, DIFFICULT BREATHING

SAVORY & MOORE'S DATURA FOR TATULA

Cigars, Cigarettes, or Tobacco, also Pastilles and Powder for Inhalation.

SAVORY & MOORE, NEW BOND STREET, LONDON,

And of all Chemists and Storekeepers throughout the world.

December 1880.

H. MacARTHUR,
SHIP-BROKER AND CUSTOMS
AGENT,
NO. 70, Yokohama,
(Opposite the Old British Post Office).
Yokohama, 4th May, 1880.

MISCELLANEOUS.

ANDW. HANDYSIDE & Co.

Limited.

32, Walbrook. London,

BRITANNIA IRON WORKS, DERBY,

Manufacture all kinds of

IRON WORK,

Structural & Ornamental.

BRIDGES of every description. Girder Bridges. Arch Bridges. Suspension Bridges.

A. H. & Co. make every year for Foreign Countries some thousands of Tons of Bridges.

LANDING-PIERS AND JETTIES.

ROOFS AND BUILDINGS. MARKETS.

*Illustrated Catalogue (A) free on Application.***ORNAMENTAL IRONWORK, ETC.***See Large New Illustrated Catalogues (B. & C.) with 1,300 designs.*Railings. Balcony Panels.
Gates. Street Posts.
Lamp-pillars. Lamp-brackets.
Balusters. Newels.
Oratings. Terminals.Columns. Column Capitals.
Brackets. Gratings.
Windows. Casements.
Fountains. Drinking Fountains.
Vases. Pedestals.

Conservatories. Band-Stands.

SMITH'S HEARTHS & PORTABLE FORGES

12 Shapes and Sizes.

*Catalogue (D) free on Application.***Andw. Handyside & Co., Limited,
LONDON.**

26 ins.

**JOSEPH GILLOTT'S STEEL PENS.** Gold.**JOSEPH GILLOTT'S STEEL PENS.** Medal.**JOSEPH GILLOTT'S STEEL PENS.** Paris.**JOSEPH GILLOTT'S STEEL PENS.** 1878.

April, 1880.

MISCELLANEOUS.

SAVORY PANCREATIC EMULSION MEDICINAL FOOD
MOORE'S

SAVORY BEST FOOD
MOORE'S

Datura Tatula Inhalations
MOORE'S

FOR INFANTS

FOR ASTHMA

ASTHMA & Difficult Breathing
promptly relieved and paroxysms averted by

ROYAL NURSERIES.
THE MOST DIGESTIBLE,
CONTAINS
THE HIGHEST AMOUNT OF
NOURISHMENT in the
MOST CONVENIENT FORM.
In Tins 1s., 2s., 4s. and 10s.

IN CONSUMPTION AND WASTING DISEASES
IMPROVES THE APPETITE
Increases Strength and Weight.
Bottles 3s. 6d., 4s. 6d. and 5s.

143, NEW BOND ST., LONDON, and of Chemists, &c., everywhere.

August 2, 1879.

26780

TRADE MARK.



ELLWOOD'S
PATENT AIR CHAMBER
HATS AND HELMETS
THE ONLY EFFECTUAL PROTECTION
AGAINST SUN STROKE.

To be obtained of all respectable Hatters and Outfitters
and Wholesale only of**J. ELLWOOD & SONS,
LONDON.**

Beware of Useless Imitations.

DINNEFORD'STHE BEST REMEDY FOR ACIDITY
OF THE STOMACH, HEARTBURN,
HEADACHE, GOUT AND INDIGESTION.**DINNEFORD & Co., Chemists
London,****N.B. ASK FOR DINNEFORD'S MAGNESIA.**

April 10, 1880

**FLUID
MAGNESIA.**And of Druggists and Storekeepers throughout
the World.

1y.

MISCELLANEOUS.

**CROSSE & BLACKWELL'S
CELEBRATED OILMEN'S STORES.***Nine Prize Medals, Paris, Vienna and Philadelphia.*

PICKLES AND SAUCES,
JAMS AND JELLIES,
ORANGE MARMALADE,
TART FRUITS, DESSERT FRUITS,
PURE SALAD OIL,
MUSTARD, VINEGAR,
POTTED MEATS AND FISH,
FRESH SALMON AND HERRINGS,
HERRINGS A LA SARDINE,
YARMOUTH BLOATERS,
BLACKWALL WHITEBAIT,
PREPARED SOUPS, IN TINS,
PRESERVED VEGETABLES,
HAMS AND BACON, IN TINS,
PRESERVED CHEESE,
OXFORD AND CAMBRIDGE SAUSAGES,
BOLOGNA SAUSAGES,
YORKSHIRE GAME AND PORK PIES,
TONGUES, GAME, POULTRY,
PLUM PUDDINGS,
LEA AND PERRINS' WORCESTERSHIRE
SAUCE.

*Fresh supplies of the above, and numerous other table
delicacies, may be had from most Storekeepers.***CAUTION.**

To prevent the fraud of refilling the bottles or jars
they should invariably be destroyed when empty.
Goods should always be examined upon delivery, to
detect any attempt at substitution of articles of inferior
brands.

*All genuine goods bear the names of Crosse & Blackwell
on the Labels, Corks and Capsules of the Bottles,
Jars and Tins.*

CROSSE & BLACKWELL,
PURVEYORS TO THE QUEEN,
SOHO SQUARE, LONDON.

July, 1878.

ADOLPHUS SINGTON & CO.,

5, ST. PETER'S SQUARE,

MANCHESTER,
ENGLAND.**CONTRACTORS, CIVIL ENGINEERS, AND
EXPORTERS**

OF ALL DESCRIPTIONS OF

MACHINERY.

May 4, 1878.

MISCELLANEOUS.

**J. & E. ATKINSON'S
PERFUMERY,***celebrated for nearly a century past, is of the very best English
manufacture. For its purity and great excellence it has
obtained the following*

EXHIBITION PRIZE MEDALS,
LONDON, 1862. PARIS, 1867. CORDOVA, 1872. LIMA, 1872.
VIENNA, 1873. PHILADELPHIA, 1876.
GOLD MEDAL, PARIS, 1878.

**ATKINSON'S CHOICE PERFUMES FOR
THE HANDKERCHIEF.**

White Rose, Frangipanne, Ylang-ylang, Stephanotis,
Opopanax, Jockey Club, Ess Bouquet, Trevel,
Magnolia, Jasmin, Wood Violet, Gold Medal Bouquet,
and all other odours, of the finest quality only.

**ATKINSON'S
GOLD MEDAL EAU DE COLOGNE***is strongly recommended, being more lasting and fragrant than
the German kind.***ATKINSON'S
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TESTIMONIAL

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April, 1880.

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Yokohama, 25th August, 1880.

The "Japan Mail,"

A Daily, Weekly, and Fortnightly Journal,

ESTABLISHED, 1865.

TERMS OF SUBSCRIPTION.

WEEKLY EDITION. The "Japan Weekly Mail," a Weekly Review of Japanese Commerce, Politics, Literature and Art.—Per annum, \$24; Six months, \$13; Three months, \$7.

FORTNIGHTLY EDITION, being a Summary of the foregoing, is published for transmission by the American Mail Steamers via San Francisco. Per annum, \$12; Six months, \$7; Three months, \$4.

THE JAPAN DAILY MAIL is published every morning (Sundays excepted) and contains the Arrivals and Departures of all Shipping, Passenger lists, Cargoes, Vessels on the Berth and in Harbour &c. &c. Also the latest Telegrams, Japanese news, Reports of Trials in the Courts of Law, Meetings of public bodies, and all matters of interest to the Community. Special attention is called to this Journal as a medium for circulating local advertisements. It has a large and constantly increasing circulation, its low price bringing it within the means of all classes of the community. It therefore affords exceptional advertising advantages, and secures to all announcements the utmost publicity, the object aimed at by advertisers.

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Printed and published for the Proprietor, by the Manager
A. HERBERT BLACKWELL, at the "Japan Mail" Office, 16 Bund, Yokohama.

THE Japan Weekly Mail,

A WEEKLY REVIEW OF
JAPANESE COMMERCE, POLITICS, LITERATURE, AND ART

VOL. V. No. 8.]

Yokohama, February 26th, 1881.

[\$24 PER ANNUM.

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The Japan Weekly Mail.

'FAIS CE QUE DOIS: ADVIENNE QUE POURRA.'

NOTICE TO CORRESPONDENTS.

No notice will be taken of anonymous correspondence. Whatever is intended for insertion in the JAPAN WEEKLY MAIL must be authenticated by the name and address of the writer, not for publication but as a guarantee of good faith.

It is particularly requested that all letters on business, relating to Advertisements, Job-printing, or Accounts, be addressed to the MANAGER.

And that literary contributions of every description be addressed to the EDITOR.

YOKOHAMA: SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 26TH, 1881.
JAPANESE ERA 2541, MEIJI 14TH YEAR, 2ND MONTH, 26TH DAY.

BIRTH.

On the 20th instant, at No. 62, Bluff, Yokohama, the wife of WILLIAM BARRIE of a daughter.

His Majesty the King of Hawaii—travelling strictly incognito—left Honolulu for San Francisco, about January 18th. His intention, we understand, was to embark in the first steamer for Japan, whence he will proceed to China, India, Singapore and Europe, returning to Hawaii via the United States in October next.

His Majesty is accompanied by his Chamberlain the Hon. C. H. Judd and also by His Excellency Mr. Nevius Armstrong, Royal Commissioner of Education. One of the objects of the King's tour is to procure facilities for the immigration to Hawaii of families suited to act as domestic servants, agricultural labourers and so forth. At present three or four hundred Japanese men, women and children, are living in Hawaii in this capacity. They are well treated by the Government and people of the country, and their prosperous condition justifies the authorities in desiring to see their numbers augmented. Hawaii has a population of about sixty thousand, but owing to a constant decrease from various causes in the numbers of its native inhabitants, only a comparatively small portion of the arable land can be kept under cultivation. A Reciprocity Treaty with the United States provides for the admission of sugar without

duty, and on the whole the islands are believed to be capable of maintaining fully a million people. Under these circumstances the Hawaiian Government not unnaturally desires to promote a legitimate and permanent immigration, nor do we see that Japan can derive anything but benefit by countenancing the project.

Meanwhile we trust that fitting arrangements will be made for the reception and entertainment of His Majesty during his stay in Japan. We are not disposed either to counsel unnecessary expenditure or to set over-much store by the idle tittle-tattle of unthinking folk, but so much has been said from time to time about interested hospitality and so forth, that we are inclined to regard this as rather a favorable opportunity for a further display of that courtesy now so intimately associated with our ideas of Japan, and which, for the rest, is indisputably due in the present case.

A more careful examination of H. I. J. M. S. *Fuso* has tended rather to diminish than to confirm the suspicions of galvanic action, by which she was lately supposed to have been attacked. At any rate the scheme of sending her to England for repairs, does not seem likely to pass beyond the region of ideas, and we are not at all surprised that it should be so. At Hongkong, for example, a period of four days and an outlay of three thousand dollars generally suffice for the docking, painting and discharge of H. M. S. *Iron Duke*, and it is difficult to believe that work equally economical and expeditious could not be achieved in Japan, where ample dock accommodation and thoroughly skilled labour are at hand.

Meanwhile this unexpected corrosion of the *Fuso's* plates tends to strengthen a previously entertained suspicion that the waters of this anchorage possess some chemical properties particularly noxious to iron ships. Considering the extensive copper deposits known to exist in Japan, we should not be surprised to find, that the seas which wash her shores are more or less charged with sulphate of copper. Should an analysis establish this fact, it would not only explain the *Fuso's* injuries, but also be consistent with conditions known to obtain in the waters of Chili, Peru and other South American ports where copper formations exist. The Messageries steamers remain in this harbour for about a month at a time, and find it necessary to go into dock at intervals not exceeding four times that period. Fouling and corrosion of plates take place of course more rapidly in vessels that remain stationary than in those that are kept in motion, and with the exception of about fourteen days, the *Fuso* had been at anchor for a period of not less than eight months, some portion of which extended into the hot season, when the temperature of the water is high and chemical action abnormally rapid. Her state when docked did not exhibit anything inexplicably in excess of what might have been anticipated under such circumstances, nor yet anything that may not be successfully repaired and effectually guarded against in the future. The necessity of

more frequent examination has at any rate been demonstrated, and might indeed have been anticipated from the case of the *Iron Duke*, which, though cruising almost constantly, has been "laid up" three times during the past year.

In proportion as the time for opening the Exhibition approaches public opinion seems to grow more and more exercised about the prospects of the affair. The buildings still look unfinished, the specimens in confusion, and the ground little more than half laid out. Furious winds and choking dust storms also tend each day to disturb our pleasurable anticipations and men begin to ask each other whether there was really any imperative reason for all this inexplicable precipitancy. If the Exhibition is only to be open for a hundred days, April, May and June would have avoided the hot weather quite as well as March, April and May, and would certainly have been more genial months for sight-seeing. We suspect, however, that the hundred day promise must not be taken altogether *au pied de la lettre*. All public performances are arranged with a view to some "positively last appearances," and the Commissioners of the Exhibition are not acting unwisely in their generation when they trust the novelty of the affair to overcome any extraneous inconveniences in its early stages, and depend on the charms of its surroundings to attract visitors during a possible postponement of its demise. For the rest our own experience has not taught us that a perfect state of preparation is the normal condition of exhibitions at the moment of opening, and we are disposed to prophesy less dissatisfaction than agreeable disappointment on the part of the public next week.

Meanwhile we have been desired to state that the opening ceremony is definitely fixed for Tuesday morning at 8.30 o'clock. Inability to complete the proposed arrangements within the time fixed has necessitated a modification of the programme, and the Foreign Representatives will be the only Westerners present. Their invitations, as well as those of the Princes, Nobles, Privy Councillors and Ministers of Departments, will be issued in the name of the President, H. I. H. Prince Kita-Shirakawa, while the Vice-ministers and others officials will be invited by the Vice-president, H. E. Matsukata. The ceremony will be confined to speeches by H. I. M. the Emperor, H. I. H. the President, and the Governor of Tokio, Mr. Matsuda, who will represent the industrial interests of Japan. The refreshments will probably be confined to something of a very trifling nature, as it has been found impossible to prepare any place suitable for a set collation. The buildings will be thrown open to the general public from 2.20 p.m. to 9 p.m. and the Military and Naval Bands will be in attendance.

Visitors to the Uyeno Exhibition may expect to derive physical as well as moral benefit, for the mere exercise of walking round the buildings will be no trifling matter. A thorough circuit of the stands in the first four halls will be equivalent to a peregrination of 4,800 yards, while an equally careful examination of the Machinery and Fine Arts Departments will necessitate a journey of ten thousand eight hundred yards, so that if any one has patience to "do" the whole thing completely, he will be able to congratulate himself on having walked about nine miles! We recommend these figures to the consideration of some public-spirited Gunter, skilled in the manufacture of ices and cocktails.

When, in framing their convention with the Rôjû in October 1864, the Representatives of Great Britain, France, the United States and the Netherlands, were careful to insert the 3rd article—an article declaring that the receipt of money had never been the object of the four Powers and that Japan might, if she would, escape the payment of an indemnity altogether by opening an eligible port in the Inland Sea—and when, later, on, Lord Clarendon wrote that Her Majesty's Government consented to an equal partition of the indemnity, since they estimated the hearty coöperation of the allied powers at something more than a mere money value, it must have been very plain to Japan that her opponents were not actuated by pecuniary considerations alone. America will therefore be only carrying out the policy she, in common with her allies, then enunciated, should she return to Japan that portion of the indemnity which exceeds the expenses actually incurred in the Shimonoseki expedition. Whether, however, Great Britain ought to have any voice in this matter, is a point that might be reasonably deemed worthy of consideration. It will be observed, for example, that the "Committee on Foreign Relations" recommend the payment of \$248,000 to the officers and crews of U. S. ships *Wyoming* and *Takiang*. Now the *Wyoming* took no share in the combined attack upon Shimonoseki. She ran down to the Straits in July, 1863, and after successfully bombarding the Choshû batteries and ships, came off with a loss of five men killed and six wounded. The *Takiang* was a chartered steam vessel with an officer, a party of men, and a gun of the U. S. corvette *Jamestown*, so that whatever moral effect her presence may have exercised, the material aid she rendered cannot have been large. Assuming however, that without reference to the number of men or weight of armament, two hundred and forty eight thousand dollars represents the just appropriation for two ships, it follows that England, who sent nine ships, a battalion of marines and a detachment of sappers, ought to have received something very like three millions of dollars, whereas her share really amounted to seven hundred and fifty thousand. We have no desire whatsoever to laud ourselves, but we do think that a creditor who waived so large a portion of his due for the sake of a principle, deserves some fraction of credit at this juncture, for it will scarcely be denied that America owes her present ability to be generous in the first place to England's magnanimity. However this may be, the restitution contemplated by the Government of the United States is an act worthy of all admiration, and it gives us sincere pleasure to note the steps by which it is gradually approaching consummation. A San Francisco journal, received by the last steamer, has the following:—

Washington, January 13th.—Senator Eaton, from the Committee on Foreign Relations, to-day submitted to the Senate a report accompanied by two bills in relation to the Japanese indemnity fund of \$1,711,224, the proceeds of \$785,000 paid by Japan as indemnity for the expenses of an expedition participated in by Great Britain, France, Holland and the United States, which in 1863-64 destroyed the batteries of the Prince of Choshû, who attempted to close the Straits of Shimonoseki against foreign commerce. The committee recommend that, after deducting \$248,000, the remainder of the fund, \$1,463,224 in gold, be returned to Japan. The two bills authorize the payment of \$248,000 to the officers and crews of the United States ship *Wyoming* and the Steamer *Takiang*, and the payment of the remainder of the fund to the Japanese Government.

Accompanying the report from the committee was a memorial filed last year by the New York Chamber of Commerce transmitting the action taken upon the recommendation of the Foreign Affairs Committee of that body. The document was reported to *The World* when it was sent to the Senate last winter. It recites that at the monthly

meeting of the Chamber held on February 5th of last year the opinions set forth by its Foreign Affairs Committee in their report of July, 1876, were reaffirmed and the Chamber recommended it as wise, just and expedient that a return to the Japanese Government be made of such portion of the fund as remained after deducting equitable compensation to the Americans who participated in the hostile proceedings at the Straits of Shimonoseki. The document then gives in detail the historical incidents connected with the hostilities and with the subsequent convention at which the indemnity was awarded, and submits that the Government was entitled to only about \$140,000 out of the \$750,000, which it received. Those amounts were increased by adding interest at 5 per cent. since 1868, the year in which the indemnity was awarded. The resolution of the Chamber was that Congress be asked to investigate the circumstances of the case and if the facts appeared as stated to reimburse the Japanese Government. It was upon this memorial that the Senate Committee acted and the Chamber of Commerce may take full credit for the bills reported from the committee to-day.

We regret to learn that Admiral Lessoffsky's recovery is likely to be more protracted than the public had anticipated. The gallant officer's injuries are of a two-fold nature; fracture of the thigh and a severe contusion of the knee. The fracture has progressed so favorably that the splints have been removed and the cure pronounced complete, but the contusion has assumed a more serious complexion and it is feared that a considerable interval must elapse before the Admiral is able to walk. The accident is one that particularly enlists our sympathies, for it seems to have been brought about entirely by the Admiral's anxiety on behalf of his ship. Already suffering from what threatened to be a distressing indisposition, he had been strictly enjoined not to leave his berth by his medical adviser, but an old sailor's aversion to lying quiet while his vessel is doing battle with a fierce gale and a heavy sea, proved too much for him. He dressed himself without aid and made his way on deck, but at the very moment he opened his state room door, a huge sea struck the ship and sweeping the Admiral away, dashed him violently against the bulwarks. It was little short of a miracle indeed that he was not carried overboard or even more seriously injured. As it is, while heartily condoling with the gallant officer and earnestly desiring his speedy recovery, we cannot help reflecting how much more trying his enforced inaction might have proved had not the war once so imminent, been averted, for the nonce at least, by patient diplomacy and mutual concession.

His Excellency Matsugata, Minister for Home Affairs, has been appointed Vice-President of the Uyeno Exhibition, and the list of Commissioners has been increased by the name of Sudzuki Kinzo, a gentleman whose long residence in America and Europe, and thorough knowledge of Western customs specially fit him for duties whose discharge will bring him into constant contact with foreigners.

Shotai, sometime king of Riukiu and now a Japanese nobleman, has just presented the sum of five thousand yen to the custodians of his ancestors' tombs at the Monastery of Yenaku near his former palace. On the whole the dynastic history of Riukiu contrasts favorably with that of most Western states, though it can show nothing like the perennial continuity of Japan's imperial succession. Before the Minamoto Knight, Tametomo, landed at Unten in 1158, twenty three generations of kings had occupied the throne of Riukiu, but of their story nothing remains save the most meagre traditions. With Tametomo the written annals of

the islands commence. His son, Shinten, is to Riukiu what Jimmu Tenno is to Japan, the connecting link between mythology and history, and his effigy fully occupies the place of honor in the royal mausoleum at Yenaku. Tame'omo's line did not, however, sway the sceptre long. His grandson Gibon, believing that a cruel famine and plague by which the islands were visited during his reign, were heaven's judgments on the usurpers, abdicated, and passed the remaining years of his life in the monastery of Hokusan. He was succeeded by Tensonshi, a scion of the former kings, whose descendant, Satto, six generations removed, first did homage to China, then governed by the Min dynasty. Satto's grandson, Bunei, was the Nero of Riukiu. His cruelties and excesses proved more than even the peaceful islanders could endure, and he finally lost his life in a revolt headed by Shohashi, whose father Shisho, subsequently came to the throne. Seven generations later similar intemperance on the part of King Shotoku induced the people to take the law into their own hands again. They prevented the accession of Shotoku's son and in his stead elected (1481) one Shozen, generally believed to be a descendant of Tametomo. Shotai, the present ex-king, is the twenty-fourth scion of Shozen's line, and if this genealogy be correct, his so-called exile in Japan and reduction to the rank of an ordinary nobleman, might more justly be described as a return to the station occupied by his ancestor Tametomo.

The following letter from the *London and China Express* will be read with interest. It emphasizes an important point in the terms of the proposed treaties, and corrects an error that may not be confined to the editor of the journal by which it was promulgated:—

REVISION OF THE JAPANESE TREATIES.

(To the Editor of the *London and China Express*.)

SIR,—I beg you will allow me to point out an error of considerable gravity in the article on "The Revision of the Treaties with the Japanese" in your issue of 17th September. Speaking of the Japanese proposals, you say:—"In offences against the State the foreign Courts are to have jurisdiction up to three months' imprisonment, or a fine of 500 yen;" and a little further down occurs the comment:—"One grave point seems to be that in the cases where the concessions are to be withdrawn, or to have no effect, the matters affected are those of a serious character, and such as should not be transferred to native jurisdiction." If you will refer to the fifth section of the "Memorandum relating to jurisdiction" in the version illicitly published some months ago by an English paper in Japan, upon which version your article may be seen from internal evidence to be founded, and from which, though extremely faulty (being a translation of a translation) it is possible in this instance to gather the correct effect of the original, you will find that your statement exactly reverses the case—the concession to foreign Courts in the matters in question being really made in cases *above*, not *below* the limit referred to, the *less serious* cases only being retained within the jurisdiction of the territorial authorities.

This misstatement of what is probably the most important among the proposals relating to jurisdiction (it is certainly the one involving the greatest departure from the existing practice), when appearing in a paper such as yours, published in England, is calculated so completely to misinform and (as your own comment shows) so falsely to prejudice those of the public interested in the matter, that I trust you will, in fairness to Japan, give publicity to this correction.—I am, &c.,
AN ENGLISHMAN IN THE JAPANESE GOVERNMENT SERVICE.

Tokio, Nov. 13.

Since the 21st inst. the burning of old kinsats has been carried on every fine day at the Printing Bureau of the Treasury. The number to be destroyed amounts to eighteen hundred and seventy thousand, and the operation will be completed, weather permitting, by the end of the month.

Formerly the worn-out notes were boiled in a huge cauldron erected for the purpose, but burning is now preferred, being at once less tedious and more efficacious. It is proposed also immediately to commence exchanging the newly manufactured one and two yen notes for kinsatz of the same denominations now in circulation. Fifty thousand notes of the new issue have been submitted to His Majesty the Emperor for approval, and all the arrangements for the substitution are completed. The difference between the new and old paper seems to be one of shape and quality only, experience having shown that thinness of texture and length largely in excess of breadth, are essentials to the longevity of paper money. A new issue of ten sen sats will also take place, but these will present no novelty, being destined simply to take the place of those that have become unserviceable from wear and tear. A computation lately made at the Treasury shows, that the quantity of paper money accidentally destroyed bears to that actually worn out the proportion of one to ten.

It is expected that the duties of the Printing Bureau of the Treasury will have been completed by the middle of next year, so far at least as the production of paper-money is concerned. Rumour credits the Government with an intention of changing the Bureau eventually into an establishment for job-printing and wall-paper manufacture, but we are not disposed to place much faith in such conjectures. The industries hitherto carried on by the State have been undertaken for educational purposes and not with a view to any immediate profit, and we cannot for a moment believe that Japanese legislators, while readily adapting themselves to the results of western experience in all other matters, have wilfully shut their eyes to the lesson taught by incalculable losses and endless discontent; the lesson that the Government is not the people's purse-keeper, and that when it applies the national funds to setting itself up as the nation's industrial rival, it is guilty of something very much worse than misappropriation. It would obviously be unwise to leave the building and plant of the Printing Bureau unemployed, but it would be incalculably more unwise to employ them in opposition to private enterprise and at the expense of productive capital.

A number of silver cups, weighing in the aggregate fully a thousand ounces have, it is said, been forwarded from the Treasury to Ozaka for minting purposes. These cups were originally destined to be presented, as national rewards, to persons who had contributed more than a hundred and less than a thousand yen to works of public utility, but it would seem either that the people's generosity in such matters has been slightly over-estimated, or that those who advocate the substitution of medals for wine goblets have carried their point.

We understand that it is proposed to hold an Agricultural conference next month at the Home Office. The farming interests in the various provinces will be represented by men of tried experience and local reputation, and we may expect that some questions of great moment will be discussed.

In bygone centuries the village of Seto in Owari was the Ceramic Capital of Japan. Hizen and Kiyoto subsequently disputed the palm with it, but since the Restoration it has again recovered its preëminence, and some connoisseurs now hold that its blue and white porcelain rivals anything ever produced. The *chef d'œuvres* of the ancient Seto potters—their "eye hitters," as Mr. Griffin in his exquisite ignorance translates the term "meibutz"—were

the tiniest of tiny pots, destined to contain the powdered tea by which men set so much store in those days. The keramists of the middle ages were indeed the most finikin of workmen, busying themselves with almost imperceptible niceties of shape and inappreciable varieties of glaze, and neither their early models nor later modifications go far to establish their art reputation. Now, strange to say, they have passed to the opposite extreme. Visitors to the first French Exhibition were astounded at the colossal vases and monster jars Owari contributed; pieces remarkable alike for their æsthetic excellence and for the technical skill displayed in their manufacture, and we ourselves see every day what huge specimens Owari and Hizen send into the markets. Still there are limits to the dimensions of these giants; limits set by conditions which we can easily appreciate when we read the story of the celebrated "Song-Kang" of Kinteching, the "Dragon Vases," six feet high and five inches thick, which the skillful potters of the Min dynasty succeeded in turning out, but which proved an impossibility to their descendants until the day of the "divine" Tang, two centuries later. Each of these jars required, of course, a separate furnace, and the difficulty of stoving them successfully may be gathered from Julien's description:—"Lorsqu'on les cuisait, pendent sept jours et sept nuits on entretenait un feu lent et faible. Après cela on chauffait avec vigueur pendant deux jours et deux nuits. Quand la cazette de la jarre était devenue rouge et qu'ensuite elle avait passé au blanc, qu'en avant et en arrière elle se trouvait transparente, alors on arrêtait le feu et l'on bouchait la porte de four. Au bout de dix autres jours, le four étant refroidi, on ouvrait la porte et l'on retirait les vases. Pour chaque four on brûlait environ cent trente charges de bois." The celebrated "Memorial Vases," presented to America by the French Keramists at the Centennial of Independence, are twelve feet high, and of proportionate girth. They are the largest ever made in Europe, probably also in the world, for neither Hizen nor Owari has as yet produced anything comparable in total bulk. Their modeller, M. Renard, was obliged to work at each incessantly for the greater part of two days and two nights so as to take the fullest advantage of the clay's plasticity, and they were fired in kilns built round them where they stood. From first to last they represent the outcome of more than a year's labour, and that, too, the labour of France's best ceramic artists. Even these, however, have now been surpassed. The porcelain dealers of Ozaka have just presented to the Shrine of Sumiyoshi at Sakai, a pair of lamp pedestals, the work of the Seto potters. Made of white porcelain, decorated with blue under the glaze, they are said to be without flaw from top to bottom and are no less than twenty three feet high.

During the last two years a certain amount of inconvenient friction has been developed in that portion of the machinery of State which connects the central power with the local administrations. The Divisional Assemblies have betrayed a propensity to stretch the limits of their discretionary powers, and the result has been misapprehension, and occasionally direct contravention, of orders emanating from the Council of State. To provide against similar inexpediences in the future, it has been decided to form a sub-department of the Privy Council with functions specially directed to the investigation of executive regulations proposed by Prefects or Prefectural Assemblies. The personnel of this Shiuri Kiyoku, or Bureau of Perscrutation, will comprise a privy councillor—who will act as president, —a senator, two judges of the Supreme Court and two secretaries of the Privy Council.

His Majesty the Emperor returned on the 21st from His hunting expedition. The first night (18th) was passed at Hachôji, and on the following morning at six o'clock the hunting commenced. His Majesty was mounted on his favorite horse "Kinkazan" (Golden Flower Hill), and took an active share in the proceedings. Game was plentiful and a large number of hares were netted before evening. Meanwhile H. I. H. Prince Higashi-Fushimi, accompanied by their Excellencies Yamada and Yamagata, amused himself shooting wild boar in the neighbourhood of Shimon-kata—a village some seven miles from Hachôji. A boar of exceptionally large size was killed after a most exciting chase, for though struck by three bullets the animal succeeded in baffling his pursuers for several hours. H. I. H. Prince Kita-shira-kawa—who was also of the party—proceeded, under the guidance of His Excellency Kawamura to Inama, a village about five miles distant, in the neighbourhood of which they shot eleven hares and two badgers. On the following day His Majesty set out from Hachôji. The first stage was at Hino-juku, where arrangements had been made for another hunt in the vicinity. Here the Emperor went on foot, and made his way through the snow and across the covers with evident enjoyment. The officers of his train and his personal attendants acted as beaters, and the result was a capital bag of hares and other ground game. That night was passed at Fuchiu, and on the 21st the Imperial party returned to the palace at Akasaka.

Had the programme originally proposed for the Imperial hunting expedition been carried out in its integrity, the Emperor's return would not have taken place till the 22nd, in which case he would have been spared some anxiety, for by coming back on the 21st he was just in time for the fire at Yotsuya of that date. The conflagration broke out at 8 o'clock in the evening in the yard of a timber merchant, and was not extinguished until more than fourteen hundred houses had been destroyed. At one time the palace itself seemed in imminent danger. Signal guns were fired, troops were turned out, and all the nobles and high officials in the capital hastened to pay their respects at the palace, so that the neighbourhood of Yotsuya presented a scene of extraordinary bustle and confusion. The frost too was so intense that the water pumped over the houses in the supposed path of the flames, froze in the streets even as it fell, causing not a few accidents to the headlong rout of men and vehicles that hurried to and fro incessantly. On the following morning Mr. Watanabe, alderman of Yotsuya, was summoned to the Household Department, and received His Majesty the Emperor's orders to distribute the sum of fifteen hundred yen among the sufferers by the conflagration of the preceding evening.

The Yotsuya district is thinly populated and has hitherto been comparatively free from fires, though it is still remembered in connection with one most renowned conflagration twenty years ago; a conflagration that swept without check from the westerly limit of Akasaka right down to the sea-shore at Akabane, a distance of some five miles.

Last Tuesday evening a farewell dinner was given to Mr. M. M. Scott of the Dai-gakko Yobimon, by Mr. Hattori, director of that establishment. The other guests were Mr. Hamno, late Vice-president of the Dai-gakko, Mr. Mori of the Yobimon, and Messrs. Whitney, Strange and Cox, colleagues of Mr. Scott. The entertainment took place in the rooms of the Asiatic Society at the Shôheikwan. After dinner Mr. Scott's health was proposed by Mr. Hattori, and warmly responded to by the assembled

guests. Mr. Scott replied briefly. He expressed his regret that private reasons rendered his further stay in Japan impossible; thanked the Japanese officials for their unvarying kindness and courtesy, and his colleagues for their hearty coöperation, and added that whatever the future might have in store for him, he could not easily forget the happy days he had spent here.

For our own part, though we have not been so fortunate as Mr. Scott's colleagues, we cannot let him go without a word of farewell. During a long service of ten years he has not only proved himself one of the ablest teachers ever possessed by Japan, but has also won the hearts of all who knew him, and in bidding him "God speed," we are forcibly reminded, that the most unhappy condition of our life out here is to form our best friendships with the certainty of ultimate separation.

Cats have always been associated in the minds of the Japanese with vampires, ghouls and other monsters of the "horresco referens" genus. Indeed feline annals tolerably well justify this ill report, for while we have tales innumerable of old women murdered, stout warriors possessed, and gentle maidens bewitched, by cats, we have only one authentic record of good service done by a member of the nine-lived race, and that was when the princess Meian employed her cat to carry the love letters no other messenger could have transmitted. The province of Iga has always been celebrated for the ferocious exploits of its wild cats, which are said to be of enormous size and particularly savage nature, but an exploit just reported from Gifu in Mino, shows that tame cats are sometimes quite as dangerous as their undomesticated brethren.

A farmer, by name Onda Sahai, residing in the village of Yasukuta, possessed a cat which had lived in his house for so many years that it was known throughout the district as "Onda's old cat." Good fare and comfortable circumstances had produced their usual effect, and each year Tom developed a fresh increment of bulk, and strengthened instincts of domesticity. A few months ago the farmer's young wife bore a child, and at the fall of the year preparations for unwonted festivity were made in consequence. Stout pines and massive straw plaits were hung at the portal, coral lobsters and obese oranges nestled in luxuriant bunches of greenery over the lintels and alcove, and all the neighbours were invited to join in the pounding of a colossal rice-cake. The cat alone held aloof from the general jollity, but since he had long passed the time of life when gambols cease to be entertaining, no special notice was taken of his moroseness. A little after sunrise on New Year's day the family assembled to partake of the rice-cake, but just as the farmer was raising his chop-sticks to his mouth, an unearthly mianling and piteous cries were heard in the adjoining chamber where the baby had been left asleep. The farmer's wife was the first to reach her child's bed and with what speed we can well imagine—where she found the cat tearing fiercely with tooth and claw at the throat of the helpless baby, accompanying his bloody work with sounds that resembled the growling of an infuriated tiger. It is needless to say that "Onda's old cat" slept that night in the bottom of the village stream, but as for the child, succour had come too late. It died the same evening, and the feast that should have celebrated its well-being, was offered to Jizo, the Guardian God of baby spirits.

About the time when the foreign residents of Yokohama were discussing the advisability of commuting the Shimo-

noseki indemnity for the opening of a new port in the Inland Sea, the wife of one Tsuchiya Hiranobu, a gentleman of Iwashiro, bore him his first and only child, a daughter.

The girl's name was Nobu. She lost her mother before she was yet old enough to feel much real grief, and her father's redoubled affection soon taught her to forget the bereavement, so that for some years she lived even more happily than is the common lot of youth. There came a time, however, when Tsuchiya married again; a marriage rather of convenience than love, but one, which none the less gave his child—a stepmother. In Nobu's eyes the change presaged no sorrow. She had learned to measure the world by her father's tenderness, and did not conceive the possibility of pain so long as he lived to protect her. Nor was she at once undeceived. Tsuchiya's second wife shewed herself gentle and kind enough at first, respecting and even approving her husband's great love for his only daughter. If she harboured any evil thoughts she succeeded in concealing them completely, until her seeming sympathy and undeniable tact gradually gained her a fixed place in her husband's esteem.

After two years it became apparent that this second marriage was not destined to be fruitful. The man, disappointed in the prospect that had mainly persuaded him to give his child a step-mother, grew if possible more precious of O-Nobu—now a bright laughing girl of fifteen—and began to discuss the propriety of seeking for her a suitable husband, who should be adopted into the family and take the place of an eldest son. To Fusa, his wife, this idea was unendurable. Nothing but the constant hope of bearing a child, which should supplant O-Nobu, had hitherto enabled her to curb a jealousy burning each day more fiercely as the certainty of discomfiture grew more imminent. She laid aside her disguise and set herself to attain her end with all the craft of true cruelty. The family was then living in Tokiyo. A physician in tolerably good practice, Tsuchiya was generally away from home the greater part of the day, and during his absence the often told tale of inhuman humanity was rehearsed in all its details. The child's hitherto happy existence was converted into an endless round of miseries too subtly devised to form tangible grounds of complaint, too pitiless and unwonted to fail in their purpose. O-Nobu was not wanting in ability. She had already successfully passed through the normal schools and was now preparing for her final examination at the college of Preceptresses, but this new shadow which had fallen upon her life, hid the way to knowledge. She failed to obtain a certificate, and her father, who might well have forgiven this miscarriage had he not been taught to anticipate it by insinuations that engendered doubts even of his daughter's girlish innocence, beat the child cruelly when she came home with the news of her ill-success. This was more than O-Nobu could endure. For seven days she lay sick in body and apparently half unconscious of what passed about her, hearing all the while no word of sympathy, but only her stepmother's taunts, who, called her "Miss Failure," and bade her father thank his own foolish leniency for the child's incompetence.

"Friends, this frail bark of ours, when sorely tried,
May wreck itself without the pilot's guilt
Without the captain's knowledge."

On the seventh evening after he had struck the heartless blows, Tsuchiya came home, all his old love for the child revived by one of those inexplicable instincts that precede a life-long remorse. O-Nobu was not in the house, and her stepmother, anxiously questioned, replied with her wonted jibes, that "Miss Failure had recovered her health and

gone to enjoy herself with companions who cared little about examinations or diplomas." The man's heart was again hardened, and though no keener frost had fallen nor bitterer wind blown all through the winter, he let the night pass without any further search. In the morning he saw his daughter again. Her dead body had just been drawn from the ice and mud in the moat opposite the Kobu-dai-gakko, where she had found quiet at last. She had crept out of her father's house a little before dusk, bade farewell to one of her school companions who lived in the neighbourhood, and then——God knows what then, but we, in whose midst this horror has just happened, believe that some sterner punishment than our feeble laws can devise, will be measured out one day for the workers of such evil.

Owing to want of space we are prevented from publishing the conclusion of "the Curio Market" till next week.

'BETWEEN THE DEVIL AND THE DEEP SEA'— JAPAN'S NEUTRALITY.

THE expressive phrase standing at the head of this article obtained an extended currency at home in the course of last year through its application, by an English statesman who is also an Irish landlord, to the position of the owners of property in Ireland. That was at the beginning of their troubles: *their* position has since then ceased to be merely a dilemma: They have fallen into the Deep Sea without escaping the *Other Fate*! When the prospect of war between Russia and China became a contingency of the near future, (a prospect now happily diminished but not extinguished) Japan felt herself in a similar dilemma—but it is to be hoped that, however sorely either horn may pierce her, she will not, as in the case just referred to, find herself transfixed by both at once. It would perhaps be invidious, as between China and Russia, to enquire which branch of the dilemma each represents. But we may be pardoned for pointing out, before we drop the metaphor, how appropriately China—impassive, inscrutable, unapproachable China—may be symbolized by the Deep Sea; whereas the Devil, we know, is always open to negotiation and ready to drive a diplomatic bargain!

To put metaphor aside, the situation is briefly this:—The geographical position of Japan renders her attitude a matter of prime importance in a war between China and any naval power. To allow her territory to be made the actual base of operations against China is to afford that Empire a *casus belli*—if she chose to take it. To deny to Russia absolutely those privileges which by Treaty her ships enjoy here in time of peace, is to give offence for which a day of reckoning would not be long delayed. What amount of ground Russia would have technically to object to such a course might be a matter of some question if the case were brought to the test of international law: but that an attitude of what in the present day English or American publicists call 'Strict Neutrality' might, speaking practically, place Japan in a position of danger from the side of Russia, can scarcely be doubted.

The dilemma, it will be observed at a glance, is not a complete one. Between the allowance by a State of the use of her territory as a belligerent's base of operations and the preservation of a 'strict neutrality' in the fullest sense there may be, and in fact are, many intermediate resting-places. If any of them be open to Japan, the assumed dilemma, which merely formulates the result of what has

been said and written on the subject, is after all more apparent than real. Is there then any such intermediate line of conduct which, in the event of war, this country, having regard to her international obligations and her own political ends and interests, could honourably and safely follow? We think there is. But we must first review the actual situation as regards those obligations and interests. And in speaking of obligations we do not refer to abstract obligations imposed by any rule of international law upon States who are neutral in war—as to that we shall have something to say presently: we refer here to such obligations as, either for the sake of the national honour or of interests held in common with other countries, form efficient motives of practical policy. Obligations of this nature may be treated as identical with the nation's own real political interests.

The considerations which, if we view Japan as a unit among nations unsupported by any powerful alliance to be leant upon in case of need, would make it prudent for her to maintain frank and friendly relations with Russia are sufficiently obvious. The only question that can arise here is whether the national honour or any considerations more material in their nature place the country under obligations to China such as should induce her to make sacrifices or incur risks for the sake of conciliating the close friendship of that Empire. Now, we have always held that the true interests of both Japan and China would be best served by a good understanding and the recognition and pursuit of a common cause between the two governments. Writing towards the close of 1879 upon the Riu Kiu affair, then recently in active dispute, we concluded a review of the whole case with the expression of a not unfounded hope that the scheme of mediation that had been proposed would result in cementing a solid and lasting bond of union, founded upon community of interests, between the two Empires—a result calculated to modify the whole course of East Asian politics. Recent events have belied that hope at the moment when it seemed to have already passed into fruition. This is not the place to enter into the history of that failure. But it is relevant and most material to the present purpose to point out that the failure of the long-pending negotiations, complete as it is and definitive as it must apparently remain, is attributable wholly and solely to the Government of China. Japan, the most grudging of critics must, if accurately informed, be ready to allow, has done all that a nation could do—more than all that a nation could be called upon to do. What wonder then if this Government gives up in despair the hope of making common cause with a Government which, whether from policy or, as even the best informed people think equally likely, from sheer inaptitude, can thus blindly repel overtures made in such a spirit and at so great sacrifice of pride and even of consistency? It must, we fear, almost be confessed (though we are loth to come to the conclusion and would fain preserve a loophole of escape from it) that the dissimilarity of national characteristics and the divergence of the political paths on which they walk, accentuated by a seeming infatuation on one side, make anything like unity of purpose or combination for the achievement of political ends, for the common interest of both, impossible between Japan and China.*

* The Treaty of 1871 between China and Japan would, on the face of it, point to a mutual desire at that date for the promotion of very intimate relations. Article II. is as follows:—"Friendly intercourse thus existing between the two Governments, it is the duty of each to sympathize with the other, and in the event of any other nation acting unjustly or treating either of the two Powers with contempt, on notice being given [by the one to the other] mutual

We must not be understood as putting forward these considerations to show that Japan would be justified in giving active assistance to Russia in a war with China, or even in passively allowing Russia to make, without protest, whatever use she might please of Japanese territory. What they do show is, that Japan is not called upon to strain any points in favour of China, or to make any sacrifices for the sake of maintaining what in Europe would be regarded as an advanced form of 'strict neutrality.' Even assuming that such canons would in any case be applicable, she is not called upon to take a pedantic stand upon principles and assume a rigid attitude towards Russia at the certain risk of that Power's extreme displeasure. The influence of Russia is very near Japan: her might, if need were, could be brought to bear more immediately and with more lasting effect than that of any other Power. And if this potential danger should pass into actuality, where would Japan have to look for aid? How much the better off would she be for having followed, for China's benefit, the most advanced observances of the European law of nations? Would any of the Western Powers reward her scrupulousness by material aid? Would China himself come to her rescue—even if she could? For Japan to adopt an attitude of neutrality studied from that of the leading maritime and commercial nations of the West, would be mere Quixotism—and certainly, whatever other nations may do, Japan cannot afford to run vital risks for an idea.

But is it necessary even as a matter of abstract right and wrong,—all considerations of interest and expediency aside—for Japan to adopt any such standard of neutrality as that set up, say, under the *Alabama* Arbitration? There are degrees of neutrality not calling for any such ruinous sacrifices as she would thus be required to make. The truth is that the present standard of neutrality in Europe and America is quite an innovation and extends the duties of neutrals far beyond any previous limits. Moreover, the new canons are by no means universally recognized, and not only are the most advanced positions but the whole of the modern doctrines of neutrality are of surprisingly recent growth. Without going back to the birth of the idea of neutrality when the evils of war were first alleviated by localizing its activity; when, instead of the original custom under which, upon two nations going to war, all the others 'took sides,' nations for the first time thought of 'standing out' during a quarrel—without going so far back as that, it is plain from the history of the doctrine that, even down to the end of the 17th century, neutrality, in anything approaching the sense in which we use the word now, though written about

assistance shall be rendered, or mediation offered for the arrangement of the difficulty, in fulfilment of the duty imposed by relations of friendship." It need scarcely be said that the rumours we heard so much of some time ago, of the Chinese government having claimed from Japan the fulfilment of the obligations of this clause, to the latter Power's great discomfiture, were altogether without foundation. While the Riu Kiu question was open between them such a demand would have been a mere mockery. But in point of fact, even apart from such disturbing causes, the Article is no more than an empty form. It was borrowed by the Chinese from their Treaty of 1858 with the United States, and at their instance embodied in a stronger form in the Treaty with Japan, against the inclination of the latter's Plenipotentiary. When the Treaty came up for ratification by the Mikado, an attempt was made to exclude the Article: but Li-Hung-Chang insisted upon its retention, at the same time that a diplomatic 'understanding' was arrived at reducing its import to a mere formality. The Japanese Government evidently foresaw the complications likely to arise from the existence of any substantial obligations of such a nature. In the notes appended to the English version of this Treaty (from which our quotation is taken) given in Mr. W. F. Mayers' 'Treaties between the Empire of China and Foreign Powers,' besides a confusion arising from a misplaced mark of reference, the mistake is committed of saying that the Article in question was "Excluded from ratification by the Mikado of Japan." The Article stands part of the Treaty as ratified.

and beginning to be recognized in theory, scarcely existed at all in practice. It grew up in fact in the course only of the last century; but it was not until its close that, for instance, it even occurred to any government that the active succour of a belligerent, if in accordance with antecedent treaty obligations, was incompatible with the true conception of neutrality! And the open enlistment of troops by a belligerent in a neutral state was a well recognized custom, as we know, down to quite recent times, and can hardly be said even now to be exploded. But there is no need to go back so much as the length of a single generation to see how limited is the application or recognition of the 'strict' rules of neutrality. So recently as the commencement of the Crimean war the kingdoms of Sweden and Norway and the kingdom of Denmark issued an identical Declaration of what they called 'Strict Neutrality,' laying down rules of such elasticity that, if the canons of the Geneva Tribunal are to be the sole criterion, the position of those kingdoms would scarcely be recognized as that of neutrals at all. It would occupy too much space even to summarize that Declaration here: it will be found *in extenso* in Sir Robert Phillimore's well-known work, where he speaks of the document as *carefully laying down* the doctrine of neutrality.

We need not stop to enquire how far, as between themselves, China and Japan either would, or could, consistently appeal to western systems of international law in defining the treatment which the one as a belligerent would expect to receive from the other as a neutral. Japan at any rate is determined to conform her public acts to European standards, and her government must be content to have the national conduct judged by reference to those standards. But, as we have been endeavouring to show, there is not one standard but many to be discovered in a brief retrospect, and even as recognized by different States in Europe at the present day. Surely a nation at this end of the world, entering almost for the first time upon a difficult and delicate path, cannot be called upon to jump at once into the very fore-front of that dangerous and expensive contest which is being continually waged, among a few of the most wealthy and powerful nations, between the rival claims of neutrals and belligerents—and that too, in favour of a nation which has hitherto shown but little inclination to consider herself bound by the usages of international intercourse current in the West. Yet this is what those would have who contend that an attitude of strict neutrality of the most advanced type is the only legitimate and honourable attitude for Japan to assume and the only one not rendering her obnoxious to the just vengeance of China at some future day—the more immediate danger from the side of Russia being apparently left out of account.

It is not for us to attempt to define the exact limits which in the present case would divide a reasonable care for the maintenance of neutrality, on the one side, from such laxity, on the other, as might be legitimately made a ground of complaint by the party disserved by it. Those responsible for the conduct of affairs, having *facts* before them, and being possessed of an intimate knowledge of the actual needs and circumstances of the case, are alone in a position to apply principles to concrete details. Upon the precise nature and extent of the use which the Russian authorities would even desire to make of the ports and resources of Japan, it would perhaps be idle to speculate. But there is at least no reason to assume that they make any extravagant demands. The Russian commanders no

doubt desire to make the most of their opportunities; but it is not probable they would insist upon thrusting Japan into a position calculated to compromise her with China either now or hereafter. The right of hospitality and asylum for her ships and seamen, a market in which to obtain provisions and supplies, other than contraband of war—such ordinary privileges as these Russia may certainly be expected to have demanded, and Japan can as certainly accord. But the good understanding upon the subject which is believed to exist between the Japanese and Russian authorities here, coupled with the known determination of the Japanese Government to do nothing to put itself technically in the wrong *vis-à-vis* China—these point pretty plainly to the conclusion that, if present hopes of peace be falsified and the occasion unhappily arise, there has been found a *via media* between the two paths leading to destruction, a means of escape from both 'the Devil and the Deep Sea.'

NEW AMERICAN TREATIES WITH CHINA.

JUDGED merely from the rapidity with which they were concluded, these two conventions, the text of which was reprinted, from a trans-Pacific source, in the *Japan Weekly Mail* of the 12th instant, may be considered a striking diplomatic achievement. Powers were exchanged on the 1st of October, 1880 at Peking, between the Commissioners appointed by the United States and the Tsung Li Yamen respectively. On the 17th of the following month the documents were signed; and three days later the two delegates whose ambassadorial functions were confined to the discussion immediately indicated, were hurrying down the Peiho from the bitter embraces of that almost Arctic winter, which had then already begun to throw its icy arms round the capital of the middle kingdom. Such despatch is certainly unprecedented in the history of occidental negotiations with the mandarins since the days of Lord Macartney's famous embassy. Here, however, any praise to be awarded to the work of the conference, as far as its American element is concerned, should probably cease. When the treaties come to be thoroughly understood in the United States they will be received with contempt or indifference. Better, probably, for the envoys, had they failed to arrange any treaty at all, than have succeeded in producing a fiasco.

Constant agitation of the lowest class of white politicians in San Francisco, and occasional attempts, in deference to that party, made in the State legislature, to override the constitution of the United States to the prejudice of the Chinese, at length aroused in other parts of the Union a languid interest in the "Mongolian invasion." When the quadrennial struggle for the presidency last approached, this interest was factitiously heightened for political purposes; and republicans as well as democrats felt that a bid must be made, on this very subject, for the votes of the Pacific Slope. Thus, Asiatic immigration into the territory of the Great Republic became a "plank in the platform" of either candidature, and the would-be Presidents, in terms almost identical, declared their policy in favor of a system which should limit the influx of a race, whose segregation and other alleged offences rendered its presence a blot on the fair face of California's morality and an impediment to progress of every kind. About this time reiterated complaints of diplomatic and consular scandals, which even American administrative benevolence could not pronounce trivial, were forcing upon President Hayes's cabinet the appointment of a new Minister in China. California claimed a nomination, which for many good reasons could not be allowed, putting the name of Mr. John F. Swift,

a local lawyer and politician, prominently forward. The Chief Magistrate and his advisers wisely decided that the resident Representative at Peking should neither be a Californian nor a "politician," and made an excellent choice in the person of Mr. James B. Angell, a gentleman of literary culture and scholastic attainments, then principal of Michigan University. Simultaneously with this appointment there was an opportunity of quieting, for a time, the demagogues of the Western coast. A Commission should be sent to China, with the ostensible object of reviewing the Burlingame treaty, and putting a stop if possible to the obnoxious incursion of the yellow race. Hence Mr. Angell was directed to give his earliest attention, after his arrival at his destination, to this point, and received as associates in this task Mr. John F. Swift, of San Francisco, aforesaid, Republican, and Mr. W. H. Trescott, of South Carolina, Democrat. The last named gentleman, alone of the three, had any previous diplomatic experience. He is a *protégé* of Mr. Evarts, has studied international law, and was, years ago, for a short time and during the consideration of a technical question between the cabinets of Washington and London, attached to his country's legation in the British metropolis. A handsome appropriation was voted by Congress for the expenses of the Mission, which, leaving America in June last, arrived at the sphere of its labors, with very little hope of success, some three months later.

Truly, if they expected ever to accomplish their task at all, the Commissioners must have realized that they had not a pleasant prospect before them. They had so much to undo before they could construct anything. They must look for the overthrow of those pleasant feelings of mutual friendship, on which American statesmen rely so much for the extension of their interests and influence with Far Eastern people. They must profess different tenets to those preached in the Gospels of Reed and Burlingame. The former diplomatist, acting on the part of the United States in the summer of 1858 at Tientsin, makes inferential comparison between his own Government and some European ones in their dealings with China. "The United States of America and the Ta Tsing empire, desiring to maintain firm lasting and sincere friendship, have &c. &c." "There shall be, as there always has been, peace and friendship." "They shall not insult or oppress each other for any trifling cause." These clipped phrases are only suggestions of the exuberant profession of mutual esteem with which the Reed document abounds. They were supplemented ten years later by the Burlingame treaty, so called after an American diplomatist who left the service of his own nation for that of China, and negotiated, on behalf of the latter, with Mr. Secretary Seward at Washington, the convention which still bears his name. He obtained concession, for China, of "eminent domain or dominion" over her own land and waters, and the acknowledgment that no grant of land by her to the United States should be "construed to divest the Chinese authorities of their right of jurisdiction over persons and property within said tract, except so far as the right may have been expressly relinquished by treaty." Passing over other equally liberal provisions, we will come to that which the recent commission was expressly appointed to undo—the recognition of the "inherent and inalienable right of man to change his home and his allegiance, and also the mutual advantage of free migration . . . and emigration from the one country to the other for the purpose of curiosity or trade, or as permanent residents." These and kindred phrases, admitted as axioms twelve years ago by the United States in their own capitol, last year's delegates had to exhibit as false and untenable propositions. Their work did not promise to be very agreeable: the potent Viceroy of

Pechili, Li Hung Chang, whose counsels, at least on matters of external policy, are almost as influential in the Tsung Li Yamen as they are in his own province, was avowedly hostile to any modification in the treaties as they stood. In a letter from Tientsin, the *New York Herald* correspondent who accompanied the Envoys described His Excellency as profoundly irritated with the proposal, perfectly well acquainted with all the aspects of the Chinese question in America, and only willing to meet the delegation so far as to arrest, for a fixed period, and without any condition, the emigration, *in toto*, of his compatriots to the United States. That his views were at least shared by the Board of Foreign Control in Peking is evident from the tone first assumed by that body. The official report of the proceedings at Peking, addressed to the State Department at Washington contains these words:—"The statement of the wishes and purposes of the government of the United States was, at the opening of the negotiations, met by the Chinese Commissioners with the expression, in very friendly language, of their willingness to negotiate, *provided no modification of the Burlingame Treaty was asked*, and certain propositions formerly submitted by Mr. Seward in reference to paupers, lewd women, diseased persons and contract laborers, were taken as the basis of the negotiations." This sentence is a terse and not inaccurate compendium of the meaning of a remarkable instrument, presented by the Chinese at one of the earliest sessions of the conference. It was practically unanswered by the Americans, who confined themselves to an assertion that they wished, precisely, to modify the Burlingame treaty: that any proposition before formulated by Mr. Seward was no basis from which to direct their negotiations; and that language was used in the Chinese communication such as is not customary between Governments. The Tsung Li Yamen deprecated the idea of giving any offence—they had struck their blow—and consented to consider the propositions of their visitors, who accordingly entered into deliberations with Bao Hsun and Li Hung Tsao, the Imperial plenipotentiaries. The former official is senior member of the Foreign Office, a Privy Councillor and Superintendent of the Board of Civil Offices—an exalted, honorable, and lucrative post, having in its gift the nomination or approval of all civil appointments. The incumbent is fairly well disposed to foreigners; but his associate, once tutor to the late Emperor, is antagonistic to them. The discussions began and proceeded; and, after a few meetings, the terms of the new immigration treaty were agreed upon. Present Celestial residents in America are not to be disturbed; but the United States Government has the right to "regulate, limit or suspend" the influx of "laborers," and laborers only, and that solely after congressional legislation. This restricted power will hardly satisfy the sand-lot agitators: but is certainly as much as the Commissioners could have asked for: more than they hoped to obtain: more than at first there seemed any likelihood of their obtaining. In part their success may be ascribed to other and more weighty matters of foreign policy engaging the attention of the Tsung Li Yamen, especially Russian and Japanese claims, and a natural desire on the part of the college to free itself, as swiftly as possible, from minor affairs. The real friendliness, as compared with the feeling towards other western nations, which exists in China to Americans, was also perhaps of some account in the expeditious compliance with United States demands; but there was another far more potent motive for benevolence. The Chinese wished something for themselves, and they obtained it by the exercise of true national astuteness.

At the time of the American Minister's arrival in Tientsin a Brazilian Embassy was in that port arranging with Viceroy Li Hung Chang a commercial treaty. A "coolie"

treaty was the sort of agreement first contemplated at Rio ; but a change of ministry there rendered it unnecessary to press a point which would never have been conceded. Whatever international agreements may yet be made by China, that power will never again accede to such terms as are stipulated in her conventions—which, by the way, she has succeeded in making inoperative—with Spain and Peru. Li had no objection to a treaty of friendship and commerce with people who were likely to have so few relations with his country as the subjects of Dom Pedro. So the end was attained with little trouble ; but, in the course of negotiations, Li submitted to the Envoys a clause stipulating that none of their nationals should in any way be concerned in the importation of opium into his country, or its sale therein. The delegates demurred on the ground that such a provision would be an insult to another friendly power : they would reserve its consideration, however, for their Government. The insertion was not insisted upon, and the instrument was provisionally completed without it. The crafty Governor had learned his lesson ; and hence the difference in the reception which was prepared for, and that actually accorded to, the American requisition. When this was presented the Chinese first, respectfully but firmly, waved in the face of their guests the Burlingame treaty, which they, for their own part, had no desire to see abrogated or altered. They added, nevertheless, that they were “by no means unalterably fixed in their views,” and then proceeded, with shrewd and deliberate cautiousness, to yield the demand, allowing just so much pressure to be put upon them as should show that they were making a valuable concession. What did they care about the suspension of immigration ? All Chinese in power are averse to the migration of their countrymen. Yet a reluctantly complaisant acquiescence was accorded. Such goodness should surely meet with a reward. Their carefully prepared battery was then unmasked, and their opium bomb was launched full into the tents of the American Commissioners, who surrendered unconditionally on its explosion. There is practically nothing in the second treaty but the opium clause. China and the United States both agree not to “discriminate” in their levies upon ships and cargoes of each other ; and an article, providing that in all judicial procedure, where Americans on one side and Chinese on the other are concerned in China, the cases shall be heard before a tribunal of the defendant's nationality, was borrowed from the Chefoo convention. But the article prohibiting to Americans the import or sale of opium does demand a short consideration. It runs thus :—

The Government of China and of the United States mutually agree and undertake that Chinese subjects shall not be permitted to import opium into any of the ports of the United States, and citizens of the United States shall not be permitted to import opium into any of the open ports of China, or to transport opium from one open port to any other open port, or to buy and sell opium in any of the open ports of China. This absolute prohibition, which extends to vessels owned by the citizens or subjects of either Power, to foreign vessels employed by them, or to vessels owned by the citizens or subjects of either Power, and employed by other persons for transportation of opium, shall be enforced by appropriate legislation on the part of China and the United States, and the benefits of the favored clauses in existing treaties shall not be claimed by the citizens or subjects of either Power as against the provisions of this article.

Against the principle here hidden, if it is a blow at the pernicious traffic in and abuse of a drug which has only been designed by Providence as a merciful medicinal solace to suffering man, we have nothing to say. We would gladly see the prompt and total abolition of that traffic ; but the above-quoted clause will hardly militate to that end. The paragraph is so clumsily conceived that one is forced to the

belief that the Commissioners, having fallen into the trap prepared for them by the Chinese, conceded the claim without consideration. How will it operate ? There is no extra-territorial jurisdiction, in virtue of which Chinese in America shall be punished for importing opium thither, and no law exists prohibiting the narcotic in any state of the Union. There is a word about “appropriate legislation” which, as far as America is concerned, can only signify legislation that Chinamen in the United States can be punished for importing opium while Americans cannot. But the chief absurdity of the whole arrangement is that American vessels are prohibited from carrying cargo, in Chinese waters, which Chinese vessels can take. In other words, an American captain, compelled to refuse, at Bombay for Shanghai, or at Shanghai coastward, a freight of opium, might see the master of the China Merchants' Steamship Company accept it in either case. On this point, at least, the Americans should have secured reciprocity. So they might have rendered a real service to Chinese morality, and would have saved themselves from the ridicule which cannot fail to follow such treaty-making as theirs.

CUSTOMS CONCERNING INFANTS,— CHANGELINGS.

II.

THE Sam Ku Lok Po 三姑六婆 of Cantonese nurses, is a hobgoblin whose existence and evil powers are, and for centuries have been, acknowledged in Continental and Western Asiatic countries. It will be remembered that this demon is

- (a) a female
- (b) unmarried, i.e. the consort of another demon,
- (c) influencing children solely,
- (d) and that at a tender age, or immediately at birth.

The “Lilith” of rabbinical legends answers exactly to these requirements. Lilith is said to have been the first wife of Adam, extremely beautiful, but, like Adam, made of the dust. The serpent tempted her to break the commandment of the Deity : she yielded and ate of the fruit of the tree of knowledge. Conscious of her sin, she endeavored to cause her spouse to eat of the fruit, but he was steadfast to his promise and resisted. In consequence of her double sin God not only banished her from Eden, but she became like him who had tempted her—a demon. Again a woman was created in her stead, this time from a rib taken from Adam. Some legends say that it was Lilith, who in the serpentine form tempted Eve : at any rate Eve, like her predecessor, fell. Like Lilith she persuades Adam in her turn to share the onus of guilt and he accedes finally to her desires.

“... I feel
The link of nature draw me ; flesh of flesh
Bone of my bone thou art, and from thy state
Mine never shall be parted, bliss or woe—
Our state cannot be severed ; we are one,
One flesh ; to lose thee were to lose myself.”—

Paradise Lost.

The fall of Adam and Eve gave Lilith great power over their future, especially over their progeny, and the old legends tell us that Cain's dark life and deed was in consequence of Lilith's counsellings and machinations. So it happens, that Lilith is greatly feared in some congregations to this day, and many exorcisms and charms are used to preserve the first-born from her malice. Lilith is not mentioned in the old Testament, if we accept the testimony of our authorised English version ; the word, indeed, occurs but once (Isaiah, 34, 14), and there it has been read “screech-owl,” the marginal-note adding “night-monster.” The word is found in a passage full of strange names which are indubitably those of demons, but as with the word “dragon,” so often to be found in the old Testament, they are one and all translated “owls, screech-owls,” or “night-monsters.” A female demon named “Lilith” is to be found in some of the magical texts of the Assyrian sculptures. She is spoken of as endowed with “sevenfold power,” but her attributes are as yet unknown. Deeply interesting as it would be to

to pursue this subject, it takes us too far from our original theme, but the future may approximate more definitely the date of Isaiah's prophecies, by means of a thorough investigation of the Lillith-myth.

The "fairy women" or "sighe-mothers" of Brittany, Ireland and Scotland etc. are simply "Sam Ku Lok Po" in a modernized form. The stories of changelings and fairy children so current among the Celts—are all versions of one fundamental and universal myth. So numerous as are the superstitious fancies of the Chinese, one anticipates naturally a close analogy between their myths and those of European peoples as regards the legends of changelings, and, in truth the Chinese have a very similar theory.

Should the infant from its birth have frequent spells of crying and be of an unaccountably peevish disposition, the parents conclude that Sam Ku Lok Po has succeeded in entering the child, or rather that a demon has taken up its abode in the infant, whilst the true baby's soul is wandering. They thereupon take dried banana skin, burn it to ashes and mix it with water so as to make a sort of inky compound. The mother now dips her fore finger into the ink and paints a cross on the baby's forehead with the words "I paint this cross, to drive thee (the demon) away" 打一箇十字至住個.

Again, another but perilous method of exorcism is to blacken the infant's face. Banana-skin does not necessarily form an ingredient this time; any ink will do. The parents wait until the babe is in a sound slumber, when they take the ink and blacken its face with their fingers—a brush would not be efficacious. In a short time, the demon which has taken possession of the child returns, preparatory to its awakening,—for the soul wanders from the body during sleep and is free—and seeing the blackened face, exclaims

"Lawk-a-meroy, this can't be I!"

or words to that effect—and decamps precipitately. The true soul, which has been waiting for an opportunity, approaches the dormant body:—now is the time for the parents to wash off the ink with all speed—the soul recognizes its true casement, and the babe awakes in a natural state. Woe betide it should not the ink have been washed off at the right moment, for then the true soul will, like the demon, fail to recognize the body and sorrowfully leave it, and the little one dies in sleep! On account of the supposed possibility of such an occurrence, the parents seldom use this latter method (which is called "the face blackening" 打黑面), but prefer to make the cross on the forehead. Both of these remarkable customs are peculiar to the lower classes of Canton. Whether or not Catholicism is apparent in the first, it would be difficult to state.

For the sake of comparison I give the following pretty account of a changeling from the Dublin Univ. Magazine Vol. LXIV.

Katty Clarke of Tobinstown was once happy in the possession of a fine boy, the delight of her eyes and heart, till one unlucky day when she happened to sleep too long in the morning, and, consequently, had not time to say her prayers. Mr. Clarke, coming in from the fields, was annoyed at not finding the stirabout ready, and opened his mind on the subject. Kitty was vexed with him and herself, and cursed a little, as was customary sixty years since among men and women in remote districts of our country. All these annoyances prevented her from remembering the holy water, and from sprinkling some drops on her little son, and making the sign of the cross on his innocent forehead. When the men and boys left the house for their out-door work after breakfast, Katty took her pail-full of soiled linen to the spot where the stream formed a little pool, and where the villagers had fixed a broad and flat "beetling" stone. While she was employed in cleaning the clothes she let her child sit or roll about on the grassy slope behind her.

All at once she heard a scream from the boy, and when she turned, and ran to him, she found him in convulsions. She ran home with him, administered salt and water, and the other specifics popular in the country. The fit passed away, but she was grieved to perceive that the weakened, pained expression still remained on his face, and that his whimpering and whining did not abate—in fact, to use a well-worn Irish expression, "the cry was never out of his mouth." He ate as much as would suffice a full-grown

man, and was always ready for food both at regular meal-times and between them. After a week of this state of things, the neighbours came to the conclusion that it was a sheegee that Katty was slaving her life out for. Katty's family came next into the same persuasion, and lastly, but with some doubts, Katty herself.

At a family and neighbourly council, held round the fire, after the children had been sent to bed, they proceeded to get rid of the little wretch, and this was the order of the ceremonial:—

A neighbour took the shovel, rubbed it clean, laid it on the floor, and his wife, seizing on the supposed fairy, placed it sitting on the broad iron blade. She held it there stoutly notwithstanding its howls, while her husband, raising it gently, proceeded to the barn, accompanied by the assembly, and, despite all opposition on its part, placed it on a wisp of straw which crowned the manure heap. The luxury of the seat did not succeed in arresting his outcries, but his audience not taking much notice, joined hands, and in their own parlance serenaded the crowned heap three times, while the fairy man, who had been summoned from Bawnard (high court) recited an incantation in Irish of which we give a literal version:—

"Come at our call O sighe mother!
Come and remove your offspring.
Food and drink he has received.
And kindness from the Bhan-a-seagh,
Here he no longer shall stay,
But depart to the Duinné Matha.
Restore the lost child, O Bena-Sighe!
And food shall be left for thy people.
When the cloth is spread on the harvest field,
On the short grass newly mown.
Food shall be left on the dresser-shelf,
And the hearthstone shall be clean,
When the Clan Sighe come in crowds,
And sweep in rings round the floor,
And hold their feast at the fire.
Restore the Mortal child, O Bean-Sighe!
And receive thine own at our hands."

The charm and the third round ending at the same time, all re-entered the house, and closed the door. They soon felt the air round them sweep this way and that, as if it was stirred by the motion of wings, but they remained quiet and silent for about ten minutes. Opening the door they then looked out; and saw the bundle of straw on the heap, but neither child nor fairy. "Go into your bedroom Katty" said the fairy man, "and see if there's anything left on the bed." She did so, and they soon heard a cry on joy, and Katty was among them in a moment, kissing and hugging her own healthy-looking child, who was waking, and rubbing his eyes, and wondering at the lights and all the eager faces. Whatever hurry Katty might be in of a morning after that, she never left her bedside till she had finished as devoutly as she could, her five Paters, and five Aves, and her Apostles' Creed, and her Confiteor. And she never cursed or swore except when she was surprised by a sudden fit of passion.

In Ireland the changeling is called a "Sheegee," in Brittany a "Poulpican" and the only way to rid one's self of it, is by preparing to kill it, when at the critical moment the sighe-mother "will appear with the true child" in her arms.

On the third day of the child's life, it will be remembered, the Cantonese parents offer two eggs, some ginger and vinegar to the protecting goddess Kan Yam Tat etc. The Chinese infant also receives presents of eggs and rice that day from the relatives and friends of the family. In Wakefield, Yorkshire, an offering is made to the infant (necessarily to the infant in default of a pagan deity!), on the occasion of its first visit abroad, of a cake of bread, an egg and a small quantity of salt. Special care is taken that the young pilgrim in life makes its first visit to the house of a near relative, or an esteemed friend, who will in no wise omit a ceremony so necessary to its future welfare. For it is believed if this be not done, that in its progress through life it will be exposed to the miseries of want; and by parity of reason, the due observance of it will insure a continual supply of those necessities, of which the offering at setting out in life presents so happy an omen. A writer, at the commencement of the century, speaking of this subject, says: "I know not whence or where this custom originated, nor how extensively it may be still practiced; but if

its origin be utterly unknown, we are, according to the usage of the world in all such cases, bound the more to observe and reverence it."

Hutchinson makes mention of a similar custom in his History of Northumberland. He observes that the egg was a sacred emblem, and seems a gift well adapted to infancy. Bryant says: "An egg, containing in it the elements of life, was thought no improper emblem of the ark, in which were preserved the rudiments of the future world: hence, in the Dionysiacs, and in other mysteries, one part of the nocturnal ceremonies consisted in the consecration of an egg." By this, we are informed by Porphyry, was signified the world. It seems to have been a favourite symbol and very ancient as we find it adopted among many nations. The Persians say that Auramazda formed mankind and enclosed them in an egg.

Cakes and salt were used in religious rites by the ancients. "And if thou bring an oblation of a meat offering baken in the oven, it shall be unleavened cakes of fine flour." (Lev. II. 4.)

"With all thine offerings thou shalt offer salt (Thib v. 13).

The custom of passing the babe over the flame of a fire is not peculiar to China. Dr. Moresin was an eye-witness to the following usages in Scotland. "They take, on their return from church, the newly baptized infant, and vibrate it, three or four times gently over a flame, saying, and repeating it thrice: "Let the flame consume thee now or never." Martin relates, that in the West Indies, the same lustration by carrying of fire, is performed round about lying-in women and round about children before they are christened, as an effectual means to preserve both the mother and child from the power of evil spirits. This practice is similar to an ancient feast in Athens, kept by private families, called Amphidromia (the "Running about"), on the fifth day after the birth of the child, when it was the custom for the gossips to run around the fire with the infant in their arms, and then, giving it to the nurse, they were entertained with feasting and dancing.

The minister of Logierait, in Perthshire, describing the superstitious opinions and practices in that parish, says: "When a child was baptized privately, it was, not long since, customary to put the child upon a clean basket, having a cloth previously spread upon it, with bread and cheese put into the cloth, and thus to move the basket three times successively around the iron crook which hangs over the fire." "This," he imagines, "might be anciently intended to counteract the malignant arts which witches and evil spirits were imagined to practise against new-born infants."

It is customary for the gifts given to the Chinese baby to be three in number. In Northumberland, when the infant is carried to the christening, it is customary for the nurse to provide two slices one of bread and the other of cheese, which are presented to the first person they may meet. The person who receives this homely present must give the child in return THREE different things, wishing it at the same time health and beauty. A gentleman happening once to fall in the way of such a party and to receive the above present, was at a loss how to make the triple return, till he bethought himself of laying upon the child, which was held out to him, a shilling, a half-penny and a pinch of snuff! Whether all parties were satisfied, history sayeth not.

The cash-charms or string of cash tied to the Chinese baby's clothes may be compared with the strings of amulets so extensively used in Greece and Rome and worn around the body until five or six years of age. Several of these are enumerated by Plautus, and are seen around the neck and breast of a child in a statue of the Pio-Clementine Museum. The amulets on the statue are: a half-moon on the top of the right shoulder, then a double axe, next a bucket, a sort of flower, a little hand, another half moon, a dolphin, etc.

The herbs and fruits used in China in the superstitious customs observed during infancy are ginger-root, pumpkin skin and leaves, dried banana-skin and juniper-leaves.

Among the Celts are used, for similar purposes, the fox-glove—*Luz* *Mhor*—the snap-dragon or cat's snout—*Sronna luogh*—and Marsh Marigold—*Luz Beidh Breilne*. The Teutons made use of the spring wort, milfoil, and passion flower.

E.

January, 1881.

CORRESPONDENCE.

[Our readers must distinctly understand that we are in no sense responsible for the sentiments or opinions of our Correspondents, for the accuracy of their assertions or for the deductions they may choose to draw therefrom.]

TO THE EDITOR OF THE "JAPAN WEEKLY MAIL."

Yokohama, February 26th, 1881.

DEAR SIR,—In ordinary circumstances it would hardly be worth any one's while to refute the absurd, false and malicious charge made by your correspondent "Gilead P. Beck," against Professor Dixon, from whose pen a remarkable article appeared in February number of the *Chrysanthemum*. The paper is so very recent in its spirit and so peculiarly adapted to our local standpoint and the special wants of Japanese students of English, that to suppose Mr. Dixon capable of piecing it together from the *Encyclopædia Britannica* or any conceivable number of "standard works with which we are all tolerably familiar," reflects great credit on his ingenuity. The verdict of your correspondent, whose tone presents an amusing contrast to the calm and scholarly criticisms of a Satow or a Verbeek, has not been at all received by the most capable experts whom I have been able to sound on the subject. On the other hand the paper has impressed many highly educated minds as being quite fresh. To show the contrary, therefore, something much more definite and detailed must be given in proof of your correspondent's sour-humoured opinion than anything contained in his letter. Professor Dixon has for some years past been developing special studies in the logical evolution of English and these must perhaps be judged of as a whole in order to judge them quite fairly. The next paper of the kind is to appear in an early number of the *Chrysanthemum*, and from its nature is likely to cause a more interesting discussion than the one now in question.

In simple justice to Mr. Dixon I desire to state, what his modesty might prevent him making public, that he was at one time honoured by being invited to lecture for good part of a session, to the Logic class of Professor Baynes, the learned editor of the *Encyclopædia Britannica* which has been alluded to with such profound respect. Work of that kind is much more trying than the composition of a short article on a subject of which one is thoroughly master.

I remain, Dear Sir,

Yours etc,

Editor of the *Chrysanthemum*.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE "JAPAN WEEKLY MAIL."

SIR,—May I kindly request you to publish in your esteemed journal the following translation of an address, signed and sent by a large number of Hollanders to the British journals.

As you will see the object is an appeal of the free Dutch nation to the feelings of justice of the free British nation, for the sake of the people in the Transvaal.

There being no interest in appending the signatures to this address, I wish only to state that also the Dutch residents in Japan fully sympathize with the expression of feeling as contained in the document.

I remain,

Yours faithfully,

G.

"We, the undersigned, as Dutch citizens, have followed with deep interest the late events affecting the people of the Transvaal, our own flesh and blood by derivation; and we can no longer repress the feeling of wonder and regret experienced by us when the late Government of England resolved to deprive the Transvaal people of their national independence and subject their small territory to the administration of the English Crown. It would be useless to detail the reasons of our wonder and regret. Many of us at the time, especially our Prime Minister, entered an energetic protest against the annexation of the Transvaal as an equally impolitic and unjust act. The people of the Transvaal continued to cherish the hope, and not without reason, that the wrong done them would again be made good. Still, as all these expectations have been disappointed, their patience has been exhausted, and in despair they have rushed to arms. We may lament this act

of theirs, but we find it intelligible. For are their forefathers not ours also—the men who for eighty long and grievous years struggled for the preservation of their national independence—And shall the spirit of their ancestors be quenched among them? No, Britons: you yourselves are a free people, you cannot do otherwise than sympathize with another if comparatively unimportant race, which your powerful Government, it is true, can exterminate and scatter, but which will never allow itself to be subjugated. And it is this feeling which encourages us to direct this appeal to the sense of justice of the British nation. The people of England cannot brook the dishonour which must inevitably result from a struggle that is as unequal as it is unjust—from a struggle with a powerless race, with a people who wish for nothing further than to live in peace and quiet under their own laws, cultivating the ground that has become their own through stress and peril. And we cherish the hope that this appeal of ours will not remain wholly unattended to. We are still inclined to believe that the voice of public opinion will give a powerful support to the present Government of England in order to enable her Majesty's Ministers to undo an act of injustice, which, to judge from the liberal professions of the Cabinet, and from its own particular views, should never have been planned and carried out."

A TRIBUTE.

(Written by the Poet in memory of a brother who died in the midst of youthful promise.)

From the Japanese.

'Tis not alone our transient life
That steals away in sorrow;
Earth's flowers all radiant for a day
Lie scattered on the morrow,
We see their slender shadows bend
In fragrant loveliness o'er all,
And then with man they fade and fall,
Alas, our friend!

This morn in upper room I raised
The bamboo curtain, viewing
The moon amid the opening dawn
Her heavenly path pursuing;
But as I cheered me with her light,
In rosy cloud her rays grew dim:
'Tis thus, I sorrowing mused, with him,
Now veiled from sight.

In all things skilled, in wisdom high,
A poet's soul beseeching,
He told in sweet, Yamato verse,
The music of his dreaming,
Ah! Woe the fatal, mid-March day,
When he went forth to seek a shore
Whose boundaries gloom forevermore
Far, far away!

Until to-day, it only seemed
A false and empty story
That he, the loved, was with the dead
In all his youthful glory;
But your assembled forms appear
In olden circle but to tell
My eyes in which the tear-drops swell,
His is not here.

The Utsugi flowers that have no hearts
To break in human anguish,
Are touched to sorrow for his sake,
I saw them weep and languish,
When seeking to beguile my pain
I strayed in bamboo-guarded bowers
O'er-brimming with full-blossomed flowers—
But sought in vain.

They drew my heart so close to them
My rude sleeve touched their brightness,
And dewy showers o'erflowed from flowers
That matted the snows in whiteness;

And marvelling as they softly shed
This sudden rain of tearful dew,
My bosom-sorrow deeper grew

For him now dead,—

Poor, drooping flowers, poor heart so lone,
I pondered both and ere I knew.

My sleeve was moist with double dew

Not all their own!

F. B. H.

HONGKONG AND SHANGHAI BANKING CORPORATION.

The ordinary yearly meeting the shareholders in this Corporation was held at the City Hall yesterday afternoon, 15th for the purpose of receiving the report of the Court of Directors, together with a statement of accounts to 31st December, 1880. There were present:—The Hon. W. Keswick (in the chair), the Hon. P. Ryrie, Messrs. A. André, E. R. Bellicio, H. L. Dalrymple, H. de C. Forbes, H. Hoppius, F. D. Sassoon, T. Jackson, A. P. McEwen, F. de Bovis, E. Deacon, R. D. Tucker, M. E. H. Asgar, E. George, A. Newton, J. F. Mardfeldt, J. Kyle, A. McConachie, T. G. Glover, E. Baart, H. Smith, H. H. Nelson, J. R. Anton, J. Y. V. Vernon, W. Legge, G. Holmes, H. Crawford, R. H. Sleeman, A. Coxou, W. Morgan F. A. F. Grobrien, L. Poesnecker, H. N. Mody, C. P. Chater, J. Fleming, and Chow Ming Kee.

The Chief Manager, Mr. Jackson, having read the advertisement calling the meeting,

The Chairman read the report of the directors.

TO THE PROPRIETORS OF THE HONGKONG AND SHANGHAI BANKING CORPORATION.

GENTLEMEN.—The Directors have now to submit to you a general statement of the affairs of the Bank, and balance sheet for the half-year ending 31st December last.

The net profits for that period, including \$23,325.25 brought forward from last account, after paying all charges, deducting interest paid and due, making provision for bad and doubtful accounts, and for the difference in exchange between the rate at which the dividend is declared and the current rate of the day, amount to \$485,645.48, of which, after taking out rebate on Bills not yet due and remuneration to Directors, there remains for appropriation \$475,247.26.

From this sum, the Directors recommend the payment of a dividend of one pound ten shillings sterling per share, which will absorb \$266,666.67.

The Directors recommend placing \$200,000 to the credit of reserve fund, which will then stand at \$1,800,000, and carrying forward the balance, viz., \$8,580.59 to the credit of new profit and loss account.

DIRECTORS.

In conformity with the provisions of the deed of settlement, two Members of the Court, Messrs. Hoppius and Sassoon, retire from the direction, but they are eligible for re-election, and offer themselves accordingly.

Mr. Alexander McIver has been appointed Chairman of the Corporation for 1881, and Mr. H. L. Dalrymple has been elected Deputy Chairman.

AUDITORS.

The accounts have been audited by the Honourable Phineas Ryrie and Mr. A. P. McEwen, and the Directors have pleasure in recommending the re-appointment of these gentlemen as Auditors for the year 1881.

W. KESWICK, Chairman.

Hongkong, 9th February 1881.

ABSTRACT OF ASSETS AND LIABILITIES, HONGKONG AND SHANGHAI BANKING CORPORATION.

31st December, 1880.

ASSETS.

Dr.	
Cash.....	\$ 6,436,389.28
Government Securities	133,180.17
Bills Discounted, Loans and Credits.....	12,799,779.70
Bills Receivable.....	28,288,908.95
Bank Premises	246,853.51
Dead Stock	102,303.78
	<u>\$48,009,415.39</u>

LIABILITIES.

Cr.	
Paid-up Capital	\$ 5,000,000.00
Reserve Fund	1,600,000.00
Marine Insurance Account.....	150,000.00
	<u>1,750,000.00</u>
Notes in Circulation.....	\$ 1,945,354.66
Deposits	24,198,572.94
	<u>26,143,927.60</u>
Bills payable (including Drafts on London Bankers and Short Sight Drawings on our London Office against Bills Receivable and Bullion Shipments) ..	14,629,842.31
Profit and Loss Account	485,645.48
	<u>\$48,009,415.39</u>

PROFIT AND LOSS ACCOUNT, HONGKONG AND SHANGHAI
BANKING CORPORATION.

31st December, 1880.

Dr.	
To Amounts written off —	
Remuneration of Directors	\$10,000.00
Rebate on Bills not due	398.22
	\$10,398.22
To Dividend account :—	
£1.10 per Share on 40,000 Shares = £60,000 @ 4.6...	266,566.67
To Reserve fund	200,000.00
To Balance :—	
Carried forward to next half-year	8,580.59
	\$485,645.48
Cr.	
By Balance of Undivided Profits, 30th June, 1880 ...	\$23,325.25
By amount of Net Profits, for the Six Months ending 31st December, 1880, after deducting all Expenses and Interest paid and due	462,320.23
	\$485,645.48
RESERVE FUND.	
To Balance on 31st December, 1880 ...	\$1,800,000.00
	\$1,800,000.00
By Balance on 30th June, 1880	\$1,600,000.00
By Amount from Profit and Loss Ac- count	200,000.00
	\$1,800,000.00

T. JACKSON, *Chief Manager.*
H. SMITH, *Chief Accountant.*
W. KESWICK,
F. D. SASSOON, } *Directors.*
H. L. DALRYMPLE, }

We have compared the above Statements with the Books, Vouchers and Securities at the Head Office, and with the Returns from the various Branches and Agencies, and have found the same to be correct.

P. RYRIE, } *Auditors.*
A. P. McEWEN, }

Hongkong, 9th February, 1881.

The Chairman then said—The report I have just read and the statement of accounts attached to it place before you so fully the satisfactory position of the affairs of the Bank that there is very little for me to say beyond expressing the pleasure the directors feel in meeting you with such a record of continued prosperity. The improvement in the earnings we hoped for when last we met has been realized, and on this occasion we ask you to place \$200,000 to Reserve Fund and to sanction the payment of an increased dividend. In the assets of the Corporation you will observe that Government Securities stand at only \$135,180.17 against in last statement \$2,699,328.32; and I should mention that the high price to which Indian Stocks advanced induced the Bank to realize at a profit of about £10,000. It is desirable that the Bank should have in London a fair amount of its reserve in English Government Stocks, and the Directors have decided to invest gradually about £250,000. In recognition of the attention and of the zeal and ability of the employees of the Bank, the directors have had pleasure in voting them a bonus of 10 per cent. on their salaries. I have only to say in conclusion, gentlemen, that everything connected with the Bank is in a sound state and that I congratulate you on its prosperity. I beg now to move the adoption of the report. I shall be happy to answer any questions put by any of the shareholders before the motion for the adoption of the report is put to the meeting.

Mr. McConachie seconded the motion, which was unanimously carried.

Mr. Dalrymple proposed the re-election of the two members of the Court of Directors. Messrs. Hoppius and Sassoon, who in conformity with the provisions of the deed of settlement, retired from the direction but were eligible for re-election.

Mr. McEwen seconded.

The motion was carried unanimously.

Mr. André proposed and Mr. Anton seconded the re-appointment of the Hon. P. Ryrie and Mr. A. McEwen as auditors for the year 1881.

Carried.

Mr. A. P. McEwen said he did not think the shareholders should allow that occasion to pass without according a vote of thanks to the Directors and a special vote of thanks to the Chief Manager and the staff generally not only for the success that had been achieved in the work of the Bank during the past year, but for the high position that the Bank had attained owing to the careful supervision of its affairs exercised by the Directors, and also to the competent management of the head of the staff. In the presence of the Chief Manager it was difficult to say all that one would like to say of him in his official capacity, but this he would say, and he believed they would all agree with him, that it was to his indisputable skill,

ceaseless attention to the affairs of the Bank and his great tact and power of management that the success of the Bank was due. He used the word tact, because a man might be an extremely clever man but if he wanted tact in his dealings with the public then he brought little success to himself or those he represented.—(Applause.) Their chief manager came here when the position of the Bank and the position he took up were rather unenviable ones. The reserve fund of the Bank had dwindled down considerably, and many of the securities held had depreciated largely. In five short years \$1,700,000, had been added to the reserve fund. At the present moment the securities held by the bank were of the most undoubted value. Some five years ago the bank paid three per cent. dividend, and on one half-year nothing at all. They had heard a very different dividend declared to-day. The deposits had also increased by nearly one hundred per cent.; in 1875 the amount of the deposits was \$13,000,000, and now they had some \$26,000,000. This showed the confidence, and he believed the well deserved confidence, of the public in the bank. With regard to the bonus proposed by the directors of 10 per cent on their salaries to be paid to the members of the staff he believed they would all agree that it was well deserved. If the proposal had not emanated from the directors themselves it was the intention of some of the shareholders to bring the matter forward there that day for their favourable consideration. He had only to add—and he believed all present would agree with him—that from the shareholders were due to the staff at the head office a special recognition of the invaluable courtesy received by those who had business to transact at the Bank. He especially mentioned the names of Mr. Smith and Mr. Woodford.—(Applause.)

The Chairman said—On behalf of the Board and myself I thank you, gentlemen, very heartily for the way you have responded to the flattering remarks that have been made by Mr. McEwen. It is to the Board a matter of great pleasure and of extreme satisfaction that the affairs of the Bank are in such a flourishing state, and Mr. McEwen has been quite correct in stating that the prosperity which we are now enjoying is due to the staff and to the exceedingly able Chief Manager.—(Applause.) Gentlemen, I thank you on behalf of the Board.

The Chief Manager, who on rising was received with loud applause, said—Gentlemen, I am remarkably gratified by this vote of thanks. It has been my great good fortune to be surrounded by earnest, capable men, and to our united efforts the success we have attained is due; and many of them—I may say this publicly—deserve as much credit if not more than I do for the result. The present position of the Bank is a source of pride and pleasure to everyone of us, and I hope to be able to meet you here for many years and to submit year after year as satisfactory a report as that which the Chairman has now read to you.—(Applause.)

It was announced that the dividend warrants would be ready to-day.

There was no other business before the meeting.

NIPPON RACE CLUB.

REVISED PROGRAMME.—SPRING MEETING.

FIRST DAY,—9TH MAY.

- 1.—For Japan ponies that have never run in a race in Tokio or Yokohama. Weight as per scale. Five furlongs.
- 2.—For China ponies that have never won a race. Weight as per scale. *Bona fide* griffins, 7 lbs. allowance. Once round.
- 3.—For Half-breds that have never won a race in Tokio or Yokohama. Weight as per scale. Five furlongs.
- 4.—For China ponies. Weight as per scale. Winner of No. 2 excluded. Three-quarters of a mile.
- 5.—For Japan ponies. Weight as per scale. Half a mile.
- 6.—For Half-breds. Weight as per scale. Three-quarters of a mile.
- 7.—For China ponies. Weight as per scale. Winners at the meeting, 7 lbs. extra. One and a quarter miles.
- 8.—For Japan ponies. Weight as per scale. Winners at the meeting, 7 lbs. extra. Three-quarters of a mile.

SECOND DAY,—10TH MAY.

- 1.—For Japan ponies that have never won a race in Tokio or Yokohama. Weight as per scale. Half a mile.
- 2.—For China ponies. Weight as per scale. Winners in China and Japan in 1880, or at this Meeting, 7 lbs. extra. Once round and a distance.
- 3.—For Japan ponies. Weight as per scale. Winners at the Meeting excluded. Three-quarters of a mile.
- 4.—For Japan and China ponies. Weight as per scale. Half a mile.
- 5.—For Japan ponies. Weight as per scale. Winners of one race at the meeting, 7 lbs. extra; of two or more races, 10 lbs. extra. Once round.
- 6.—For Chinese ponies. Weight as per scale. Winners at the meeting, 7 lbs. extra. One and a half miles.
- 7.—For Half-breds. Weight as per scale. Winners of one

race at the meeting, 7 lbs. extra; of two or more races, 10 lbs. extra. Once round and a distance.

8.—For Japan and China ponies. Weight as per scale. Non-starters and winners at the meeting excluded. China ponies, 10 lbs. extra. Ponies that have never won a race, 7 lbs. allowance. Once round.

THIRD DAY.—11TH MAY.

1.—Champion Race for Japan ponies. Weight as per scale. Once round.

2.—Champion Race for China ponies. Weight as per scale. One and a quarter miles.

3.—Champion Race for Half-breds. Weight as per scale. Once round.

4.—For all Japan and China ponies that have never won a race, and are not otherwise entered at the meeting, to be ridden by members of the N. R. C. who have never had a winning mount. Weight for Japanese ponies, 11st.; for China ponies, 12st. Once round.

5.—Consolation Race for Japan ponies. Weight as per scale. Five furlongs.

6.—Consolation Race for China Ponies. Weight as per scale. Once round.

7.—Consolation Race for Half-breds. Weight as per scale. Three-quarters of a mile.

8.—A handicap for all ponies. Once round.

REUTER'S TELEGRAMS.

LONDON, 23rd February, 1881.

The Committee of the House of Commons on the Coercive Measures Bill has closed its sittings.

A conference of the Ambassadors of the Great Powers has commenced at Constantinople.

LONDON, 21st February, 1881.

Communications in the Cape between Durban and Newcastle are interrupted.

In the House of Commons Mr. Gladstone gave notice of a motion to withdraw the bill for coercive measures from Committee, owing to the great opposition experienced.

[SUPPLIED TO THE "HONGKONG DAILY PRESS."] LONDON, February 12th.

The Boers have been defeated with heavy loss; the British loss was 150.

The British Government has made overtures to the Boers, and further strong reinforcements have been ordered to the Cape.

The House of Commons has read a second time the Bill for Coercion in Ireland.

The British corvette *Champion*, 14 guns, has been ordered to proceed immediately to the Gold Coast.

[*Straits Times*.]

London, 29th Jan.—The Boers have been defeated with heavy loss by a detachment of the 58th Regiment.

Obituary.—Edward A. Southern.

London, 1st Feb.—The 58th Regiment lost nine officers and 181 men killed and wounded in the engagement referred to in the last telegram.

London, 2nd Feb.—The debate on the Irish Coercion Bill continues, with prolonged sittings.

The aspect of affairs on the Greek frontier is more pacific.

London, 4th Feb.—Mr. Parnell and the Home Rulers have been expelled in consequence of their obstructive proceedings, which resulted in an unexampled and tumultuous scene in the House of Commons.

JAPANESE ITEMS.

[The following Notes on various Japanese matters are chiefly derived from the native papers, occasionally supplemented from original sources of information, and are carefully collated and edited, so as to make them readable and intelligible.]

COURT, POLITICAL AND OFFICIAL.

The *Mainichi Shinbun* states:—As we have formerly stated His Majesty the Emperor started for Hachioji on the morning of the 18th instant, leaving the Palace at 8 a.m. H. I. H. Kita Shirakawa-no-Miya, His Excellency Yamayata, Privy Councillor, and many officials of the Imperial Household Department, and Military officers formed the suite. His Majesty arrived at the post town of Fuchiu a little past noon and, after dinner, left for Hachioji. The local officials of the prefecture of Kanagawa applied for permission to give an exhibition of fireworks at Hachioji before His Majesty, and the request was readily granted. At 3 p.m. His Majesty and suite arrived at the post town of Hino, where a short rest was made at the residence of a private in-

dividual. After a while the Imperial progress was continued and Hachioji was reached at about 4.30 p.m. Their Imperial Highnesses Higashi Fushimi-no-Miya, and Fushimi-no-Miya, and Their Excellencies Kawamura, Yamada, Privy Councillors, and Tokudaiji, Minister of the Imperial Household Department, and many other officials, who arrived there in the previous day, received the Imperial Suite at the entrance of the town, and His Majesty took up his abode in the residence of Taniyoshi Yashichi. This temporary Imperial lodging was brilliantly decorated, and the whole town was illuminated with lanterns in the evening. From the Kanagawa Kencho, Mr. Isogai, a secretary, and many police inspectors and policemen were despatched, to form a guard to the Imperial lodging. On the 19th at 7 a.m., His Majesty went out to the Gokenyama hill, situated about one ri eastward of the town, where he witnessed rabbit hunting. Their Imperial Highness Higashi-Fushimi, and Fushimi were ordered to arrange some wild boar hunting, about which details will be given later.

The *Mainichi Shinbun* says:—His Majesty the Emperor left Hachioji at 6 a.m. on the 19th inst. on horseback and arrived at Kantakura-mura, at 6.30 a.m. There, under the guidance of Mr. Yoneda, Chief of the Imperial Chamberlains, he went up the mountain on foot, and witnessed some rabbit hunting. In some places his Majesty commanded the hunters personally. Seven rabbits were caught, and the party returned to Hachioji at 6.30 p.m. On the same day His Imperial Highness Kita Shirakawa-no-Miya, His Excellency Kawamura and some others, went out hunting at Tobuki and Inume, and obtained ten rabbits and two badgers. Another party, consisting of Their Imperial Highnesses Higashi-Fushimi-no-Miya, Fushimi-no-Miya, and Their Excellencies Yamagata, and Yamada, went boar hunting and succeeded in bagging a couple. In the evening fireworks were exhibited in the town, and to each of the hunters who drew first blood in the boar hunting, a present of 5 yen was given. Those who killed them received 10 yen each. In the night, snow, about four or five inches deep, fell. On the 20th instant, owing to a request of the people His Majesty went hunting at Benkoji-mura, and got five rabbits afterwards going to Fuchiu. The people of Kami Okakura-mura presented a wild boar to His Majesty. The total bag was 35 rabbits, 3 wild boars and 2 badgers. His Majesty left Fuchiu on the 21st instant at 7 a.m., and after short rests at Nunots and Takai returned to the Akasaka Palace at noon when a dinner was given to all the officials who formed the suite. All the *Daijin* and *Sangi* went to the Palace on the same day to enquire after His Majesty's health.

The *Mainichi Shinbun* states that His Excellency Okuma, Privy Councillor, invited the Italian and French Ministers and several Japanese high officials to his private residence on the 21st inst. to an entertainment. This is said to have been given as a farewell to the Italian Minister, who leaves on the 7th proximo. Mr. Okuma visited His Excellency Iwakura on afternoon of the 20th inst. and had a conference which lasted some hours.

The *Choya Shinbun* announces that Mr. Nabeshima, Governor of Okinawa Ken (Riukiu), who is now in the capital, went a few days ago to the Palace in order to explain the state of affairs as well as of popular ideas in his jurisdiction to His Majesty the Emperor.

We learn from the same source that, as was formerly stated, the Second National Industrial Exhibition is to be opened by His Majesty the Emperor on the 1st of next March. All the *Daijin*, *Sangi*, Ministers of every Department, and the foreign Representatives will attend. The necessary preparations for the ceremony have already been commenced.

The *Mainichi Shinbun* states that the Italian Minister, who returns home shortly, received a farewell audience from His Majesty the Emperor, at 3 p.m. yesterday.

The *Nichi Nichi Shinbun* says that the Japanese Government has sent a communication to that of France, to the effect that while recognizing the desirability of sending a new Minister to replace the late Mr. Sumeshima, motives of economy make it preferable to temporarily appoint one of the Secretaries of the Legation as *Chargé d'Affaires*.

The same paper says that a telegram was sent on the 24th instant to His Excellency General Saigo, who was then stopping at Atami, requesting him that to return to the Capital.

NAVAL AND MILITARY.

The *Hochi Shinbun* writes as follows:—At present there are only two Admiralty offices, viz: the Eastern and Western, but in course of time there will be four similar offices in the Empire. The jurisdiction of the Eastern will be Tokai, and Hokuriku; that of the Western Shikoku, Kiushiu, and Riukiu, that of the Southern all the parts south of the province of Totomi, Sanin and Sanyo, and that of the Northern, Hokkaido. A fleet, of 12 men-of-war and some other vessels, will be furnished to each of these four admiralty offices, and a naval officer of higher rank than Rear Admiral will be appointed the Commander of each fleet, and thus the navy will be greatly developed and encouraged.

It is stated in the same paper that the *Amakikwan*, which has lately been replaced by the *Isakikwan*, arrived at Bakan from Corea on the 19th inst. The paper contains an extract from the *Heiji Shinbun* (Military and Naval Gazette) to the effect that the *Fusokwan*, which was undergoing repairs in the Yokosuka dockyard, has been completed and left the dock on the 11th inst., and the *Moshunkwan* and the M. B. S. *Tsunai-maru* have entered the same dock. It is said that when these two ships have been finished, the *Hiyeikwan* will take their place.

The *Mainichi Shinbun* states that His Excellency Admiral Kawamura, Privy Councillor, accompanied by Vice-Admiral Nakanuda, Chief of the Eastern Admiralty office, went to Yokosuka on the morning of the 23rd and inspected all the men-of-war and the Arsenal. His Excellency returned to the Capital next day.

The *Hochi Shinbun* writes as follows:—The putting together of the torpedo boats being useless in times of peace, only one has been prepared for use in practice, while the others have, as stated formerly, been stored in the Yokosuka Arsenal. It is said, however, that orders have been recently given that these three are to be got ready at once and therefore work on them will be commenced shortly. The boat already in use is now being fitted up with torpedoes, &c.

INDUSTRIES, TRADE AND FINANCE.

The *Mainichi Shinbun* contains the following:—"Mr. Sato Takehara, who is connected with agricultural affairs in Iwanai-gori, Shiribeshi province, Hokkaido, has resolved to make the villages and people prosper there by bringing on the manufacture of indigo, as one of the products in the Hokkaido. At the time of the Restoration he was in Fukuyama, and cultivated indigo for about two years as an experiment, but owing, it is supposed, to the unsuitness of the soil he was not very successful. He therefore went to the district of Iwanai, in 1876, and travelling through it found that a boundless tract of land, which is very fertile, was allowed to lie untouched, and that in that district the herring fishing was prosperously carried on and that all the refuse remaining after pressing these fish, in order to make manure, was usually cast away by the fishermen. He also found many kinds of sea weed floating about on the shore which were very fit to be used as manure in cultivating indigo, but the fishermen did not pay any least attention to them, but cast them away. If they were collected and used as manures a superior grade of indigo would doubtless be obtained. Moreover, such a thing as hemp is, of course, most useful for fishermen, and therefore he frequently tried to persuade the people in the district to undertake works to reclaim waste land, but none of them seemed to agree, as they were engaged in fishing. Mr. Takehara got one piece of land there himself, and planted indigo as an experiment. A good result was obtained, and therefore he offered the product to the authorities for examination, and at the same time applied for permission to reclaim land in that district. The permission was given in 1877. He therefore called several experienced indigo manufacturers from the prefecture of Kochi, and with extraordinary assiduity he carried out the reclamation and planted his indigo. Favourable results have rewarded him, so that the people there have all begun to turn their minds towards this

agriculture, and are engaging in reclamations on a grand scale."

It is stated in a native paper that Mr. Kawasaki, the director of the Kawasaki Bank, has applied for permission to establish a Savings Bank at Himonocho, Tokio, on depositing at the Tokio *Fucho* 50,000 yen in government bonds.

We learn from the same source, that in the province of Mino, the stuffs called *Yuki*, and *Santomjima* have been widely manufactured from remote times, and the quantities yearly exported to other provinces were very considerable. In more recent years the consignments have increased more and more and now amount to about four or five million *tan* (one *tan* is 28 feet) yearly. To improve the qualities and to encourage sales more, many energetic men in the province have combined, and a factory under the name of *Minejima Kicuisha*, has been established at Takegahana, Haguri-gori, the capital of which is said to be over 100,000 yen. A similar factory has also been started at Kasamatsu in the same district with a capital of 60,000 yen. The *Kishiu flannel*, manufactured in the prefecture of Wakayama for years past, is not only extensively sold in Japan, but is also exported to China and Corea; the same stuff has been recently manufactured at Nagoya, in the province of Owari; its price is very cheap, being 1.70 yen per roll, and therefore the *Kiushiu flannel*, which is about 2.80 yen for the same quantity, seems likely to be driven out of the market.

The *Choya Shinbun* publishes the following:—"Sheep breeding, on the Niraguma mountain, in the prefecture of Shidzuoka has become gradually prosperous since it was first established. Mr. Morita Tomozo, the instructor, resides in a temporary house within the farm, and personally engages in the work, and all the shepherds assiduously perform their duties. The sheep supplied by the Agricultural Bureau have thriven wonderfully. It is said, that in order to enlarge the establishment, the neighbouring waste land is now being reclaimed. The cattle breeding establishment at Iwashimamura, in the district of Kamu, has also prospered, and breeding has been successful. In Tamamura, Messrs. Tanaka, Nitta, and Kawaguchi have projected establishing a horse-breeding company, with a view to carry out horse breeding on a large scale by borrowing foreign horses from the authorities, and buying Oshiu mares. They are now obtaining subscribers in order to commence business in March or April next. It is indeed a matter of congratulation that breeding affairs have become so prosperous."

The same paper announces that the officials attached to the Industrial Sections of all the local governments will be summoned next month to the Home Department, and meetings will be held for discussing the industrial affairs of the country. In continuance of this, another meeting for deliberating upon agricultural affairs will be held by calling together experienced farmers from every locality. Questions to be submitted at these meetings are now being drawn up in the Agricultural Bureau of the Department.

The *Nichi Nichi Shinbun* says the new one yen notes have been printed and are to be issued without delay. 50,000 yen of these notes were forwarded to the Imperial Household Department on the 18th inst., to be shown to His Majesty the Emperor.

We notice in the *Akebono Shinbun* that 1,870,000 yen in paper money is to be destroyed on the premises of the Government Printing Office in seven days, commencing from last Monday. The public are admitted to witness the operations.

The *Hochi Shinbun* contains the following commercial report from Kobe:—No appreciable change has occurred in native produce. Superior grades of tea are saleable, but the stock being scarce no considerable transactions are reported. Medium and common grades are unsaleable and consequently prices are unaltered. Foreign merchants are keeping back from purchasing camphor, for unknown reasons, and consequently there are no transactions, and the price has a downward tendency; transactions in white wax are reported on a small scale, but no changes have occurred in prices. Imports are practically unsaleable. Lately those goods for which former contracts had been made have been taken delivery of in small quantities only from foreign firms, but even this has almost entirely ceased

Silver is greatly effected by the rise in the Yokohama bourse. Although daily demands for it are few at present, yet it is advancing steadily. The market rate of interest has a downward tendency.

The *Nichi Nichi Shinbun*, gives the following report as emanating from the *Boyeiki Shokwai* (one of the Direct Trading Companies) at Yokohama, and published on the 22nd instant:—Sales of silk are becoming heavier day by day. All the Kakeda in stock has almost been sold off, the balance remaining in Yokohama amounting to less than 100 bales. Hanks also have been freely disposed of, about 1,000 bales only remaining on hand. The stock of Filatures remaining unsold is expected to be shortly taken up. The foreign firm No. 76, is making purchases on a large scale, 1,800 bales being bought by this house alone.

Sales on the 21st instant were as follows:—

Koshu Filature	34 bls. @ \$640 to \$580	bought by No. 90
Kakeda	33 " " 570 to 600	" " " 76
"	160 " " —	" " " "
Shimonita Hanks.....	7 " " 560	" " " "
Hachioji	18 " " 495	" " " "
Shinshiu Hanks	44 " " 560	" " " "
Echigo	35 " " 535	" " " "
Koshu	44 " " —	" " " "
Yasunaka	15 " " 525	" " " "
Kawagoi Filature ...	36 " " 620	" " " "
Jashiu Filature	18 " " 595	" " " "
Koshu Hanks.....	35 " " 540	" " " "
Kakeda	21 " " 600	" " " "
"	57 " " 580 to 590	" " " 166
Oshiu Filature.....	7 " " 600	" " " 90
Okusen	5 " " 550	" " " "
Shinshiu Filature ...	56 " " 600 to 610	" " " "
Mayebashi Filature...	61 " " 610	" " " "
Daimaru Hanks.....	8 " " 535	" " " "
Koshio Filature	42 " " 555 to 655	" " " "
Shinshiu	20 " " —	" " " 164
Shinshiu Filature ...	25 " " 620 to 610	" " " "
"	32 " " 590 to 605	" " " 75
Okusen	15 " " 550	" " " 90
Shinshiu Filature ...	63 " " 580 to 609	" " " 76

Total 891 bales.

The same paper announces that a Public Commercial School will shortly be established in Osaka.

A vernacular journal writes:—"It was reported on the 22nd inst. from Kobe, that the British steamer *Lord of the Isles* had left for Shanghai with a cargo of wheat, copper, *kanten* (prepared from edible seaweed) and sundries; and that her freight was \$3 per ton, or \$2 cheaper than that charged by the Mitsui Bishi Company."

We read in another paper that the preliminary survey of the railway line to be constructed between the Capital and Takasaki, has been completed lately and the plans drawn up. It is said that construction will be commenced some time next month.

The same paper informs us that in the prefecture of Fukuoka there was a great amount of waste land originally, but that since the Restoration great reclamations have been made. Much that was covered with grass, weeds, &c., has been converted into good fields. There are now several reclaiming companies, such as the *Kurume Kaikonsha*, on the Okuraden plains; the *Okayama Kaikonsha* on the Taimen plains, the reclaiming establishments of the Imperial Household at the plains of Yabuki and Kagamita, and that at Inawashiro. Besides these, many energetic men have gone to work to reclaim waste lands in Idsunhara, &c.

A vernacular paper says that the members of the Chamber of Commerce at Sakai, Echizen province, held a special meeting on the 11th inst. to deliberate upon the question "What are the schemes to be adopted for ameliorating the stagnant condition of the circulation," which had been submitted to them by the Ward Office. After considerable discussion it was decided that a private bank should be established, with a capital of 50,000 yen.

We extract the following from the *Mainichi Shinbun*:—"The Tramway Company, for the establishment of which official permission was granted some time ago, has despatched agents to Oshiu and other provinces to purchase three hundred horses.

The stables are to be built at Shiunzacho. The total sum for the construction of the proposed tramway, and for other miscellaneous expenses, is estimated to be over three million of yen. Mr. Shoji, formerly a lawyer in the Tokio Saibansho, has become a member of the company.

The same paper states that the manufacture of paper money in the Government Printing Office is expected to be finished by July, 1882, after which wall-paper solely will be manufactured, with a view to make the office, in course of time, the great wall-paper factory of the East.

We learn from a native paper that, on the 14th instant, a quantity of rice, belonging to the Government, arrived at Osaka from the northern part of the Empire, and was sent to the rice godowns at Namba and Nakanoshima. It is reported that this rice is shortly to be exported to Hongkong.

The following trade report appears in the *Mainichi Shinbun* as received from Kobe under date of the 19th instant:—"Stocks of tea have nearly all been disposed of, only about fifty or sixty thousand catties remaining. Prices seem to have a slightly upward tendency. To-day (19th) market rates are Yamashiro superior 56 yen, and common about 32 yen. No appreciable change is reported in money, but the market seems a little easier. In the Osaka Exchange daily interest was 3 sen on the 18th instant. The quotation for paper against Mexicans was 175.5 yen. About 4,500 *loka* of rice has been exported for England to-day, and in consequence its market price has gone up 15 sen. Settsu rice is quoted at 9.85 yen per *loka*.

The same paper informs us that with a view to encourage produce in the seven islands off the province of Idsu, special committees for the development of the agricultural industries have been elected in each of these islands, and that several men of enterprise in Tokio have started a company for this purpose, under the name of the *Hichio Bussan Kenisha*, at Kobikicho, Tokio.

We notice in another journal that the copper to be used by the Osaka Mint for the fractional currency, in the present 14th year of Meiji, is said to be have been ordered from Corea; and that large quantities of that metal imported from Fusan, have already been sent to the Mint.

MISCELLANEOUS.

The *Mainichi Shinbun* publishes a rumour that a telegraphic order has been sent to the *Rijokwan*, which some time ago left for Australia, to the effect that she is urgently wanted and must return as soon as possible.

The same paper announces that a fire broke out in a bath house at Oshicho, Yotsuya-Ku, Tokio, at 3.50 a.m. on the 18th. Favoured by the strong north wind prevailing at the time, it spread over Sugacho, Samoncho, and Demmasho &c., and was not extinguished till 6.30 a.m. One hundred and thirty-five houses were totally destroyed.

The *Hochi Shinbun* informs us that it was reported to the authorities from the prefecture of Wakayama yesterday that over 300 *shicoku*, who are almost destitute of clothing and food had joined together and applied to the *Kencho*, stating that they wish to reclaim the waste land in the prefecture of Shiga in order to get their livelihood in future, and therefore they asked for an advance of 150,000 yen. This request, however, was not received favourably. They have in consequence become very restless and having held meetings everywhere and they have again petitioned that, for the said scheme a part of the private property of their governor may be given them. They are said to be in such a state that they might easily take some rash steps.

The *Nichi Nichi Shinbun* states:—"It is said that the *Kongokwan* arrived at Shanghai on the 17th instant at noon. When she left here she was to proceed direct to Chefoo, but owing to a telegram received from China, after her departure, she suddenly changed her direction from Nagasaki and went to Shanghai."

A native paper states:—"We have formerly announced that Mr. Russell had become a Japanese subject, having changed his name to Uchiyama Rosetsu. Now we hear that he has lately become a member of the *Kenyusha*, (Political Lecturing Society) in Yokohama, and intends to give lectures on educational matters."

The same paper says that as lately many incendiaries have set fire to the forests and fields in the provinces of Musashi and Sagami, the telegraph poles in these places are shortly to be replaced by iron posts.

A fire broke out at No. 15 Tansumachi, Yotsuya-ku, Tokio, on the 21st instant, at 7.45 p.m. Fanned by a strong N.W. wind, prevailing at the time, it rapidly spread over the 1st and 2nd wards of Demmacho; the 12th and 13th wards of Kojimachi, and next caught Minami-Igamachi. At about 8.30 p.m. the flames progressed irresistibly towards the Akasaka temporary Palace, and therefore three signal guns, as has always been agreed, were fired as an alarm. On hearing the signal all the Princes of the blood, the *Daijin*, *Sangi*, Ministers and other *chokunin* officials of every Department, and the officials of the Imperial Household, immediately proceeded either by carriages or *jinrikisha* to the Palace to look after the safety of the Emperor. Troops of the Imperial Guard, and of the Tokio garrison, policemen, including those even who were off duty, the 3rd corps of the fire brigade, and several companies of firemen, were next despatched to the spot and guarded the Palace. The sparks flew over the Palace in showers, and the probability of its escaping hung on a single hair, as a native contemporary puts it. The wind ceased at about 10 o'clock and the flames lessened. Availing themselves of this opportunity, the fire brigades made the greatest endeavours and succeeded in getting them under control. Another volume of flames spread towards the 12th ward of Kojimachi, and was not extinguished till about 11 p.m. Messrs. Kabayama, Chief of Police, and Matsuda, Governor of Tokio, were at the scene of the fire on horseback, and exerted themselves to good effect. The number of streets and houses burned is not yet known.

The same paper states:—The Yokohama Custom House authorities intend to lengthen the English Hatoba by constructing a wooden pier, sixty yards long, in order to allow large ships to moor alongside. His Excellency Sano, the Finance Minister, accompanied by two subordinates visited Yokohama on the 19th inst. to inspect the proposed alterations.

It is stated in a native paper that the fire which broke out in Tansu-machi on the 21st inst. made its appearance in an alley between a godown and the store-rooms of a timber merchant, and therefore it is supposed that it owed its origin to an incendiary. Ten streets, one thousand three hundred and sixty three houses, and twenty two godowns were entirely consumed; and twenty seven houses and three godowns were partially destroyed. No less than five thousand three hundred and eighty two people have been rendered homeless. We regret to hear also of one person being killed.

On the 22nd instant all the Foreign Representatives went to the Palace, in consequence of the narrow escape it sustained, and enquired after the health of His Majesty the Emperor.

A Tokio paper states that during the six months from July to December, inclusive, last year, the births in Yokohama were 321 males, 333 females, total 654: marriages 418, divorces 178: deaths 477 males, 395 females, total 872.

The *Choya Shinbun* says:—It is rumoured that a telegram was received by the authorities on the 22nd instant from Mr. Shishido, the Japanese Minister at Peking, to the effect that a Chinese man-of-war is making preparations to visit Japan. The object of this visit is said to be surveying only, but the *Fuso* will shortly be sent to Nagasaki, it is supposed, in consequence of this.

A vernacular journal informs us that Mr. von Siebold, an *attaché* of the Austrian Legation, who has resided in Japan a long time, is to return home shortly, and therefore intends giving a farewell entertainment at the Soiyoken restaurant to several Japanese high officials, and some of his friends, on or about the 26th inst.

Another vernacular paper states that Ishii Raku, of No. 1, Yanagicho, Kanda Ku, Tokio, to whose carelessness was due the large fire of the 11th instant, by which not only many thousands of houses, were destroyed but also two persons lost their lives, was sentenced to be imprisoned with hard labour for 50 days, but in virtue of her being a woman she was, in lieu, fined one yen twenty-five sen.

The *Choya Shinbun* writes:—"It is a general impression that cholera makes its appearance only in summer time, but it is said to have been reported in Osaka that three persons have recently been attacked by the disease in Nagasaki. We warn our readers to be careful."

We learn from a native paper that the Corean Government has lately sent an order to the Osaka Arsenal for the manufacture of twenty mountain and field guns.

The *Nichi Nichi Shinbun* says that two vernacular journals, named the *Atsue Nippo* and the *Fukushima Nichi Nichi Shinbun*, have just appeared; the former at Tsu, in the province of Ise, and the latter at Fukushima, in the prefecture of Fukushima.

The same paper announces that the four Russian men-of-war now in Yokohama are simply waiting for the officers to attend the opening of the forthcoming National Exhibition, after which three of them are to leave.

IMPERIAL GOVERNMENT RAILWAYS.

TOKIO AND YOKOHAMA SECTION.

Statement of traffic receipts for the week ending Sunday, 23rd January, 1881.

Passengers, parcels, &c.	Yen 7,969.94
Merchandise, &c.	" 925.54

Total..... Yen 8,895.48

Miles open 18.

Corresponding week last year.

Passengers, parcels, &c.	Yen 7,733.48
Merchandise, &c.	" 833.24

Total..... Yen 8,566.72

Miles open 18.

KIOTO, KOBE AND OOTSU SECTION.

Statement of traffic receipts for the week ending Sunday, 22nd February, 1881.

Passengers, parcels, &c.	Yen 15,250.59
Merchandise, &c.	" 2,783.47

Total..... Yen 18,034.06

Miles open 58.

Corresponding week last year.

Passengers, parcels, &c.	Yen 15,324.45
Merchandise, &c.	" 1,545.15

Total..... Yen 16,869.60

Miles open 55.

LAW REPORTS.

IN H. B. M.'S COURT FOR JAPAN.

Before R. T. KENNIE, Esq., Judge.

Monday, February 21st, 1881.

ARTHUR BRENT vs. HUDSON & Co.

This was a claim for \$4,473 for salary and allowances, the defendants being described in the petition as "Hudson & Co., carrying on business at Yokohama by their agents, Cardross Grant, and E. Flint Kilby."

Mr. Lowder appeared for the plaintiff.

Mr. Montague Kirkwood was at the bar, and his Honor said he supposed he appeared for the defendants.

Mr. Kirkwood asked who the defendants were?

Mr. Lowder said Hudson & Co. who carried on business by their agents.

Mr. Kirkwood:—I should like to know more definitely who the defendants are.

Mr. Lowder:—The actual defendants are Hudson & Co.; the nominal defendants, Grant and Kilby.

His Honour (to Mr. Kirkwood):—Will you kindly state for whom you appear?

Mr. Kirkwood:—I do not appear in the case at all; I am only watching the interests of Messrs. Grant and Kilby, and also of Mr. John Hudson.

His Honour:—Then in point of fact you are here to watch the proceedings.

Mr. Kirkwood:—Yes, but I enter no appearance.

His Honour:—Then we must take it the defendants do not answer or appear.

Mr. Lowder:—Yes.

His Honour:—It will be necessary, therefore, to enquire into the service before we can proceed.

Mr. Lowder was about to prove service of the petition when

Mr. Kirkwood said he considered the petition defective on the face of it, and the firm here could not be sued. That was a question for the court to decide before proof of service was given, because his contention was that service had not been effected. Rule 40 said: "Where a petition is defective on the face of it by reason of non-compliance with any provision of these rules the Court may either on application by a defendant, or of its own motion, make an order to stay proceedings on the defective petition, where the defect is patent and serious, and comes to the knowledge of the Court before service of the petition on the defendant."

His Honour:—I take it, in order to shorten the proceedings, you will admit, Mr. Kirkwood, that these copies of the petition were served on Messrs. Grant and Kilby?

Mr. Kirkwood:—Yes, I will admit that.

Mr. Lowder:—Then with regard to Rule 40, we may discard the last portion of it, because the Court must act on its own motion before the service of the petition; and as to the first part of the rule, assuming for the moment, that this petition is defective on the face of it, I say that the defendants themselves ought under that rule to have applied for an amendment of the petition. It will therefore be for the Court to consider whether the petition is on the face of it defective or not. In order to ascertain that it will be necessary to call your Honor's attention to the regulation affecting copartnerships when they are such in this Court. It is the third regulation, dated 16th November 1866, and I think it is word for word the same as the Shanghai regulations of July. It says: "Be it enacted that in order to prevent any failure of justice in such cases, every such copartnership or the several members or agents thereof, or the persons carrying on the business may be sued in any action at law on behalf of all the members comprised in the same, or in the name or names of any such agents." The regulation is not artistically drawn, but I think I have substantially and practically carried out the provisions of this regulation when I say that the defendants are "Hudson and Company, carrying on business at Yokohama by their agents Cardross Grant and E. F. Kilby."

His Honour:—I do not say that you have not; but in Shanghai we should rather have put it in this form—we should have sued Messrs. Grant and Kilby, the managers (or whatever they might be) for and on behalf of the partnership of Hudson and Co.

Mr. Lowder:—I think that as the defendants have been served with this petition, and as it is clear on the face of it they are sued as Hudson and Co., under Rule 40 the petition could have been amended if it was defective; and so it can even now if necessary. But because I have worded it in this way, that the defendants should have taken no notice of it is, I think, wholly unjustifiable; they have really endeavored to make the form more essential than the substance.

His Honour:—Another point I should like to direct your attention to is this: do you think this regulation was intended to enable people to sue under such circumstances as those—to sue the agent of an absent individual?

Mr. Lowder:—Clearly. The co-partnership happens to consist of one individual, John Hudson—there may be others; but so far as we know John Hudson is the only partner, and he carries on business as Hudson & Co., both in London and Yokohama; and it is impossible for us to be in both places. But I do not see that because there happens to be only one individual in the firm that this rule does not apply.

His Honour:—You see here is the case of an individual who carries on business under a certain firm name and he lives in England; the plaintiff, as appears from a petition, knows perfectly well of whom the firm consists, and where John Hudson is, and the claim he prefers is a personal one against John Hudson.

Mr. Lowder:—I take it, it is for services rendered to the firm of Hudson & Co.

His Honour:—Is the wording of the petition such as to make it clear that the plaintiff has a right to sue John Hudson by his agents carrying on business as Hudson & Co., in Yokohama?

Mr. Lowder:—I think so. (quoting) "Whereas in some cases business is or may be carried on by persons in copartnership or by one individual or more assuming the

style of the partnership, and in some of those cases the members of such partnership or some of them are not only absent from the place where such co-partnership is carried on but are or may be unknown."

His Honour:—Does not that go a long way to show that the object of this regulation was to assist plaintiffs who had not the means of finding out who the members of a partnership were?

Mr. Lowder:—We must take the whole of the regulation and not the preamble alone.

His Honour:—Well take it altogether—to prevent a failure of justice "where some of the members are not only absent but are or may be unknown." Does it not go a long way to imply that it was not intended to meet such a case as this? I do not say it is so, but I throw out the suggestion.

Mr. Lowder:—If the objection which your Honor has suggested is good, then it is evident everybody, in this place, might carry on their business by agents, and the very reason for the existence of this Court would be removed.

His Honour:—I am speaking now of such cases as this. Here there are certain facts set out in the petition, and it is stated that the plaintiff has been in the business with Hudson & Co., so that he knows exactly who the firm of Hudson & Co. consists of, and therefore it does not seem to me that there would be any such failure of justice in this case as is contemplated by the regulation. The object of that regulation was to help people who could not find out of what the firm consisted. Supposing that instead of trading under the style or firm of Hudson & Co., John Hudson, was carrying on business here simply as John Hudson, could you compel Messrs. Grant & Kilby to appear here for him? Certainly not. Then inasmuch as it appears upon the petition perfectly clear the plaintiff was well aware that the firm consisted of John Hudson, how can this rule apply to the case?

Mr. Lowder:—Because John Hudson is absent and chooses to carry on business by his agents. Does not the absence of an individual carrying on business give a right to sue his agent?

His Honour:—If the plaintiff does not disclose in his petition a knowledge of whom the firm consists.

Mr. Lowder:—Then if that be so, whoever wants to sue the firm of Hudson & Co. will hereafter be prevented.

His Honour:—I do not say so, if the petition does not disclose the fact of knowledge, which this does.

Mr. Lowder:—I should have thought that the mere fact of the absence of John Hudson from Yokohama, and of his carrying on business as Hudson & Co. by agents, would under this rule give the plaintiff a *locus standi* in this court and enable him to maintain an action.

His Honour:—You see the object of the regulation is to prevent a failure of justice. What failure can there be here when the plaintiff says, "I knew perfectly well all the time that Hudson & Co. were only John Hudson."

Mr. Lowder:—Then he would be put to the trouble and expense of going to England to sue John Hudson.

His Honour:—It appears from the petition that he has only just returned from England.

Mr. Lowder:—It would be necessary then to issue a commission here.

His Honour:—One of the parties is in England, and as his evidence would have to be taken, I think a commission would very likely have to be issued.

Mr. Lowder:—I do not know that it would be required here.

His Honour:—It would be very curious if the actual defendant as you call him, did not want to give his evidence.

Mr. Lowder:—I am sorry if your Honor has made up your mind on the point.

His Honour:—I do not say at all that I have made up my mind; but I throw out these suggestions that you may deal with them.

Mr. Lowder:—Well, I can only say that my argument is very short, and it is that this rule was intended to meet such a case as this; and the mere fact of John Hudson carrying on business as John Hudson & Co., and being absent, gives my client a right to sue. That is the whole of my argument.

His Honour:—Have you anything to urge, Mr. Kirkwood?

Mr. Kirkwood:—I would like to say first of all with respect to the defective petition—

His Honour:—Let me say that if, on thinking it over, I find that Mr. Lowder has in effect and substance sued John Hudson & Co., by their agents, I do not know that I should care much how the petition was worded.

Mr. Kirkwood:—The petition, of course, could be amended, but the proceedings would have to be gone through again and the petition served anew. Well then the defendants are thus named at the end of the petition: "The defendants to this petition are the firm of Hudson and Co., whereof John Hudson is the sole partner known to the plaintiff, and they carry on business at Yokohama, Japan, by their agents Carlross Grant and E. Flint Kilby," and the notice of hearing says "Between Arthur Bront, plaintiff, and Hudson & Co., by their agents C. Grant and E. F. Kilby, the above named defendants;" so that it is clear Hudson & Co. are the defendants.

His Honour:—That is admitted, I take it, by Mr. Lowder. I understand him to say he is suing them by their agents Grant and Kilby under the provisions of this regulation.

Mr. Lowder:—That is so.

Mr. Kirkwood:—Well, then, Rule 52 says that proceedings on behalf of or against a partnership solely or jointly must be taken as against the partners individually and not in the name of the firm, and this is the important clause of the regulation: "So as that in all cases wherein but for this regulation it would have been necessary to mention the names of all the members comprising such copartnership, it shall be sufficient to mention the name or names of such one or more member or members only, or of such agent or agents on behalf of the partnership." That is to say, it gives no power to bring such an action as this. It is made still clearer in the next clause, "Provided always and be it ordered that in every summons and other writ issued, and declaration or order pleading filed on behalf of the plaintiff in any action brought under the provisions of the two preceding sections, the style of firm of the co-partnership shall be specified, and it shall distinctly appear that the defendant or defendant or defendants sued, is or are so sued for and behalf of such co-partnership." If it is the intention to sue Hudson & Co. by their agents, clearly the agents themselves must be made the defendants, otherwise what effect could the regulation have which says that in cases where the agents are sued on behalf of the partnership the judgment is not to bind their individual property? How can it be held that Hudson & Co. being the defendants are sued on behalf of Hudson & Co.? I submit that the petition is defective on the face of it. I do not know whether, before that point is decided, it is necessary to go into the question of service. If your honour should hold that Hudson & Co. can be sued, or the firm can be sued, in that name, then I would submit that the petition has not been properly served. If the defendants be Hudson & Co. then the service was not sufficient because Rule 255 says: "Unless in any case the Court thinks it just and expedient otherwise to direct, service shall be personal; that is, the document to be served shall, together with the order for service, be delivered into the hands of the person to be served. Now the order on the petition for service is not "Let this be served on the defendants by their agents," but "Let this be served on the defendants for their answer."

His Honour:—The question was who the defendants were.

Mr. Kirkwood:—Mr. Lowder admits that the defendants were Hudson & Co.; and the suit when it is called on is not called on against Grant and Kilby.

Mr. Lowder:—Hudson & Co., are the actual defendants; Grant and Kilby the nominal defendants.

Mr. Kirkwood:—There is no such thing as a nominal defendant so far as I am aware.

His Honour:—Do you say that the service of the petition as it stands upon Grant and Kilby was wrong?

Mr. Kirkwood:—Yes, because Hudson and Co. are defendants,—I am assuming they are—and under rule 255 the service must be either on one of the partners or all the partners; otherwise an order for substituted service should be obtained under rule 256. I think it is clear that John Hudson is not the defendant, because he is nowhere said to be, and if he were defendant then similarly the service being on Grant and Kilby is defective. Then it is

clear that this is not a suit that can be brought under the regulation, for the plaintiff has been many years in the service of John Hudson, and therefore knows perfectly well the constitution of the firm. It seems to me that in allowing the suit to be instituted it would be causing a miscarriage of justice under regulations framed particularly to prevent a miscarriage of justice.

Mr. Lowder in reply said the action was substantially against the agents on behalf of the firm. He had sued the copartnership in the name of the defendants, and therefore the provisions of the regulation had been observed. Even if it were not so and there was a more convenient way of wording the petition, it could be amended as a matter of course by the Court. It was really attaching more weight to the form than to the substance. The notice of hearing clearly showed who the defendants were—Hudson & Co., by their agents Carlross Grant and E. Flint Kilby; and he did not see how that could be improved upon to meet the requirements of the regulation. Although rule 252 said the "proceedings by or on behalf of or against a partnership solely or jointly must be taken in the several names of the partners as individuals, and not in the name of the firm or otherwise," yet when that regulation came into force the provisions of that rule were so far varied or amended that proceedings against a partnership might be taken in the name of the copartnership by the agents.

His Honour:—No doubt under certain circumstances, to prevent a failure of justice. But there is no partnership here, and it is absolutely asserted in the petition that Hudson is the sole partner; so that the learned counsel might discard rule 252 altogether.

Mr. Lowder:—Practically, of course, the plaintiff is suing John Hudson. If John Hudson had no business out here, then he might say the plaintiff has no right to sue him, but, he is carrying on business in both places at once, there is property of his actually existing in Yokohama, and it is difficult to see why the plaintiff should be deprived of his right to sue him under rule 252 and the regulation which varies or amends that rule.

His Honour:—The point is an important one and I will consider it.

Mr. Kirkwood:—If your honour should hold that the proceedings have been regular up to the present time, the Court has power to stay proceedings until service has been properly effected.

His Honour:—You had better make the application when I deliver judgment; meanwhile, of course, all proceedings will be stayed.

Thursday, February 24th, 1881.

JUDGMENT.

In this case the defendants have put in no answer and did not appear when it was called for hearing. It therefore became the duty of this Court to enquire under Rule 77 into the service of the petition and the notices of hearing, and to consider generally whether the suit could be sustained. It then appeared that service of the petition and notices of hearing had been made upon Messrs. Grant and Kilby, the agents of, and carrying on the business of Hudson & Co., at Yokohama, and the learned counsel for the plaintiff contended that such service was sufficient, inasmuch as the suit was brought against Hudson & Co. under the provisions of the regulation affecting co-partnerships issued by Her Majesty's Minister in Japan and bearing date 16th November, 1866. Mr. Kirkwood who appeared only to watch the proceedings on behalf of Messrs. Grant, Kilby and Hudson, suggested to the court that the petition was defective on the face of it and should be dealt with by the court under the 40th Rule of Procedure. He also suggested that the petition was not intitled under the provisions of the Yedo Regulation—that under those provisions the agents of the co-partnership must be made defendants and be sued for and on behalf of the co-partnership; that the service of the petition and notices of hearing were insufficient, because as the petition is intitled Hudson & Co. are the actual defendants, and in such case services upon one or more of the partners must be personally effected under Rule 255, unless an order for substituted service had been obtained which was not the case here, and finally he put it to the court that the Regulation itself might not be valid as the matter dealt with by it would seem more properly to

have formed the subject of a Rule of Procedure. I was glad to have the assistance of Mr. Kirkwood's suggestions, but as he did not actually appear in the case it was none the less necessary for me to ascertain for myself whether the suit had been properly instituted and whether it could be proceeded with under the Yedo Regulation.

On examining the petition I find it to be admitted by the plaintiff that the firm of Hudson & Co. consists of one partner only, John Hudson by name; that the plaintiff had long been associated in business with the said Hudson, that this claim is against Hudson & Co. in respect of matters arising and services rendered by him to the said Hudson whilst he was so associated with the said Hudson & Co.; that during the whole or greater portion of the period in question John Hudson was resident in England and I must consequently assume that the plaintiff could not have had at any time heretofore, nor can he now have any doubt as to the individuality or place of abode of the person against whom he seeks to bring his suit. Now apart from the existence of the Yedo Regulation and the fact of John Hudson carrying on business by his agency at Yokohama it is quite clear that the plaintiff would have no means of compelling John Hudson, a person out of the jurisdiction of this court to appear before it either personally or by this agent to defend a suit of the present nature, and it becomes most material to consider what was the object and what is the scope of the Yedo Regulation, but before doing so I think it right to say in answer to Mr. Kirkwood's suggestion of doubt as to its validity, that a Peking Regulation similarly worded and issued under similar authority has been more than once upheld by the Supreme Court for China and Japan in Shanghai and that I therefore feel myself bound, at least for the present, to assume that the Yedo Regulation is good and binding upon all British subjects in Japan. And now as to its object. I quite agree with Mr. Lowder that it must have been intended to supplement or amend Rule 252 and to afford increased facilities to suitors in recovering against co-partnerships under certain special circumstances, but it appears to me that what those special circumstances are is made sufficiently clear by the wording both of the preamble and the regulation itself. The preamble says:—"Whereas in some cases business is or may be carried on in Yokohama and elsewhere in Japan by persons in co-partnership or by one individual or more assuming the style of a co-partnership or acting as agent or agents of a co-partnership and in some of those cases the members of such co-partnerships, or some of them, are not only absent from the place where such co-partnership business is carried on, but their names are or may be unknown," and the Regulation expressly states that it is made to prevent a "failure of justice in such cases," obviously referring to the class of cases alluded to in the preamble. The scope of the Regulation seems to me then to be clearly limited to the effecting of the proposed object, viz.:—The prevention of a failure of justice in cases where suitors might not know and might not be able to find out of what members a co-partnership consisted. Can that be said to be the case here? And how would there be any failure of justice if I now hold the regulation is not applicable to the plaintiff's case? He admits that he knows all about Hudson & Co., that it is in effect against John Hudson alone that he seeks redress and that he has only lately returned from England, where it is obvious he might have instituted proceedings against him, and in fact the only two grounds urged by his counsel in favour of the suit being allowed to proceed are, as I understand them, firstly, that certain parts of the Yedo Regulation are so worded as technically to authorise its continuance and secondly, that it would be a hardship on the plaintiff to have to bring his suit in England because that would necessitate a commission being sent out here to procure evidence in support of his case. As to the first point I think it is sufficiently answered by what I have said as to the object and scope of the Regulation, and as to the second point it is obvious that if the suit can be sustained in this court the defendant might find it equally necessary to have a commission sent home to procure evidence in support of his case. On the whole, I am clearly of opinion that I cannot entertain the suit, and I shall order proceedings in it to be stayed, but in doing so it must be

understood that I am not laying down any general rule that a single individual carrying on business in Japan under the style of a firm or co-partnership cannot be sued through his agent during his absence. All I say is that it is not open to a plaintiff under such circumstances as are admitted to exist in the present case to avail himself of the procedure provided for in this regulation. Having disposed of the case upon these broad principles I do not consider it necessary to express a decided opinion upon the best mode of instituting suits in this court which may be brought under the Regulation, but I am inclined to think that the form hitherto adopted in the Supreme Court at Shanghai of suing the agent "as agent of and for and on behalf of the co-partnership" might well be followed here. The proceedings will be stayed.

IN THE U. S. CONSULAR GENERAL COURT.

Before THOS. B. VAN BUREN, Esq., Consul-General, Judge, and Messrs. P. HUSSEY and G. FARLEY, Jr., Assessors.

Wednesday, 23rd February, 1881.

THE MITSU BISHI MAIL STEAMSHIP COMPANY
versus

THE PACIFIC MAIL STEAMSHIP COMPANY.

(Continued from the 14th Sept., 1880.)

This was an action to recover the sum of \$5,000 for the carriage of the American mails between Shanghai and Yokohama by the steamer *Nevada* in the month of January, 1877, and for the detention of the said vessel in Shanghai for the purpose of conveying the said mail. The plaintiffs also claimed interest on the said sum of \$5,000 at 10 per cent per annum.

Mr. Kirkwood appeared for the plaintiffs, and Mr. Hill for the defendants.

It will be remembered that on the 14th September last the Court issued a Commission to take certain evidence in England and America, and meanwhile the proceedings were adjourned. The Court again sat to proceed with the case.

Mr. Kirkwood now put in the evidence of Mr. Gavin P. Ness on the part of the plaintiffs; whilst Mr. Hill put in that of Mr. J. B. Houston and Mr. Alex. Center on behalf of the defendants.

Mr. Kirkwood having read Mr. Ness' answers to the interrogatories said that closed the evidence in support of the plaintiff's case, with the exception of the answers to a few questions which he wished to put to Mr. Forster, with reference to certain facts which had come to his (counsel's) knowledge since the case was adjourned. He might say that his object was to show that the Pacific Mail Company themselves believed at the time the contract was entered into that all their obligations to the United States Government ceased on the 31st December, 1876; and so much so that they actually applied to the House of Representatives—and whether successfully or not Mr. Forster might be able to say—to get an extra grant to that provided for by the contract.

After some discussion this was allowed, and Mr. Kirkwood accordingly called,

Mr. Frederick Henry Forster, who being sworn, said he was General Agent in China and Japan of the defendant Company, and, had been so for four years. He had no exact knowledge of any application having been made by the Pacific Mail Steamship Company or on their behalf for a payment in excess of the amount they were paid under their contract with the U. S. Government for the carriage of the mails after the 31st December, 1876. He had heard so—that was to say, it came to him through the medium of the newspapers and through hearing it spoken of by the captains and other officers of the steamers.

Mr. Hill asked if that was sufficient knowledge.

Mr. Kirkwood said the witness admitted having been told so.

Mr. Hill replied that that was not official knowledge.

The witness, in reply to Mr. Kirkwood, said he supposed it would take him four or five days to ascertain from the company by telegram whether they had been paid.

Mr. Kirkwood did not know whether the Court would accept a telegram as evidence; otherwise he did not see how the fact could be arrived at.

His Honour:—I shall strike this testimony out; it is quite irrelevant. The evidence should have been taken on the commission.

Mr. Kirkwood:—If there had been any reason to believe that that was the case when the commission was issued, the question would probably have been put to Mr. Houston.

His Honour:—If the parties agree that the telegram should be received, I have no objection to it.

Mr. Kirkwood (to witness):—Are you willing that your Company should be telegraphed to?

Witness:—If you are willing to pay for the telegram, certainly.

Mr. Hill:—There can be no objection to that, of course; but I do not see how it affects the question.

Mr. Kirkwood:—If the Pacific Company at the very time of forming the agreement were clearly under the impression that their contract with the U. S. Government ended on the 31st December, and that the subsidy being paid ended at the time, then it is perfectly clear that the minds of both parties were fixed on the 31st December; and that being so, it ends this controversy as a matter of course—I mean it ends all outside evidence, because then we take the original contract as it stood; and any fact is material that throws light on the contract.

Mr. Hill:—That is what we want to discuss, whether it throws any light on the issue involved.

His Honour:—It would seem to me very clear that if, immediately after this thing was finished—if, immediately after this trip was ended, the company applied to Washington for payment for that trip and received it, it would go very far to convince me that the minds of both companies were in accord that the contract ended on the 31st December, 1876.

Mr. Hill:—I do not see how such a conclusion could possibly follow—how could it follow that at the time of making the contract in 1875 they contemplated they would not have to carry mails beyond the 1st January. The controversy arose without any reference to Washington, to the authorities, or the pay for it.

His Honour:—It would show to my mind that there was no legal obligation on the part of the Pacific Mail to carry it, and that they depended on getting their pay afterwards from Congress.

Mr. Hill:—It does not occur to me in that way at all, your Honour.

Mr. Kirkwood:—I take it that Mr. Hill is prepared to admit for the purpose of this suit, and that Mr. Foster is prepared to admit, that payment was received.

Mr. Hill:—After it was all complete.

Mr. Kirkwood:—After it was complete, that this mail that the *Nevada* carried—

Mr. Hill:—Was paid for, and I have no doubt that an extra act was required to get it from the Treasury.

Mr. Kirkwood:—That saves the necessity of a telegram.

His Honour:—Now what is admitted and what not?

Mr. Hill:—He alleges that payment was had by the Pacific Mail for the carriage of the mails from Shanghai through to the United States, which ended after the 31st December.

His Honour:—Is that admitted?

Mr. Hill:—Yes, with this qualification, that I do not know whether it is true.

His Honour:—I am afraid that will not do. If you admit it, it is of no consequence to the Court whether you know it or not. If it is admitted then it is precisely the same as testimony; if it is not admitted then we go back to the telegram.

Mr. Foster:—I cannot admit anything; I have no knowledge myself.

Mr. Hill:—I have no power to admit unreservedly anything I do not know, except for the purpose of the argument.

His Honour:—Then I make this note: Counsel asks that a telegram at the expense of the plaintiffs may be sent to the president of the defendant company at New York, asking him if the company has been paid by the U. S. Government extra compensation, and if so how much, for the carriage of mails from China and Japan to the United States after the 31st December 1876, over and above the amount allowed under the original contract.

Mr. Hill:—Supposing this to be the fact, I do not see how a telegram would throw any light upon the issue.

His Honour:—No; I am afraid it would not be of much use; no telegram will clear it up. It must be done by commission.

After some further argument

Mr. Kirkwood said he would apply for a commission to examine Mr. Houston.

His Honour, however, stated that he could not see his way to granting the request, on the ground that the president of the company had already been examined on commission and the question might have been asked at the time.

Mr. Kirkwood asked the Court to take a note of his application.

His Honour accordingly did so.

That closed the evidence in support of the plaintiff's case.

Mr. Hill then put in the evidence of Mr. Center and Mr. Houston.

The Court then adjourned.

On the Court re-opening, Mr. Hill said that the remarks this morning of the counsel for the plaintiffs were so much to the point that he was quite content to waive the objections he had raised to the interrogatories Nos. 3 and 9. He supposed we now came to the actual argument. He entered the discussion of this question with the utmost candour and, he trusted, the spirit of sobriety. He was willing to admit that they came originally to this case with a crude and imperfect idea of all the points that were involved. He had tried to comprehend the question properly and would present it in what he believed to be the proper form. He would ask the utmost attention to his argument, even from His Honour, as no matter how learned one might be, or how experienced, there might be points brought out which required this attention. He believed that he could sustain his point beyond any possibility of its being overthrown by the opposite counsel. He prayed particularly that all that had been previously said on the subject might be set aside and the case decided solely on the merits of the evidence. He did not doubt that the Court would harp on the date mentioned, October the 15th. There were, however, other points to which great attention was necessary. First, is there any claim at all, and next as to damages; supposing these were given against the defendant, how much would be the proper amount? All this hinges upon the question of the construction of the contract. It had been asserted by a leading English legal authority, many years ago, but the maxim was still quoted daily, that there was no Act of Parliament, even of only four sections long, through which it was not possible to drive a four-in-hand; and it was therefore surely not improbable that in a contract of twenty sections, drawn up by a barrister in Yokohama, a hole might be discovered large enough, not only to pass one of the Mitsui Bishi steamers through but even their whole fleet. Counsel here quoted Benjamin on Sales secs. 308-311 and continued:—It was important to know in whom the ownership of the vessel was vested. If he owned a horse and sold it to a purchaser, and the horse was killed by lightning before delivery was taken, who was the loser? The purchaser decidedly. The plaintiffs claim for services done by their ship, but was their possession of that ship lawful? The defendant says that on the 15th October, 1875, there was a sale of the *Nevada*. If the Mitsui Bishi Company pulled down the American flag and hoisted their own, they owned the ship and would be responsible for damages. The Pacific Mail Company was bound by contract but could not have shown tort. He would refer to Kent p. 429. He wished to explain that there was not a proper charter. A charter is the letting or hiring of something which belongs to you; it is not possible to let or hire anything which does not, and this was why he insisted that there was not in any sense a charter. The Court would see this when he came to show that the insertion of a date was a mere incident. There were two facts arrived at. He would show that the service was the essence of the agreement, and the law would explain how to construe it accordingly. He repeated that the Mitsui Bishi Company bought a certain ship and from the instant that the seals were attached to the necessary documents the ship belonged to them. All incidents of dates bearing on this are null and void. The evidence of Mr. Ness proved this. He would next add that the making of the bill of sale was symbolical of delivery, as the law would show. It is an elementary principle in law that the passing of a bill of sale is symbolical of delivery, and even if the delivery was not effected the loss falls on the purchasers. Counsel quoted Parsons Vol. I. 526, 528, in support of his argument. Mr. Irwin's evidence

proved that delivery took place on the 15th October, 1875. Next, as to the second point, that there was no charter of the *Nevada* and that the clause alleged to be a charter is in fact an agreement to perform a certain service. This should be kept in mind as evidence of the principle of the contract. The stipulations of the contract are ambiguous. Without going into the question of the testimony, it must be clear that it shews to a fuller extent than the contract that there was an ambiguity. The evidence shews it was for a service which was to end on the 1st January 1877, and be twelve round trips per annum, and that the last trip took place early in 1877. This contract when brought to judicial investigation is undoubtedly ambiguous. The contract and the service are inconsistent. If the date is a mere incident, a provision, it is a mere nullity and we must construe it accordingly. There was no charter, because one cannot let a ship one does not own. The very gist of the point is a service, and the law provides that when a repugnant point is brought, the essence, the spirit must be looked for. This essence was undoubtedly a service; it was for the Court to consider if this was so, or if the contract was the point. Had the Mitsui Bishi Company pulled down the American flag anywhere but in Japan the defendants could have got damages, but who knew the law in Japan on such a subject? It was a fact that a certain date was inserted in the contract, but the principal fact was that a certain service was to be performed. \$5000 damage were asked, while unsubsidised steamers took the mails from Hongkong to San Francisco for \$150. Next, if the Pacific Mail Company had to pay damages the question was how much? On this subject two points were brought forward, one being detention and the other the carrying of the mails. The witnesses were all agreed that \$500 per day was a fair price to remunerate the vessel for lying in the harbour, but were the defendants responsible for this detention? On this subject they had only the evidence of Mr. Bramsen's telegram and he did not think it necessary to comment upon this. The entire question rested upon the performing of a service. If there was a detention of the ship, it was on the part of the plaintiffs themselves.

His Honour asked if it did not appear from the evidence that the defendants agreed to pay some demurrage.

Mr. Hill asked His Honour to refer to the petition, attached to which there was a document connected with this subject.

His Honour said it simply referred to the proposal for \$5,000.

Mr. Hill continued:—A ship could only be stopped in a case like this by a strong hand. The ship was kept back four days. He thought that the only question on the second point was that of the value of bringing the mails from Shanghai. Upon this there were seven witnesses, all reliable with the exception of Mr. Haswell, whose evidence he would strike out as showing an animus, and he would therefore not comment upon it. This clever and smart Mr. Haswell received a very proper censure from the court for the way in which he gave his evidence. Counsel reviewed the other evidence given on this subject and said that it showed that a little over \$100 was paid for carrying mails to San Francisco (5,000 miles) and that the Hongkong Government paid only \$25 per steamer from Hongkong to Yokohama. It was indeed a first rate speculation to pay 150 yen for carriage of mails to San Francisco, and then claim \$5,000 for bringing them from Shanghai. He concluded by saying that this ambiguity in the contract was the point in issue. What was the chief and principal purpose of it? By some mistake on the part of the legal adviser it had been considered requisite to have a charter and a date, but he maintained that the controlling fact was that the essential point was the execution of the service. Counsel here handed in a written argument.

His Honour said he understood Mr. Hill's argument to be this: the plaintiffs carried the mails in question from Shanghai; if the contract compelled them to do so they could not claim damages: if it did not, they could only get the absolute value of the services performed.

Mr. Kirkwood said that before replying he must object to Mr. Hill handing in a written brief, as he had done.

His Honour said it was quite allowable; we were not all blessed with infallible memories, and therefore it was ad-

vantageous to have written arguments. Mr. Kirkwood could hand his in if he wished. It was allowed by American law.

Mr. Kirkwood said that the claim was for \$5,000 with interest. There were two points to be decided. 1st was it the obligation of the plaintiff to carry the mails, and 2nd if the obligation did not exist what should be the amount of damages. The obligation of carrying the mails depended upon the interpretation of clauses 3 and 4 in the contract. (Counsel read the clauses). What was the object and effect of these clauses? He maintained that there was a charter. The charter proved an actual letting or hiring of the ship. Had the *Nevada* been lost after the 1st January 1877 there would have been no obligation to replace her. The 1st point was whether the fifteen months mentioned in the charter was the essence of the contract, or merely to fix a date when it should end. The next was if it was a fixed date up to which the mails were to be carried. An attempt had been made at first to shew that if the charter began on the 15th October defendants could bring a counter claim for non-service for the first half of the month, but as it was not sustained he would not refer to it. If the term of 15 months was of no material importance, why was it fixed? Why was it not arranged "for so long a period as is required for carrying out the existing contract with the United States Government?" As to the change of date, possibly the date was fixed and afterwards some delay occurred and no one thought of making the contract read for 14½ months. If the ship had been sold at once she could no longer have flown the American flag and the mail contract would not have been so thoroughly protected. One point counsel for defendants did not refer to was whether the mistake as to the termination of the United States Government contract could affect this contract. (Counsel quoted on this point *Beavan Vol. 22 p. 214.*) If there was any mistake it was due to the negligence of the defendants agents, who should have had a copy of the contract. They continually represented it as terminating on December 31st, 1876, but yet they had never taken the trouble to get a copy of the contract, but trusted to their knowledge of it. The evidence of Mr. Irwin states that the *Nevada* was to be transferred to the Japanese flag on the 1st January, 1877. Mr. Center says she would have to run under the American flag until that date when the contract with the American Government would have expired; nothing can be plainer than this, the evidence of the defendants agent, who acted as interpreter during the negotiations. It was arranged that the mails should be carried until the 31st December, 1876; no term of months was ever mentioned. Mr. Center says the mail contract was for ten years, from January 1867 to December 1876. He (counsel) could not tell why the 1st of October was ever mentioned in the contract. Mr. Iwasaki's evidence was to the effect that the mails were to be carried up to the end of 1876 and that nothing was ever said about the number of months in which the *Nevada* was to carry the mails. Mr. Ness' evidence was also plain about the expiration of the contract. On the testimony of Mr. Center counsel was obliged to comment unfavorably, and in the face of one document, a letter from the witness himself, he did not think that the court would attach much importance to it either. He referred to the letter already put in evidence from Mr. Center to his principal in which the following sentences occurred "which carries her (the *Nevada*) up to the 1st of January, 1877, or the day after the expiration of our contract." He no doubt thought the contract did expire then, and he (counsel) also believed it did actually. Whenever the contract ended was immaterial; all the plaintiff had to do was to forward the mails up to the 31st December, 1876, and he relied on this upon all the evidence that had come before the Court, but especially on Mr. Center's letter. The Court had to ascertain if the plaintiffs, being in possession of the ship on the 1st January, 1877 as vendees, and not having a legal transfer, were under any obligation.

His Honour considered that this point had more importance than the learned counsel appeared inclined to give it. The ship was at sea when she should have been given up. Was she then a chartered or owned vessel?

Mr. Kirkwood said she was an owned vessel, but not delivered. She could have been delivered anywhere. There was no obligation to deliver her in Yokohama.

His Honour said that therefore the ship was detained by her own act.

Mr. Kirkwood admitted this and said that as to the value of the detention he would read the correspondence. The ship was delayed by the defendants. This interfered with the regular running of the local line of steamers and the plaintiffs trade suffered in consequence.

His Honour said he failed to see why they should detain their ship ten days to carry the mail; if they did they evidently thought it necessary to do so.

Mr. Kirkwood replied that when the contract was made the vessels were to leave and arrive at certain times. He thought it was an important element as bearing on the subject of damages. He considered that the stipulation made in the letters of the plaintiffs for \$5,000 was also sufficient to support their claim.

His Honour said it would be, had the other side admitted it, but Mr. Forster from the first asserted that he was under no such obligation. Suppose plaintiffs had claimed \$100,000.

Mr. Kirkwood said that any exorbitant charge could be contested: the court should look upon this as reasonable, unless proved exorbitant.

His Honour said the Court held counsel must show the value of the detention. He did not believe any law of evidence would prove that \$5,000 could be the proper sum, but he would gladly read any authorities counsel liked to furnish him.

Mr. Kirkwood reviewed the evidence given as to the rate for detention and the rates for carrying mails. On the former the witnesses were generally agreed, and on the latter they differed according as they based their calculations on home and local rates. He concluded by saying that he believed the court must consider that the claim of \$5,000 was not grossly exorbitant.

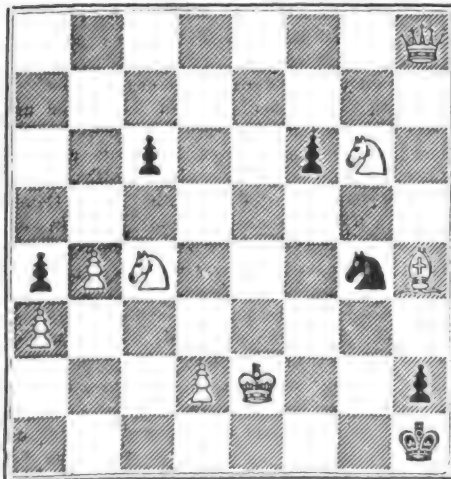
The case thus being closed, His Honour reserved judgment.

CHESS PROBLEM,

By O. F. REED.

(From the American Chess Nuts.)

BLACK.



WHITE.

White to play and mate in 3 moves.

SOLUTION OF CHESS PROBLEM OF FEB. 19TH, BY G. B. VALLE.

White:

- 1.—Q. to R. 5.
- 2.—Kt. to B. 2, ch.
- 3.—Q. mate.

Black:

- 1.—P. takes Kt.
- 2.—K. takes P.
- 1.—Kt. to Q. 3.
- 2.—K. takes Q.

No correct solutions received.

YOKOSUKA STEAMERS TIME TABLE.

LEAVE YOKOHAMA.

DAILY:—8.30, and 9.45 A.M.; 12.00, 1.30, and 4.15 P.M.

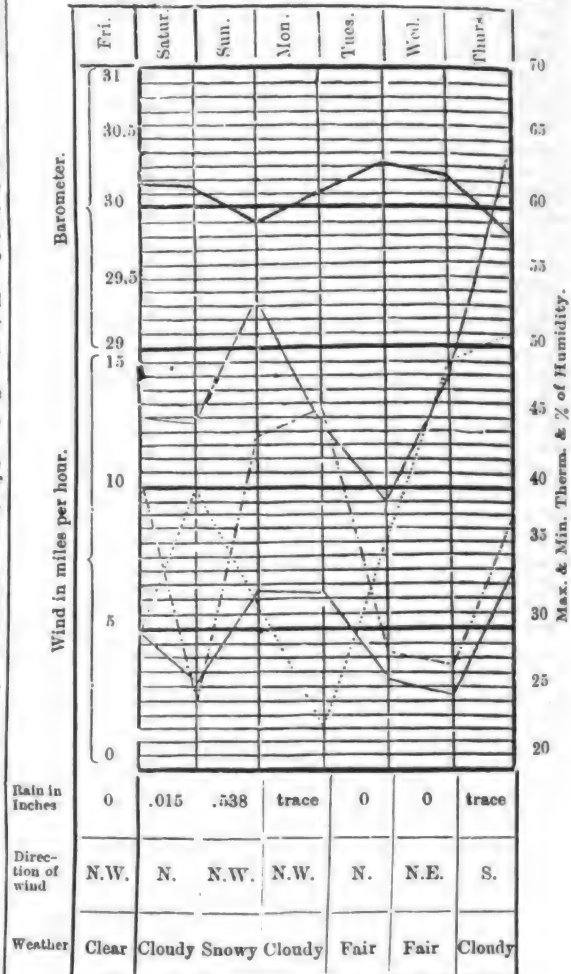
LEAVE YOKOSUKA.

DAILY:—6.45 and 9.30 A.M., and 12.00; 1.30 and 4.00 P.M.

METEOROLOGICAL REPORT

FOR WEEK BEGINNING FRIDAY, FEBRUARY 18TH, 1881.

Observatory of Daigaku, Moto-Fujicho, Hongō, Tokio, Japan.



REMARKS.

Heavy line represents barometer.

Light continuous line—max. & min. thermometers.

.....represents velocity of wind.

.....percentage of humidity.

Max. velocity of wind 17.5 miles per hour on Friday at 2 p.m.

The barometer is reduced to the freezing point and to the level of the sea.

The highest reading of the barometer for the week was 30.341 inches on Tuesday at 9.27 p.m. and the lowest was 29.755 inches on Tuesday at the same hour. The maximum temperature for the week was 64° 3 on Thursday, and the lowest was 25° 5 on Wednesday. Thus within two days there was an unusual range amounting to nearly 40°. The maximum and minimum temperature for the corresponding week of last year were 54° 4 and 27° 3 respectively.

The total rain fall for the week was .555 inches against a total of 2.237 inches for the corresponding week of last year.

SHIPPING INTELLIGENCE.

INWARDS.

- Feb. 19, British steamer *Flintshire*, Morgan, 1,236, from London via ports of call, General, to Adamson, Bell & Co.
 Feb. 19, British barque *Artemisia*, D. Macfarlane, 680, from Nagasaki, Coal, to O. & O. Co.
 Feb. 20, German three-masted schooner, *Balthazar*, E. C. Fulda, 275, from Takao, Sugar, to E. B. Watson.
 Feb. 21, Japanese steamer *Tauruga Maru*, Steedman, 661, from Kobe, Mails and General, to M. B. Co.
 Feb. 22, French steamer *Tanais*, Reynier, 1,735, from Hongkong, Mails and General, to M. M. Co.
 Feb. 22, British steamer *Telmachus*, Jones, 1,581, from London via Hongkong, General, to Butterfield & Swire.
 Feb. 24, Japanese steamer *Wakanoura Maru*, Christensen, 1,343, from Kobe, Mails and General, to M. B. Co.
 Feb. 24, American steamer *City of Peking*, Berry, 5,079, from Hongkong, Mails and General, to P. M. S. S. Co.
 Feb. 26, British brig *Minatitan*, J. Edwards, 224, from Takao, Sugar, to Chinese.

PASSENGERS.

Per British steamer *Flintshire*, from London via Hongkong, Mr. John Maddox. For Hiogo: Mr. Kreuse.

Per Japanese steamer *Tsuruga Maru* from Kobe:—60 Japanese in steerage.

Per French steamer *Tanais* from Hongkong:—Messrs. A. Kogiro, Kirby, E. Naogiro, Conrad, Heck, C. M. Duff, L. Harris, Munroe, and three Japanese.

Per *Telenachus* from London:—Messrs. Drummond and Ishikawa.

Per Japanese steamer *Wakanoura Maru* from Kobe:—Captain Conner, Captain Cook and 8 Japanese in cabin; and 480 in steerage.

Per American steamer *City of Peking* from Hongkong:—Mrs. Street, Mrs. Farmer and daughter, Mrs. Benham and 2 children, Miss Van Buren, and Mrs. Eldridge, in cabin. For San Francisco: Mr. R. A. Lane in cabin; and F. Kennedy and 966 Chinese in steerage.

OUTWARDS.

Feb. 13, German schooner, *Anna Wichhorst*, Brandt, 384, for Takao, Ballast, despatched by Soon Hoo.

Feb. 19, Japanese steamer *Kumamoto Maru*, Drummond, 1,240, for Nagasaki, Ballast, despatched by M. B. Co.

Feb. 19, British steamer *Gleniffer*, Graham, 1,360, for Kobe and Nagasaki, General, despatched by Jardine, Matheson & Co.

Feb. 22, Japanese steamer *Kokonoye Maru*, Dithlelsen, 1,133, for Hakodate, Mails and General, despatched by M. B. Co.

Feb. 22, Japanese steamer *Shinagawa Maru*, Walker, 908, for Kobe, Mails and General, despatched by M. B. Co.

Feb. 22, British barque *Scottish Fairy*, Toozes, 750, for Portland.

Feb. 23, Japanese steamer *Takasago Maru*, Young, 1,230, for Shanghai and ports, Mails and General, despatched by M. B. Co.

Feb. 24, British barque *Preto*, Laidman, 384, for Guam, Ballast, despatched by Tai Tuk Tong.

Feb. 24, British schooner *Ellerbank*, Parker, 1,144, for Portland, Oregon, Ballast, despatched by Hudson & Co.

Feb. 25, British steamer, *Sunda*, Reeves, 1,074, for Hongkong, Mails and General, despatched by P. & O. Co.

Feb. 26, British steamer *Flintshire*, Morgan, 1,236, for Kobe, General, despatched by Adamson, Bell & Co.

PASSENGERS.

Per Japanese steamer *Takasago Maru* for Shanghai and ports:—Mrs. W. B. Wright and child, Mrs. Swain, Mrs. Asabyki and child, Mrs. Yung Sing Yee and child, Mrs. Nakamigawa, Messrs. E. O. Kirby, A. Kirby, Vilamoy, Iwahashi, Takaishi, Yaga, Nishi, Ishida, Sugimura, J. H. Heck, Makino and Doi.

Per British steamer *Sunda* for Hongkong:—Mr. and Mrs. Charleson and three children, Messrs. J. W. McCarthy, G. M. Dore, J. Earl, Da Rosa and Ah Wye in cabin; 16 Chinese in the steerage.

CARGOES.

Per French steamer *Tanais* from Hongkong:—

General from London ... 889 packages.
" " Marseilles ... 1,013 "
" " Hongkong ... 1,023 "

Total ... 2,925 pkgs.

Per Japanese steamer *Takasago Maru* for Shanghai and ports.—

Treasure ... \$3,000.00

Per British steamer *Sunda* for Hongkong:—

Silk, for London ... 52 bales.
" " France ... 6 "

Total ... 58 bales

REPORTS.

The S. S. *Telenachus* reports:—Left Hongkong at 4 p.m. on the 14th instant: experienced strong N. E. monsoon and strong northerly gales off the coast of Japan.

NEXT MAIL DUE FROM,

AMERICA	P. M. Co.	
AMERICA	O. & O. Co.	Feb. 28th
EUROPE, via HONGKONG	M. M. Co.	Mar. 10th
HONGKONG	P. & O. Co.	Mar. 4th
HONGKONG, via KOBE	M. B. Co.	Feb. 28th
HONGKONG	P. M. Co.	
HONGKONG	O. & O. Co.	Mar. 15th
SHANGHAI, HIogo & NAGASAKI	M. B. Co.	Feb. 27th

1.—Left San Francisco, February 8th, *Oceanic*.

NEXT MAIL LEAVES FOR,

AMERICA	P. M. Co.	Mar. 2nd
AMERICA	O. & O. Co.	Mar. 18th
EUROPE, via HONGKONG	P. & O. Co.	Mar. 12th
EUROPE, via HONGKONG	M. M. Co.	Mar. 5th
HAKODATE	M. B. Co.	Feb. 27th
HONGKONG, via KOBE	M. B. Co.	Mar. 5th
HONGKONG	O. & O. Co.	Mar. 2nd
HONGKONG	P. M. Co.	
SHANGHAI, HIogo, & NAGASAKI	M. B. Co.	Mar. 2nd

The arrival and departure of mails by the "Occidental and Oriental," the "Pacific Mail," and the "Peninsular and Oriental" companies, are approximate only.

VESSELS EXPECTED IN JAPAN.

S A I L E D.

DATE.	NAME OF VESSEL.	FROM	FOR
Sept. 26	Anna Seiben	ANTWERP	Yokohama
July 17	Ste. Lucie	PHILADELPHIA	"
Aug. 7	Philip Nelson	HAMBURG	Yokohama
Nov. 18	Pakhoi (s.s.)	GLASGOW	Jap. via Manila
" 19	Ordovic	LONDON	Yokohama
" 22	Malacca	HAMBURG	Yoko. & Hiogo
" 25	Gleniffer (s.s.)	LONDON	"
Dec. 17	Marie	ANTWERP	"
" 30	Mora	LONDON	"
Jan. 3	Fleura Castle (s.s.)	"	"
" 3	Benledi (s.s.)	"	"
Dec. 17	R. Robinson	NEW YORK	"

LOADING.

DATE.	NAME OF VESSEL.	AT	FOR
Jan. 7	Oxfordshire (s.s.)	LONDON	Yoko. & Hiogo
" 7	M. L. Stone	"	"
" 7	Galley of Lorne (s.s.)	"	"
" 7	Bellerophon (s.s.)	"	"
" 7	Glamis Castle (s.s.)	Antwerp	"
" 7	Keelung (s.s.)	"	"
" 7	Canton (s.s.)	LONDON	"
" 7	Coldstream	"	"
" 7	Frank Carvil	CARDIFF	"
" 7	Tamsui (s.s.)	GLASGOW	"

NATIVE CURRENCY QUOTATIONS.

(For Week Ending 26th February, 1881.)

		Discount on Yen Satr.			Gold Yen.	Nipon.	Silver Subsidary (New.)	Silver Subsidary (Old.)
		A.M.	Noon.	Closing.				
1881								
Saturday	.....Feb.	19	76 $\frac{1}{2}$	76 $\frac{1}{2}$	76 $\frac{1}{2}$	—	—	—
Monday	....."	21	75 $\frac{1}{2}$	75 $\frac{1}{2}$	75 $\frac{1}{2}$	—	—	—
Tuesday	....."	22	75 $\frac{1}{2}$	75 $\frac{1}{2}$	75 $\frac{1}{2}$	—	—	—
Wednesday	....."	23	75 $\frac{1}{2}$	75 $\frac{1}{2}$	75 $\frac{1}{2}$	—	—	—
Thursday	....."	24	75 $\frac{1}{2}$	75 $\frac{1}{2}$	75 $\frac{1}{2}$	—	—	—
Friday	....."	25	75 $\frac{1}{2}$	74 $\frac{1}{2}$	74 $\frac{1}{2}$	—	—	—
Saturday	....."	26	74 $\frac{1}{2}$	74 $\frac{1}{2}$	74 $\frac{1}{2}$	—	—	—

CHURCH SERVICES.

CHRIST CHURCH.

Sunday Morning 11 A.M.
" Evening 5.30 P.M.

E. CHAMPNETS IRVINE, M.A.,
The Parsonage, 101.

UNION CHURCH, No. 167.

Sunday Morning 11 A.M.
" Evening 8 P.M.

REV. LUTHER H. GULICK, M.D.,
Pastor.

SHIPPING INTELLIGENCE.

VESSELS IN HARBOUR.

NAME.	CAPTAIN.	FLAG AND REG.	TONS.	FROM.	ARRIVED.	CONSIGNEES.
STEAMERS.						
City of Peking	Berry	American steamer	5,079	Hongkong	Feb. 24	P. M. Co.
Meuzaleh	Homery	French steamer	1,273	Hongkong	Feb. 10	M. M. Co.
Tanais	Reynier	French steamer	1,735	Hongkong	Feb. 22	M. M. Co.
Telemachus	Jones	British steamer	1,681	London via Hongkong	Feb. 22	Butterfield & Swire
SAILING SHIPS.						
Artemisia	D. Macfarlane	British barque	680	Nagasaki	Feb. 19	O. & O. Co.
Alexander	Carson	American schooner	52	Nagasaki	Nov. 3	J. E. Collyer
Benedicta	Jansen	German schooner	247	Takao	Feb. 16	Chinese
Baltazar	E. C. Fulda	German schooner	275	Takao	Feb. 20	E. B. Watson
Cilurnum	Beadle	British ship	1,850	Hongkong	Nov. 8	Edward Fischer & Co.
Helena	Ewalt	German schooner	60	Kurile Islands	Oct. 31	Captain
Lottie	Hiltz	German schooner	26	Kurile Islands	Sept. 4	Hohnholz & Co.
Mary C. Bohm	Petersen	German schooner	55	Kurile Islands	Oct. 24	P. Bohm
Minatitlan	J. Edwards	British brig	224	Takao	Feb. 26	Chinese
North Star	Johnson	Russian schooner	42	Kurile Islands	Nov. 16	H. W. Hohnholz & Co.
Otome	Hardy	American schooner	72	Kurile Islands	Dec. 13	H. Snow
Otago	Isaacson	Russian schooner	46	Kurile Islands	Nov. 3	H. Cook
Pioneer	Maies	Russian schooner	72	Itomo, via Hakodate	Jan. 17	Walsh, Hall & Co.
Remonstrant	Stoddart	British barque	1,044	London	Feb. 10	Wilkin & Robison
Stella	Werner	American schooner	30	Kurile Islands	Oct. 11	Captain

VESSELS OF WAR IN PORT.

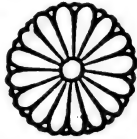
NAME.	GUNS.	TONS.	H. P.	DESCRIPTION.	WHERE FROM.	COMMANDER.
BRITISH—Albatross...	4	894	838	Sloop	Chefoo	Captain Errington
RUSSIAN—Africa...	14	1,400	—	Cruiser	Nagasaki	Captain Aleasoff
" Ermak...	4	375	—	Transport	Hiogo	Captain Kolfchan
" Kniaz Pojarsky...	12	4,291	—	Ironclad	Nagasaki	Captain Tirtoff
" Minin...	16	5,300	6,300	Ironclad	Nagasaki	Captain Nazimoff

VESSELS ON THE BERTH.

DESTINATION.	NAME.	AGENTS.	TO BE DESPATCHED.
San Francisco	City of Peking	P. M. Co.	March 2nd at daylight
London via Kobe Nagasaki and H'kong	Telemachus	Butterfield & Swire	Quick despatch
San Francisco	Gaelic	O. & O. Co.	March 18th
Hongkong via Kobe	Sumida Maru	M. B. Co.	March 5th, at 4 P.M.
Hongkong	Meuzaleh	M. M. Co.	March 5th, at 9 a.m.
Shanghai and way-ports	Genkai Maru	M. B. Co.	March 2nd, at 4 P.M.
San Francisco via Hiogo	Remonstrant	Wilkin & Robison	Unsettled

MISCELLANEOUS.

[TRANSLATION]



NOTIFICATION

No. 13 of Daijokwan.

IT IS HEREBY NOTIFIED that any Master, Mate or Engineer, holding a Certificate of Competency from any Foreign Government shall, provided the qualifications and requirements under which any such Certificate was issued are deemed to be in no ways inferior to the qualifications and requirements for a Certificate of a corresponding grade under Notification No. 82 of the 9th Year of Meiji, be entitled to a Certificate of Competency of a similar grade without undergoing any examination.

It is also further Notified that the regular examination of applicants for Masters, Mates or Engineers Certificates shall here-after only be held during the 3rd, 6th, 9th and 12th Months of each Year, on such day and hour as shall hereafter be Notified by Yokitei Kioku.

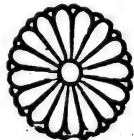
(Signed) SANJO SANEYOSHI,
Daijō-Daijin.



NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that in accordance with Notification of Daijōkwan No. 13, the regular examination of Applicants for Masters, Mates or Engineers Certificates will, till further notice, be conducted at Tokio on the third Tuesday in every 3rd, 6th, 9th and 12th Month of each year, commencing at 9.00 a.m.

H. MAYESHIMA,
Chief Superintendent.

Yokitei Kioku, Feb. 24th, 1880.



NOTICE TO MARINERS.

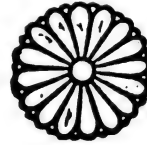
SHIMONOSEKI STRAITS BUOYS.

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN, that KANABUSE BUOY and MIDDLE GROUND BLACK BUOY, which were advertized as having broken adrift from their moorings, have been replaced.

Lighthouse Establishment,
Benten,
Yokohama, 17th January, 1881.

BY ORDER.

MISCELLANEOUS.



NOTICE TO MARINERS.

No. 2 of the 14th Year of Meiji, (1881.)

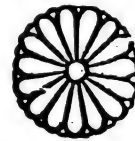
BLACK BUOY OFF HANEDA LIGHTHOUSE.

BAY OF YEDO.

THE GOVERNMENT OF JAPAN hereby gives notice that the Black Buoy, which was moored off Haneda shoal, Bay of Yedo, before the erection of the Pile-Lighthouse in the 8th Year of Meiji (1875) on said shoal, and which has remained in same position ever since, will be removed on the First day of the Seventh month of the Fourteenth year of Meiji (1st July 1881), experience having proved that navigation is now safe without the Buoy.

YAMAO YOZO,
Minister of Public Works

Tokai, Februa 22ad, 1881.



NOTICE TO MARINERS.

No. 129.

CHINA SEA.

SHANGHAI DISTRICT.

WRECK NEAR THE AMHERST ROCKS.

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that the British Bark *CHINAMAN* lies sunk in 5 fathoms of water 7 miles to the S. 37° W. of the Amherst Rocks. The iron masts are at present visible.

By order of the Inspector General of Customs.

DAVID M. HENDERSON,
Engineer-in-Chief.

Imperial Maritime Customs,
Engineer's Office,
Shanghai, 24th January, 1881.

SUN FIRE OFFICE.

THE UNDERSIGNED are prepared to accept RISKS AGAINST FIRE for periods

Not exceeding Ten days at.....1/8th,
" " Four days at.....1/16th,
of the annual rate.

WILKIN & ROBISON,
Agents.

Yokohama, June 24, 1879

MISCELLANEOUS.

SEVENTH DRAWING. CHINESE IMPERIAL GOVERNMENT LOAN OF 1877.

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN, that in conformity with the stipulation contained in the Bonds of this Loan, 1146 Bonds of £100 sterling each—£114,600, to be paid off at par, on the 28th of February next, when the Interest thereon will cease, were this day Drawn at the Offices of the HONGKONG AND SHANGHAI BANKING CORPORATION, 81, Lombard Street, London, E.C., in the presence of GEORGE HENRY BURNETT, Esq., Accountant of the said Corporation, and of the undersigned Notary Public.

FOR THE HONGKONG AND SHANGHAI
BANKING CORPORATION,

(Signed) GEO. H. BURNETT,
Accountant.

Countersigned,

W. W. VENN, Jun.,
Notary Public,

2, Pope's Head Alley, Cornhill, E.C.

London, 13th December, 1880.

The Numbers of Bonds Drawn can be ascertained on application at this Office.

For the HONGKONG AND SHANGHAI
BANKING CORPORATION,

JOHN WALTER,
Manager.

Yokohama, February 5th, 1881.

"HIGHEST AWARD & PRIZE MEDAL PHILADELPHIA
EXHIBITION, 1876."



PREPARED EXPRESSLY FOR THE PATENT KNIFE-CLEANING MACHINES, INDIA RUBBER AND BUFF LEATHER KNIFE BOARDS. KNIVES CONSTANTLY CLEANED WITH IT HAVE A BRILLIANT POLISH EQUAL TO NEW CUTLERY. PACKETS 5D. EACH; AND TINS, 6D., 1/-, 2/6 AND 4/- EACH.



PREVENT FRICTION IN CLEANING AND INJURY TO THE KNIFE. OAKEY'S WELLINGTON KNIFE POLISH SHOULD BE USED WITH HIS BOARDS.



[NON-MERCURIAL],
FOR CLEANING AND POLISHING SILVER, ELECTROPLATE, PLATE GLASS, &c. TABLETS 6D. EACH.



IN SOLID BLOCKS—1D., 2D. & 4D. EACH, & 1S. BOXES.



July, 1879.

MISCELLANEOUS.

THE GREATEST WONDER OF MODERN TIMES HOLLOWAY'S PILLS.

Persons suffering from weak or debilitated constitutions will discover that by the use of this wonderful medicine there is "Health for all." The blood is the fountain of life, and its purity can be maintained by the use of these Pills.

SIR SAMUEL BAKER, in his work entitled "The Nile Tributaries in Abyssinia," says, "I ordered the dragoman Mahomet to inform the Fakay that I was a Doctor, and that I had the best medicines at the service of the sick, with advice gratis. In a short time I had many applicants, to whom I served out a quantity of Holloway's Pills. These are most useful to an explorer, as possessing unmistakable purgative properties they create an undeniable effect upon the patient, which satisfies him of their value."

SIMPLE, SAFE AND CERTAIN! HOLLOWAY'S OINTMENT.

Is a certain remedy for bad legs, bad breasts, and ulcerations of all kinds. It acts miraculously in healing ulcerations, curing skin diseases, and in arresting and subduing all inflammations.

MR. J. T. COOPER,

in his account of his extraordinary travels in China, published in 1871, says—"I had with me a quantity of Holloway's Ointment. I gave some to the people, and nothing could exceed their gratitude; and, in consequence, milk, fowls, butter, and horse-feed poured in upon us, until at last a tea-spoonful of Ointment was worth a fowl and any quantity of peas, and the demand became so great that I was obliged to lock up the small remaining stock." Sold by all Chemists and Medicine Vendors throughout the World May 17th, 1873.

SAVORY & MOORE'S
DATURA
TATULA

ASTHMA,
FOR
DIFFICULT
BREATHING
&c

Cigars, Cigarettes or Tobacco, also Pastilles and Powder for Inhalation.

SAVORY & MOORE, NEW BOND STREET, LONDON,
And of all Chemists and Storekeepers throughout the world.

December 1880.

H. MacARTHUR,
SHIP-BROKER AND CUSTOMS
AGENT,
NO. 70, Yokohama,
(Opposite the Old British Post Office).
Yokohama, 4th May, 1880.

MISCELLANEOUS.

ANDW. HANDYSIDE & Co.

Limited.

32, Walbrook, London,

BRITANNIA IRON WORKS, DERBY,

Manufacture all kinds of

IRON WORK,
Structural & Ornamental.

BRIDGES of every description. Girder Bridges. Arch Bridges. Suspension Bridges.

A. H. & Co. make every year for Foreign Countries some thousands of Tons of Bridges.

LANDING-PIERS AND JETTIES.

ROOFS AND BUILDINGS. MARKETS.

*Illustrated Catalogue (A) free on Application.***ORNAMENTAL IRONWORK, ETC.***See Large New Illustrated Catalogues (B. & C.) with 1,300 designs.*Railings. Balcony Panels.
Gates. Street Posts.
Lamp-pillars. Lamp-brackets.
Balusters. Newels.
Creastings. Terminals.Columns. Column Capitals.
Brackets. Gratings.
Windows. Casements.
Fountains. Drinking Fountains.
Vases. Pedestals.

Conservatories. Band-Stands.

SMITH'S HEARTH & PORTABLE FORGES

12 Shapes and Sizes.

*Catalogue (D) free on Application.***Andw. Handyside & Co., Limited,**
LONDON.

26 ins.

**JOSEPH GILLOTT'S STEEL PENS.** Gold.**JOSEPH GILLOTT'S STEEL PENS.** Medal.**JOSEPH GILLOTT'S STEEL PENS.** Paris.**JOSEPH GILLOTT'S STEEL PENS.** 1878.

April, 1880.

MISCELLANEOUS.

SAVORY PANCREATIC EMULSION MOORE'S MEDICINAL FOOD	SAVORY BEST FOOD FOR INFANTS MOORE'S	DATURA TATULA FOR ASTHMA MOORE'S
IN CONSUMPTION AND WASTING DISEASES	SUPPLIED TO THE ROYAL NURSERIES.	Asthma & Difficult Breathing
IMPROVES THE APPETITE Increases Strength and Weight. Bottles 2s. 6d., 4s. 6d., and 5s.	THE MOST DIGESTIBLE, CONTAINS THE HIGHEST AMOUNT OF NOURISHMENT IN THE MOST CONVENIENT FORM. In Tins 1s., 2s., 5s., and 10s.	Datura Tatula Inhalations Tincture accompanying each of Oligaric, Olear and Purine. Tins, in the economical form of tobacco, and also in powder for burning, from 5s. 6d. to 21s.

August 2, 1879.

26780

TRADE MARK.

**ELLWOOD'S**
PATENT AIR CHAMBER
HATS AND HELMETS
THE ONLY EFFECTUAL PROTECTION
AGAINST SUN STROKE.To be obtained of all respectable Hatters and Outfitters
and Wholesale only of**J. ELLWOOD & SONS,**
LONDON.

Beware of Useless Imitations.

DINNEFORD'STHE BEST REMEDY FOR ACIDITY
OF THE STOMACH, HEARTBURN,
HEADACHE, GOUT AND INDIGESTION.**DINNEFORD & Co., Chemists**
London,**N.B. ASK FOR DINNEFORD'S MAGNESIA.**

April 10, 1880

FLUID
MAGNESIA.And of Druggists and Storekeepers throughout
the World.

1y.

MISCELLANEOUS.

**CROSSE & BLACKWELL'S
CELEBRATED OILMEN'S STORES.***Five Prize Medals, Paris, Vienna and Philadelphia.*

PICKLES AND SAUCES,
JAMS AND JELLIES,
ORANGE MARMALADE,
TART FRUITS, DESSERT FRUITS,
PURE SALAD OIL,
MUSTARD, VINEGAR,
POTTED MEATS AND FISH,
FRESH SALMON AND HERRINGS,
HERRINGS A LA SARDINE,
YARMOUTH BLOATERS,
BLACKWALL WHITEBAIT,
PREPARED SOUPS, IN TINS,
PRESERVED VEGETABLES,
HAMS AND BACON, IN TINS,
PRESERVED CHERSEE,
OXFORD AND CAMBRIDGE SAUSAGES,
BOLOGNA SAUSAGES,
YORKSHIRE GAME AND PORK PIES,
TONGUES, GAME, POULTRY,
PLUM PUDDINGS,
LEA AND PERRINS' WORCESTERSHIRE
SAUCE.

*Fresh supplies of the above, and numerous other table
delicacies, may be had from most Storekeepers.***CAUTION.**

To prevent the fraud of refilling the bottles or jars
they should invariably be destroyed when empty.

Goods should always be examined upon delivery, to
detect any attempt at substitution of articles of inferior
brands.

*All genuine goods bear the names of Crosse & Blackwell
on the Labels, Corks and Capsules of the Bottles,
Jars and Tins.*

CROSSE & BLACKWELL,
PURVEYORS TO THE QUEEN,
SOHO SQUARE, LONDON.

July, 1878.

ADOLPHUS SINGTON & CO.,

5, St. PETER'S SQUARE,

MANCHESTER,

ENGLAND.

**CONTRACTORS, CIVIL ENGINEERS, AND
EXPORTERS**

OF ALL DESCRIPTIONS OF

MACHINERY.

May 4, 1878.

MISCELLANEOUS.

**J. & E. ATKINSON'S
PERFUMERY,**

celebrated for nearly a century past, is of the very best English
manufacture. For its purity and great excellence it has
obtained the following

EXHIBITION PRIZE MEDALS,

LONDON, 1862. PARIS, 1867. CORDOVA, 1872. LIMA, 1872.
VIENNA, 1873. PHILADELPHIA, 1876.

GOLD MEDAL, PARIS, 1878.**ATKINSON'S CHOICE PERFUMES FOR
THE HANDKERCHIEF.**

White Rose, Frangipanne, Ylang-ylang, Stephanotis,
Opopanax, Jockey Club, Ess Bouquet, Trevel,
Magnolia, Jasmin, Wood Violet, Gold Medal Bouquet,
and all other odours, of the finest quality only.

ATKINSON'S**GOLD MEDAL EAU DE COLOGNE**

is strongly recommended, being more lasting and fragrant than
the German kind.

ATKINSON'S**OLD BROWN WINDSOR SOAP.**

celebrated for so many years, continues to be made as hereto-
fore. It is strongly Perfumed, and will be found very durable
in use.

ATKINSON'S WHITE ROSE TOILET VINEGAR.

a new and indispensable Toilet accompaniment, and most
refreshing Perfume for the Handkerchief.

ATKINSON'S WHITE ROSE TOOTH PASTE,

and other Specialties and general articles of Perfumery may be
obtained of all dealers throughout the World, and of the
manufacturers

J. & E. ATKINSON,

24, OLD BOND STREET, LONDON, W.

PRICE LIST FREE ON APPLICATION.

CAUTION.—Messrs. J. & E. ATKINSON manufacture
their articles of one and the best quality only. Purchasers are
cautioned to avoid counterfeits by observing that each article
is labelled with the firm's Trade Mark, a "White Rose" on a
"Golden Lyre."

ESTABLISHED 1799.

NOTICE.

No. 31, } **COMMERCIAL DINING ROOMS.** { No. 31,
Water Street. } Water Street

ON and after this date, the following prices will be
charged:—

BOARDper month \$25.00

Very comfortable bed-rooms,

With European fire-places, and every comfort guaranteed

WM. CURTIS.

Yokohama, November 9th, 1880.

THE BEST REMEDY FOR INDIGESTION.

TRADE



MARK.

CAMOMILE PILLS are confidently recommended as a simple Remedy for Indigestion, which is
the cause of nearly all the diseases to which we are subject, being a medicine so uniformly grateful
and beneficial, that it is with justice called the "Natural Strengthener of the Human Stomach."
"Norton's Pills" act as a powerful tonic and gentle aperient; are mild in their operation, safe
under any circumstances, and thousands of persons can now bear testimony to the benefits to be
derived from their use, as they have been a never-failing Family Friend for upwards of 45 years.
Sold in Bottles at 1s. 1½d., 2s. 9d., and 11s. each, by all Medicine Vendors throughout the World.

CAUTION.

Be sure and ask for "NORTON'S PILLS," and do not be persuaded to purchase an imitation.

November 11th, 1878.

MISCELLANEOUS.

BUGS, FLEAS, MOTHS, BEETLES,

and all other insects are destroyed by

KEATING'S INSECT POWDER,

which is quite harmless to Domestic Animals.

In exterminating Beetles the success of this Powder is extraordinary, and no one need be troubled by those pests. It is perfectly clean in application.

Ask for and be sure to obtain "KEATING'S POWDER," as Imitations are Noxious, and fail in giving satisfaction.

SOLD BY ALL CHEMISTS IN BOTTLES, 1/- & 2/6 each.

KEATING'S WORM TABLETS,

A PURELY VEGETABLE SWEETMEAT, both in appearance and taste, furnishing a most agreeable method of administering the only certain remedy for **INTESTINAL** or **THREAD WORMS**. It is a perfectly safe and mild preparation, and is especially adapted for Children.

TESTIMONIAL.

Medical Hall, Gildersome, Nov. 28th, 1876.

MR. KEATING,

Dear Sir,—I think it nothing but my duty to inform you of the immense sale I have for your Worm Tablets, which I may justly say is enormous, and in every case gives the greatest satisfaction. I have now in stock two bottles containing the Round Worms brought me during the last few days by customers, one Worm 40 yards long. I dare not be without the remedy.—Yours respectfully,

M. A. WALKER.

SOLD IN BOTTLES, BY ALL CHEMISTS AND DRUGGISTS.

Proprietor—**THOMAS KEATING, London.**

REWARD AND CAUTION.—Whereas fraudulent imitations of this unsurpassed remedy have been sold, I hereby request anyone knowing of the vendor of the same to communicate with me, on conviction of the offender a liberal reward will be paid.

April, 1880.

**E. P & W. BALDWIN,
WILDEN WORKS.**

STOURPORT ENGLAND.

SHEET IRON,

BRANDED

"BALDWIN—WILDEN," AND "SEVERN."

TIN PLATES,

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Bund, Yokohama.

THE Japan Weekly Mail,

A WEEKLY REVIEW OF
JAPANESE COMMERCE, POLITICS, LITERATURE, AND ART.

VOL. V. No. 9.]

Yokohama, March 5th, 1881.

[\$24 PER ANNUM.]

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YOKOHAMA: SATURDAY, MARCH 5TH, 1881.

JAPANESE ERA 2541, MEIJI 14TH YEAR, 3RD MONTH, 5TH DAY.

His Majesty the King of Hawaii arrived here yesterday (Friday) morning at 8 a.m. in the *Oceanic*. As the steamer moved up to her anchorage, the men-of-war in harbour dressed ship and manned yards, the crews of the Russian and Japanese vessels also cheering heartily as the *Oceanic* passed them. His Majesty was visited on board by Mr. Hachisuka, ex-Daimiyo of Awa, Admiral Nakamura, Mr. Ishibashi, Secretary of the Foreign Office and others, as well as by the Russian Admiral and Staff. He subsequently embarked in the Emperor's State barge and proceeded to the Port Admiral's Office, where he was received by Mr. Daté, Ex-Daimiyo of Uwajima, Mr. Hijikata, Vice Minister of the Household Department, Mr. Sannomiya, Mr. Nagasaki and several Naval and Military officers. Mr. R. Irwin, Consul for Hawaii in Japan, and Mr. Stevens, secretary of the U. S. Legation also waited on his Majesty. From the Port Admiral's Office His Majesty proceeded in a state carriage to the Summer Palace at Iséyama, which had been placed at his disposal by the Emperor. He was there visited by H. I. H. Prince Fushimi, Mr. Uyeno, Vice Minister of Foreign Affairs, and many other officials of high rank. To-day (Saturday) he proceeded to Tokiyo by the 12 o'clock train and was met at Shimbashi terminus by four Imperial Princes, who accompanied him first to an audience with His Majesty the Emperor and afterwards to their own houses, whence he ultimately proceeded to the Yenriyokwan, which has been prepared for his reception during the period of his

sojourn here. The King's name is Kalakauwa, which may be translated, "The day of battle." His Majesty is nearly fifty years old, having been born in 1831. In personal appearance he is about the middle height, thickset, but of really handsome personal appearance. His complexion is not darker than that of an ordinary Japanese. When but a child he was received into the boarding school, kept for many years by Mr. and Mrs. Cook of the American Board's Mission, for the exclusive reception of all the young chiefs of the highest blood. Here he received a good education, and being at the time he was first sent there one of the youngest received into this family of some dozen or more pupils, he had acquired, at the conclusion of his scholastic career, not only a thorough knowledge of English, but also an accurate pronunciation of that language. Previous to his election, in 1874, to fill the throne rendered vacant by the death of King William Lunalilo, he served as Post-Master General, and in other Government position.

The speeches made by His Majesty the Emperor, H. I. H. Prince Kita Shirakawa, and Mr. Matsuda Governor of Tokiyo, at the opening of the National Exhibition on the 1st inst., were as follows.

His Majesty said:—"We have attended in person to-day to perform the ceremony of opening this, the second National Industrial Exhibition. It gives us great satisfaction to observe the marked superiority of the specimens now exhibited, both from an artistic and a technical point of view, as compared with those of the first Exhibition, and we trust that this improvement—which not only bears testimony to the nation's energy, but also reflects great credit on those connected with this undertaking—will be of a permanently progressive nature, so that lasting prosperity may be secured to our whole Empire by the ever increasing industry of its inhabitants."

The President, H. I. H. Prince Kita Shirakawa then read the following address:—"That your Majesty has deigned to honour with your Imperial presence this second National Industrial Exhibition on the occasion of its opening to-day, cannot fail to exercise a most beneficial effect on national industry, and to promote the welfare of commerce, on which the prosperity of the Empire mainly depends. This is the second enterprise of the sort which has been carried out under your Majesty's most gracious auspices, and we, your subjects, are deeply grateful for the beneficent rule under which the arts of peace are thus fostered. The number of exhibitors on the present occasion is upwards of thirty one thousand, or very nearly double the number at the first Exhibition, an increase which plainly predicts the permanent success of such institutions, and shews also how sensible an impetus they impart to manufacturing diligence. Not indeed that the industries of our country are altogether of modern date. The origin of agriculture may be traced back to the age of the Deities, and the first records of the artisan's craft

belong to a scarcely less remote antiquity. From generation to generation each succeeding sovereign of your Majesty's illustrious line has lent to this industrial spirit the fostering aid of a pure and enlightened Government. The people of Japan, gratefully attributing the prosperity they now enjoy to these gracious influences, are from the highest to the lowest imbued with an earnest desire to promote manufacturing industry, and so to secure the welfare of this Empire over which your Majesty rules. That your Majesty's presence among us to-day will tend largely to develop this spirit, is beyond question, and I for my part, unworthy as I am to fill the important office your Majesty has graciously conferred on me, will not relax my humble efforts to promote the object of this enterprise. I have the honor to present to your Majesty a catalogue of the exhibits and a map of the buildings."

Mr. Matsuda, the Governor of Tokiyo, appeared as the representative of the three cities—Tokiyo, Kiyoto, Osaka—and the thirty seven prefectures. He said:—"Knowing that the object of Industrial Exhibitions is to promote national prosperity, and understanding that the purpose of their repetition is to incite the people to ever renewed efforts in the cause of industrial progress, we, your Majesty's servants, having been honored with your most gracious commands on the occasion of this second Exhibition, have spared no pains nor been deterred by any difficulties, but by employing every means in our power to foster agricultural and manufacturing industry, have caused to be brought together from all quarters a very large number of specimens, including every really useful article, however insignificant in its nature; and these, the productions of the three cities and the thirty seven prefectures, have been divided into forty seven sections and classed according to their order of merit. Compared with the specimens exhibited on the previous occasion, we believe that a marked improvement will be discernible in almost every case, a fact which proves the existence of a general good understanding between all classes, and at the same time clearly demonstrates the people's thorough appreciation of the Imperial will and their gratitude for the gracious government which has born such rich fruit. We, your Majesty's humble servants, are deeply impressed with a sense of the great honor conferred upon us by your Majesty's gracious presence on this occasion, and with all humility avail ourselves of the opportunity to offer these few remarks for your august consideration."

Simple as these speeches which we have translated above look in their Anglo-Saxon garb, the most erudite Japanese in the Empire, hearing them for the first time as they were spoken on Tuesday last, would have found them almost, if not altogether, unintelligible. This is the general characteristic of the Japanese in fashion to-day. It borrows so largely from Chinese sources that perfect comprehension is often unattainable without an examination of the written characters. Many have watched the increase of this propensity with much anxiety, arguing that since the first desideratum of a language is to be easily intelligible, importations that deprive it of this quality must be pernicious. In our eyes, however, the fact suggests grounds for congratulation rather than regret. A language grows *pari passu* with the intellectual development of the nation that speaks it. The former can never become a finality unless the latter is stationary, but must continually go on receiving fresh increments so long as sense and science are not retrograding. Our own sturdy Anglo-Saxon is an excellent example of this perpetual tendency to expansion, and if we have had Eljots and Swinburnes, we have not been without Heytins and Bryants too. In every age men have raised an inept clamour against innovations, forgetting,

as has been well said, that "every particular of what they idolize as classicism of phrase was once the very freshest of novelties, and so every word ever spoken, back to the primeval interjections or what not." Japan's intellectual progress during the last decade has been unprecedented, and it is only natural that her language should have become simultaneously more or less unrecognizable to old fashioned folk.

When, on answering a knock at your door, your visitor hurls into your sitting-room a bundle of shavings soaked in kerosene, and then takes deliberate aim at them with two or three lighted lucifer matches, you begin not unnaturally to fancy that the times are moving a little too fast for you. Not so many years ago there was a sort of Lynch law in Japan, which seems to have exercised the usual deterrent effect of justice sharp, short and decisive. An instance of it came under our own notice once in the shape of a man, stark naked who was hurrying along the Tokaido on a winter's morning, attended by a very tolerable crowd of women and children. His arms were firmly pinioned to a stout pole which was laid across his shoulders after the manner of a back-board, and to this pole his queue was fastened so tightly that the utmost stretching of his neck and elevation of his hands scarcely sufficed to save his hair from being torn out by the roots. It was a pitiable and withal a revolting spectacle, but if the man's crime could have been put into some form appreciable to the outward senses, it would scarcely have seemed less shocking. He had robbed a blind cripple of the few coins bestowed on him by rare charity. Probably, however, it was his final escapade of that nature so far at least as the same locality was concerned, and we cannot help thinking that no harm would be done if some suggestions of a similarly forcible nature were made to the munificent vagrants who go about bestowing bundles of inflammability on the inhabitants of Tokiyo. Something obviously is wanted, for it is admitted on all sides that these perpetually recurring fires are in great part the work of incendiaries, and many Japanese state with the utmost composure and quite as though the circumstance belonged to the sequence of natural events, that the carpenters are well known to be concerned in the conflagrations. But we may not easily credit such conjectures. If there be incendiarism on anything like the scale suggested, the Tokiyo detective police must be extraordinarily inefficient, for with the exception of two or three children discovered in *flagrante delicto*, we have not heard that a single arrest for arson has been made this winter. This is quite irreconcilable with the supposition that persons are implicated who could only carry out their nefarious designs by the aid of paid agents, for any complication of machinery in such a matter would be utterly fatal to its secret working. Current rumour can only be regarded as base coin when it accuses a wealthy timber merchant of complicity because he happened to purchase a large quantity of old lumber on the eve of a conflagration. At any rate the first *desideratum* is the capture of the miscreants. Deportation to France for vivisection might not be a bad method of disposing of them, should they be arrested, since this country is not endowed, like America, with able-bodied citizens whose stern sense of justice induces them to provide for an incendiary the same unequivocal process of exit from this world his victims enjoyed. Meanwhile the citizens of Tokiyo are adopting the only wise course possible to them by combining for purposes of mutual protection. In most of the suburban districts each house now takes it in turn to provide a patrol, and if this system be vigorously pursued, there will be an end of the evil for the moment at any rate, though in truth a city virtually besieged by

incendiaries is not a wholesome spectacle in this nineteenth century.

After each great fire in the capital we have the same unvarying routine of municipal meetings and newspaper suggestions, and from under the mountain of sterility creeps at last our old friend, *ridiculus mus*. Once indeed an extraordinary effort on the part of public opinion did result in the partition of Ginza and its branches, and in that quarter of Tokiyo at any rate, tradesmen have ceased to feel that their goods and chattels are fated to be calcined every second or third year. But since then the old sequence of building and burning, conferring and collapsing, has gone on uninterrupted, till at last the reiterated calamities of the past (?) winter have again roused the authorities to a sense of the fact that a tolerably troublesome fire burns somewhere in close proximity to a pavement of good intentions. On the 25th ult. a proclamation was issued in the name of Mr. Kabayama, Inspector General of Police and Mr. Matsuda, Governor of Tokiyo. It is addressed to the inhabitants of the Kanda, Nihonbashi, Kiyobashi and Fukagawa districts—the scenes of the late three great conflagrations—and directs that in future houses erected in those localities shall be either brick or solid plaster. Shingle roofs are forbidden under any pretence, and temporary dwellings must not be left standing more than a year. If at the expiration of that time they are not removed, they will be pulled down by the authorities at the expense of their owners. All this sounds somewhat arbitrary, but public opinion will, we believe, fully endorse the wisdom of the Government's action. That the city must be saved from destruction and that if the citizens will not protect themselves, the Government must compel them to do so, are axioms every one will admit. Building reform is absolutely essential, and the people will certainly build their own houses much more cheaply and expeditiously than the State could build them. There may, and probably will be, some on whom the measure presses harshly, but these are the very persons whose presence in the city is a source of danger. Twenty men may build good substantial houses, but they will only "have their labour for their pains" if half-a-dozen inflammable wooden shanties are suffered to be thrust into every available nook and corner in the neighbourhood. Tokiyo will soon assume a very different aspect if these regulations are carried out in their integrity, and it is quite competent to the authorities to enforce them by peculiar provisions in peculiar cases.

Some of our fellow citizens are a good deal exercised about the reception accorded to the King of Hawaii, but it seems to us that Japan has very little choice in the matter. Her guest is either royal or not royal, and if the former, would it be either hospitable or expedient to tell him in so many words that there are kings and kings, and that he is just a little below the degree at which recognition of rank ceases to be possible? Certainly the occasion reminds one somewhat of Béranger's rhyme:—

"There was a King of Yvetot once
 "But little known in story;
 "To bed betimes and rising late,
 "Sound sleeper without glory;
 "With cotton night-cap, too, instead
 "Of crown, would Jenny deck his head,
 "Tis said
 "Rat tat, rat tat, rat tat, rat tat
 O, what a good little King was that;
 Rat tat.

If His Majesty were a cannibal or a Zulu there might be some grounds for the predictions of ridicule to be presently incurred by Japan, as well as for the outcry against unnecessary expenditure raised by certain well-meaning but somewhat petulant folk. He happens, however, to be a most agreeable

and accomplished gentleman and a dignified one to boot; a gentleman who was for two months the honored guest of the United States, and to whom the President of a country which in point of wealth and importance could afford to carry a good deal of weight in a race with the states of the old world, did not hesitate to accord Royal honors. True courtesy is most careful to be courteous when the necessity is least apparent, knowing well that they are most sensitive who have least title to consideration.

We hear a good many complain about the high prices of the articles in the Industrial Exhibition, and express not a little surprise at the extraordinary rapidity with which they have been sold. All this, however, might easily have been anticipated. In the first place, everything, whether an exhibit or not, has gone up immensely in price during the last few years, and in the second, exhibitors on this occasion have been obliged to defray the whole cost of carriage &c. themselves, instead of receiving one half from the State as they did in 1878. That the specimens are all marked "sold" even before they are arranged in their places, is in a great measure the result of official shrewdness, for the officers connected with the Exhibition are careful that the public shall not anticipate them. It savours somewhat of a practical joke to open a shop where nothing is for sale, but foreigners may console themselves with the reflection that they are not alone in their disappointment. Japanese visitors may be daily seen hurrying here and there with "eyes as round as beans" in search of something cheap and nice, but their quest invariably terminates opposite an article to which the fatal red ticket is attached. All this points at any rate to a pecuniary success, and under these circumstances we can afford to pocket our chagrin. If it be true, as Mr. Matsuda says, that manufacturing skill is constantly increasing, the longer we wait the better chance we have of being satisfied when we do find a convenient opportunity to purchase.

The surgeons and *accoucheuses*, twenty in number, despatched last year from the Ozaka Hospital to Riukiu, are said to be in great request among the islanders. Measures are about to be taken for performing vaccination on a large scale, and the people lend themselves readily to the project, for small-pox has always been regarded by them with special terror. Not that the disease has ever been very prevalent in the islands, but that from its loathsome nature it was considered a judgment of heaven, and if one of a family fell ill, the whole household was so completely ostracized that, from lack of care and medicine, its members invariably succumbed, one and all. Thus the disease came to be counted absolutely fatal, and quarantine regulations, dictated by unreasoning terror, had the effect of stamping it out pretty effectually whenever it made its appearance. Now that the constant intercourse with Japan has necessitated the abrogation of these laws, vaccination is the only safeguard, and the Ozaka surgeons will probably have a busy time of it from May next, when the operation is to commence.

Mr. Inouye, first Secretary of the Privy Council, who, as our readers will remember, proceeded to Peking towards the close of last year, arrived in Yokohama on the 3rd instant by the *Hiroshima-maru*. Mr. Shishido, Minister Plenipotentiary at Peking, and Mr. Miyamoto, first Secretary of the Foreign Office, are also reported to have landed at Nagasaki on the 2nd instant.

To record the course of events quietly and temperately; to employ no sensational coloring or speculative distortion, but

to write so that not alone the fickle public but also the impartial historian may be satisfied: if this were possible and profitable the task of newspaper editing would be very different from what it is at present. *Amicus Plato, amicus Socrates, sed magis amica veritas.* So we have all been taught to believe, though in truth the necessities of life sometimes seem incompatible with our creed. Newspapers must be entertaining to at least some section of their constituents, even though they are obliged to import materials from the region of fiction. They must always be partisans and never completely dispassionate judges, must always take up a position in the proximity of one or other extreme, and are absolutely forbidden to free themselves wholly from the vital connexion existing between patronage and adulation. Probably this definition of his circumstances and condition would be indignantly repudiated by every journalist in the world, and we are no more willing to accept it ourselves than anybody else, but with the results of this nineteenth century's sociological analyses before us, we have no choice. If we harp always upon flat strings and limn only with neutral tints, it will inevitably be our fate to find at last neither audience nor spectators.

At the present moment the sensational spirit is in the ascendancy. It is with the Japanese Plenipotentiary, Shishido, as it was with Ahab when he turned his chariot homeward from Mount Carmel. To-day a "little cloud no bigger than a man's hand" appears on the horizon; to-morrow the whole firmament is obscured and there is a "sound of a great rain." The little cloud is indeed a fact, but the lowering sky and the signs of tempest exist in print only. We have already related the story of the Rinkiu question's last phase, and subsequent events have in no way modified our statements. That Japan and China agreed to accept General Grant's suggestion; that Japan in consequence conferred Plenipotentiary authority on her Minister in Peking, while the Tsung-li-yamen on their side professed to be equally authorized; that the negotiations having assumed a complexion agreeable to both parties, a treaty was drawn up by mutual consent and an almost absolute certainty of amicable compromise attained; that at the eleventh hour the Court at Peking refused to ratify the treaty without reference to Liu and Li-Hung-Chang; that Mr. Shishido, finding the very first essentials of the arbitration had thus been left unsatisfied, declined to admit the necessity for such reference, and pointing out that the exercise of his discretionary power was no longer possible since China had failed to fulfil the conditions upon which that exercise was contingent, withdrew altogether from the conference; that affairs thus reverted to the position they were in before General Grant's intervention, with this exception, that Japan had acted throughout with perfect good-faith and an honest desire for a peaceful adjustment, while China had shown that her own request to General Grant and her subsequent action, straightforward as they seemed to be, were in reality convenient pretences, and that whatever attitude it suited her for the moment to assume, she was determined to keep always within reach her old weapons of procrastination and subterfuge; that finally Mr. Shishido set out for Japan, partly because it had previously been his intention to do so at the earliest possible opportunity, and partly because his Government was not unnaturally anxious to receive from him a detailed account of the negotiations as well as to consult about future measures: all these facts are matters of history, simple and unequivocal, but that diplomatic relations between Japan and China are suspended, or that the Chinese Minister in Tokyo has been instructed to ask for his passport, are circumstances existing only in the imaginations of the *genus irritabile vatum*.

The fact is, that in the present case truth has outrun

rumour. The race unfortunately seldom ends in that fashion, but for once it has done so. Rumour is now having his innings, ignorant that he has been already bowled out, and there are plenty of folk ready to applaud his play and all in a twitter of excitement over his next hit. Moreover, fair ground for speculation is not wanting. It cannot be denied that the removal of the pressure put upon her by Russia may have permitted China to draw herself up to her full stature in the presence of Japan, and this not unreasonable hypothesis provides gossip with capital quite sufficient for the transaction of a very respectable business. But to poise the guage and to throw it down are two very different things in the eyes of Chinese statesmen. They know—who better?—the exact amount of strain to which diplomatic relations may be subjected without actually snapping. In the present case, too, their vis-à-vis is a country not unversed in the finesse of a waiting game, and with two such wary adversaries in the lists, feint and ruse will be carried very far before a blow is actually struck. Japan naturally desires to avoid war, and has amply demonstrated her readiness to make every concession short of retiring altogether from a position defined both by historical and geographical right. China is too astute not to perceive that if she declares war, her declaration will be nothing more than an empty vaunt, since to recover Rinkiu she must take the offensive, and of this she is about as capable as Joe Miller was of uttering a jest. Meanwhile, however, we ought not to lose sight of the fact that Rinkiu is not the real bone of contention between the two Empires. What really separates them is the ever-widening gulf between progress and immobility. Anger, jealousy, contempt and, above all, the consciousness that she has been left hopelessly behind by her versatile neighbour; these are the feelings that rankle in China's bosom, and though we have no fear of any immediate rupture, not any faith in the vaticinations sensationalists are whispering in the public ear to-day, we shall feel no assurance of permanent peace between the two countries until the Celestial has descended from his airy perch of contemplative apathy and placed himself in some proximity to the level of sense and sentiment more happily animating Japan.

The first examination, this year, of candidates for medical diplomas was brought to a conclusion in Tokyo on the 3rd instant. The number of applicants was seventy, of whom thirty withdrew in the early stages of the trial, and of the remaining forty, not more than half are believed to have been successful.

Thursday was the anniversary of the accession to the throne of the Czar of all the Russias. In celebration of the event all the men-of-war in harbour dressed ship, the Russian vessels flying the Imperial eagle at the main, and at noon the customary salutes were fired. At 7.30 p.m. a brilliant display of fireworks was commenced, which attracted large numbers both of foreigners and natives to the bund; the ships then displayed coloured lights and the pyrotechnics concluded with an exhibition of the electric light, which was very effective, the shipping in the harbour and the houses on the bund showing out most distinctly and then as rapidly disappearing as the light were thrown in one direction or another.

We understand that it is in serious contemplation to build a strong jetty for the landing of goods at the Western Wharf in this settlement. The site has been recently inspected by H. E. Sano, Minister of Finance, and the work will be commenced before long.

Among the passengers on board the French Mail this morning were His Excellency Count Barbolani and lady. As the vessel passed the men-of-war, the Russian flagship *Africa* ran up the Italian flag at the fore, and fired the proper salute.

The number of visitors to the Exhibition on the day after its opening was 4,366, of whom 612 had free tickets.

THE CURIO MARKET.

II.

OUR object is not to purchase age but excellence. As a point of theory this much may be postulated without fear of contradiction. Before Madame Darnet discovered at St. Yrieix a soap-like soil, which to the thrifty housewife gave promise of a cheap detergent, the French keramists were without kaolin. Their porcelain was artificial from necessity not choice. To-day, however, a fabulous value attaches to the *pâte tendre* of those times—times when Madame de Pompadour and her royal paramour made a plaything of the factories at Vincennes, and art patronage found no care too munificent for its *protégés*. But this is not a question of age. There is an intelligible reason for the preference given to the old Sèvres china. Technically inferior to natural porcelain, its æsthetic attributes are incomparably superior. The artificial biscuit possessed a power of assimilating its decoration, so that the union of the two suggested something of soft intimacy unattainable when true kaolin is employed. Similar and not less forcible conditions obtain in almost every case. To say that amateurs set more store by years than by beauty is the cant of ignorance. Sometimes indeed their province borders closely on that of the antiquarian. In the Bethnal Green collection, for example, are many specimens totally worthless if estimated by æsthetic standards, but indisputably precious as historical types. With Japanese too, sentimental vagaries sometimes exercise a very perceptible effect upon the market. It is a common saying among them, that of the price paid for an object of *virtù*, four-fifths depend upon the certificate accompanying it and the remaining fraction on the quality of the article itself. But this is a traffic in relics and need not concern us here, assuming as we do, that those to whom we address ourselves are influenced more by utilitarian, than romantic considerations. Whether, apart from incidental influences, the passage of years produces any perceptible change in ceramic wares, is another question. Mr. Franks, of the British Museum, speaks of glazes “rendered diaphanous by age,” and it is beyond doubt that time has the effect of toning down and mellowing the pigments and vitrifiable enamels employed in surface decoration, but so far as the biscuit itself is concerned, age cannot truly be counted a factor of much moment. On the whole it may be said that antiquity appreciates a specimen not absolutely, but by association. In the Orient at any rate, present processes and materials of manufacture are immensely inferior to those of past centuries, and thus by an easily comprehended confusion of ideas, time is accredited with conditions which though inseparable from, are not in any way attributable to, its passage. It is very natural that the collector, knowing the reputed superiority of the older wares, but not furnished with any accurate mental catalogue of the items in which they excel, should set greater store by evidences of age—which apparently require no special knowledge to distinguish—than by technical merits to which he has no certain guide. In this lies the curio-dealer's opportunity. Faience he steeps in a decoction of

sulphuric acid and “Yasha”; porcelain, he subjects to the fumes of damp incense, while into the interstices of both he plasters a paste of gluten and dust. Common sense might be expected to tell us that filth is not the normal companion of a valuable article, but the exercise of common sense seems to be incompatible with curio buying. We set out to look for beauty; we find—dirt, and acquiring it at extravagant prices, believe that we have established a claim to artistic discrimination. If the amateur did but consider how he treats a specimen believed to be valuable after it has passed into his own possession, he would have little difficulty in comprehending the anomaly of its begrimed condition when offered to him for sale.

Perhaps the only porcelain which does not admit of doctoring is the much esteemed “blue and white.” Brilliant cleanliness is an essential element of its beauty, and its decoration, being entirely under the glaze, is preserved from the discoloring agents employed by dealers. The collector of “blue and white” may therefore expect to be tolerably free from imposition of this nature, but on the other hand a class of porcelain can easily be manufactured which, though of an exceedingly attractive character, is comparatively worthless. No one, for example, will deny that the huge vases and plaques produced to-day in Owari, or the smaller and much more delicate specimens of Mino, possess many charms both decorative and æsthetic. The amateur who buys these just as he would any other piece of modern household furniture cannot go much astray, but when they are sold to him as old and valuable curiosities and when he acquires them as such, he has simply purchased a source of future disappointment and disgust. This case is, indeed, particularly dangerous. The collection of “blue and white” amounted lately to something very little short of a craze in England. Fabulous prices were given for first-rate specimens of the celebrated “Hawthorn pattern,” and since this is a ware of undeniable attractiveness and is, moreover, entirely a thing of the past so far as excellence is concerned, the mania would probably have continued unabated, had not the market been presently flooded with everything that could possibly claim blue and white affinities. How the fashion was set a-going has never, so far as we know, been ascertained. Since the seventeenth century Holland had stood almost alone in its appreciation of a ware which attained its zenith of technical and artistic beauty in the hands of Albrecht de Keizer and Frédérick Van Frytom. English collectors troubled themselves so little about such specimens, that pieces of blue and white which would to-day exchange for bags of guineas, were daubed over with meretricious colours to render them even saleable. Now, however, the tables are completely turned, and whether the change is attributable to a mere freak of fickle fashion or to a *renaissance* of art instincts, England's pecuniary appreciation of “blue and white” far surpasses that of any other country. In the influence of this strongly accentuated fancy lies the amateur's most serious danger. As a general rule his judgment in the matter of “blue and white” is completely unformed, while his mental vision is obscured by a rosy atmosphere of priceless possibilities. It is essential, however, that he should dismiss at the outset all hopes of picking up “great bargains.” The day for that sort of thing is long gone by. Valuable specimens of Japanese “blue and white” have always been extremely rare. Now they may be truly said to be unprocurable. Their production was confined to the potteries at Hirado in Hizen, and they were at no time manufactured for pur-

poses of sale. Japan has never been able to achieve the lustrous, velvet-like glazes of China, but by some the delicate softness of the Hirado light blue is preferred to the fuller and deeper colours of the Celestial keramists. For our own part we cannot question the superiority of the latter, but with this we have for the moment nothing to do, since we address ourselves to collectors of Japanese wares alone. No longer embarrassed, then, by deceptive evidence of age, let the amateur direct his attention chiefly to two points; uniformity of surface and colour of biscuit. Of course thoroughly competent judgment is not possible without some knowledge of *pâte*, but this takes us into the region of experts. A perfectly smooth regular glaze and a milk-white biscuit are inseparable characteristics of the choice old Hirado porcelain, just as waviness of surface and an impure, bluish white biscuit are infallible proof of youth and worthlessness. Nothing is more essential than this snowy ground, for it is to the contrast between the brilliancy of the white and the richness of the blue that the ware owes its chief charm, and at the same time the presence or absence of these qualities is so easily determined that a little attention ought to guarantee the collector against some at least of the gross deceptions to which he is daily subjected.

To whatever extent, however, and with whatever success these deceptions are practiced by porcelain vendors, the palm of cozenage must be awarded to the bronze manufacturers. There is at present living in Kiyoto an artisan by name Zoroku. He is by some accounted the most skillful, by all, one of the most skillful, workers in metal Japan has ever possessed. His speciality is inlaying with silver and gold, an art which he carries to such perfection that his pieces are scarcely distinguishable from the *chef d'œuvres* of the Min period. What one sees on going into his *atelier* is a very old man—some sixty-five or seventy—peering through a pair of huge horn spectacles at a tiny incense-burner or still tinier flower vase, from whose frets and diapers he is paring away, with marvellous patience, an almost imperceptible roughness or excrescence. Beside him, winter and summer alike, stands a brazier with a slow charcoal fire, over which an iron netting supports one or two bronze vessels similar to that he holds in his hand. Plainly these bronzes are being subjected to a slow process of baking, and if you watch for a moment, marvelling at the purpose of a proceeding which seems only calculated to mar the fair surface of the metal, you shall presently see the old man dip a feather into a vessel filled with a greenish liquid, and touch the heated bronze here and there with the most delicate and dexterous care. This liquid is acetate of copper, and this patient process, which you see repeated perhaps twenty or thirty times during a visit of twice as many minutes, will be continued in the same untiring fashion for half a year to come, after which a month's rubbing and polishing will turn out a bronze rich in green and russet tints that might, and indeed must, you would fancy, have been produced by centuries of slowly toiling time. This is an example of what goes on more or less all through the trade with, however, one important distinction, that whereas Zoroku's work is honestly excellent, and, bearing his name, is not intended to deceive but merely to imitate, that of his *confrères* is generally of the most inferior description, and owes a great deal of its apparent antiquity to technical defects. In fact the quality test, if carefully applied, is even more reliable in the case of bronzes than of porcelain. The productions of the old masters were veritable labours of love. After the casting, came the chiselling, an operation upon which they lavished unlimited toil

and patience, discontent if any detail presented an evidence of carelessness. China especially was remarkable for this scrupulous delicacy of work, and Japan imitated her, though without ever attaining metal of the same texture or ornamentation of the same cunning proficiency. We shall be falling into a serious error, however, if we suppose that the decoration in relief now so much practised by Japanese artists and appreciated by western connoisseurs, is a thing of bygone centuries. It may be said to have originated with one Kamejo, a female worker in bronze, of Nagasaki. She flourished about the year 1800 and *after* her the little coterie of masters, whose productions represent the golden age of Japan's decorative bronze work, came almost all contemporaneously. They are Seimin, Toun, Gido, Teijo, Masatsune, and Somin. The history of these men covers a period of forty years—1810—1850. Seimin, the oldest and most renowned, imitated the beautiful golden coloured bronze made in China during the early years of the Min dynasty, when the weapons and vessels of precious metal taken from the conquered Mongols were thrown into the melting pot by the victors. In the production of this "*Sentoku*," as it is called, from the name of the period (1426-1486. Chinese "*Seun-tih*") of its discovery, Seimin had no rival. His pieces, as well as those of his five contemporaries; display, one and all, workmanship well nigh perfect, and this alone is sufficient to distinguish them from more modern forgeries. But the collector may count himself fortunate if half a year's search procures for him a genuine specimen by one of those masters. Their works, necessarily few *ab origine*, have long ceased to be articles of traffic. Forgeries there are without limit. Shokuaken, for example, one of the very best artists in bronze of our own day, does not hesitate to exhaust all the resources of his skill upon a forged "Toun" or "Seimin," and when experts lend themselves to imposture, amateurs are not unlikely to be hoodwinked. In bronze, however, much that is worthy of admiration is still produced, only let the collector be assured that in nine cases out of ten he is buying a new article, and above all let him disabuse his mind of the extraordinary delusion enunciated by Dr. Dresser and endorsed by Sir E. Reed, that no two pieces exactly alike are ever produced. The former author indeed seems to have rather cloudy ideas about the difference between "model" and "mould" for he assumes that because the "mould" used for each vase is destroyed in the process of manufacture, a new "model" is required in every case. As a matter of fact hundreds of vases precisely similar in every detail are produced from the same model, and perhaps the most disagreeable contingency of purchasing in the present market is, that if one's acquisition has any choice features, duplicates *ad infinitum* will be offered for sale to generations upon generations of tourists.

It follows from what we have said, that to ramble through curio shops in the hope of picking up prizes has become a futile proceeding. During the few years immediately subsequent to the Restoration (1868) very large numbers of almost priceless art treasures found their way into the hands of petty dealers who had little or no perception of their value. Then indeed golden opportunities occurred daily, and most ample advantage was taken of them. Everybody bought; private collectors and exporters alike, so that presently good specimens becoming scarce and sellers shrewd, there grew up a system amply calculated to atone for past inadvertence. Its principle was twofold: individual fraud and general combination. The former consisted in the exercise of such artifices as

we have already described; the latter was an arrangement designed to provide against the possibility of a valuable article being sold for a mere fraction of its worth, as had frequently been the case already. This was effected, first, by the selection of experts whose business was to travel about the country buying up all the choice specimens and forwarding them to the capital, and second, by holding weekly and monthly markets at which each dealer might expose his wares to be appraised, or purchased, by his comrades. To these markets everything of any worth now gravitates inevitably, and so completely has the purpose of their institution been achieved, that the most insignificant huckster in Tokyo knows exactly the inferior and superior limits of value at which to assess each of his wares. If an outsider, and especially a foreigner, without either skill or experience, hopes to compete successfully against such an organization as this—hopes to stumble upon treasures in paths already scrutinized by a hundred keen searchers, or to acquire for a tithe of their value things that the whole guild of curio merchants have united to guarantee against such an accident—his faith in the efficiency of chance must be something very nearly satisfying the definition of dementia.

THE NATIONAL EXHIBITION OF 1881.

THERE is no more long suffering public in the world than that of Japan, and as a natural consequence,—since public opinion is the only efficient antidote of public evil—its toleration is constantly and unblushingly abused. When a new piece is put upon the stage, for example, the audience is quite prepared for a palpable exhibition of every shortcoming incidental to inexperience and immaturity. The actors do not know their parts; the carpenters have not completed the scenes nor the shifters learned where to put them, and, in short, not even the very flimsiest pretence of effort or solicitude is expected from the *corps*. Yet the spectators betray no impatience. They are resigned because they have learned to consider these things inevitable conditions of all inception, and their resignation is not unreasonable, for to eradicate a habit so long indulged were an effort scarcely proportionate to its outcome. All this is no doubt very convenient to commissaries of public pastime, but where something more than mere amusement is at stake, and when that something is the credit of national industry, such a spirit of easy-going nonchalance is not altogether commendable. For many days back it has been evident to everybody, and to none more than those most concerned, that the Exhibition at Ueno could not possibly be even “beginning to be ready” by the time appointed for its opening. The buildings were not finished, the grounds were almost untouched, a series of terrible fires in the capital had interrupted the preparation of exhibits, the transit of specimens from the northern and western provinces was prevented by heavy falls of snow, and finally the great manufacturers of Tokio had declared their total inability to be prepared before the middle of March. Yet for some inexplicable reason the affair was hurried on, until by dint of much scrambling and endless omissions, a result has been attained which anywhere else would stamp the thing as an irrevocable failure, but in Japan will probably lead to nothing worse than an unusual amount of indulgent merriment. Perhaps indeed we too could afford to be less captious. It may be that to postpone the opening ceremony seemed an intolerable breach of faith, and that the extraordinary efforts required to achieve even what has been done, are sufficient to

disarm criticism; but writing, as we do, fresh from the contemplation of muddy wastes and unfurnished cases, we can only repeat the often asked question; to what end so much haste? Would it not have been wiser to have waited a week, a fortnight or even a month, than thus eagerly to invite the world to an exhibition, not of national industries, but of official inefficiency? However, the thing is done now and cannot be mended by regret. Before many days the place will no doubt present a very different aspect, and in the meanwhile we need only notice a few particulars, reserving a more general verdict until materials for forming an estimate are fully furnished.

So far as the grounds in front are concerned, the most noticeable feature for the moment is the fountains. An unpleasantly obtrusive feature they are too, for their basins leak sadly, and muddy pools creeping hither and thither on a gloomy day in the midst of quagmires intersected by matted causeways, did not add much to the comfort of the scene at the opening ceremony. Three in number, the two on the right and left are still in a rudimentary condition, but the central one is—completed, we were about to say, but for the sake of brevity it will be better to write—a complete monstrosity. It seems to us that to ornament the governor of a steam engine with *trills* and *chignons* would not be more incongruous than to dress figures supporting the basin of a fountain in silks and brocades. Nevertheless this is what has been done, and if the remaining two fountains are destined to play on pottery puppets, clad in gaudy garments and turning inebriated faces to an outraged public, let us hope as a matter of infinite preference that the present leaky condition of the reservoirs may ultimately prevent their completion altogether. With unqualified regret too we observe that the outer courts have been laid out by masons and carpenters. Sir William Temple's “proportions, symmetries and uniformities” are excellently illustrated, and mathematical contours parcel out the space with rigid precision. Behind the permanent building, however, some stonemason's made for this gothicism. There the Japanese garden proper makes its appearance, still unfinished and somewhat new looking, but yet incomparably superior to the stiff artificiality of its neighbours.

Of the permanent building we have spoken before. It is a very charming specimen of architecture, but does not—as one of our contemporaries has been led to suppose—contain a room specially destined for Imperial use! For visitors on the opening day, however, its architectural effect was quite marred by an unsightly wooden structure placed in the centre of the middle court and used only at the ceremony of inauguration. Now that this is removed the future Museum of Antiquities may be seen to full advantage, and we are much mistaken if it fails to receive a large share of public approval. Of the order in which the specimens it contains are arranged, however, not much that is laudatory can be said. The statuary, which ought without doubt to have occupied the vestibule, has been relegated to a room on the right, while by some inexplicable freak of the hangers, a few vagrant pictures have drifted out of the art gallery and placed themselves in most unbecoming positions on the walls and pillars of the vestibule. For the pictures themselves, on the other hand, we have nothing but praise. They show a marked improvement as compared with those exhibited three years ago, and if the vicissitudes that chequer the history of the Art School, have proved so powerless to arrest its progress in the past, something more than ordinary success may be predicted for it in the near future. The crayon drawings are espe-

cially attractive. Some of the heads, evidently taken from life, are photographically correct, and attest no mean skill in portraiture. *A propos* of photographs too, several enlarged copies both in crayons and oils are not the least noteworthy feature of the exhibition, and one or two well-known faces among them contrast most favorably with an abortive likeness of Mr. Yamao, to which a position of unhappy prominence has been assigned. It is a crude and evidently hasty performance, and looking from it to the opposite side of the door at which it stands, one can scarcely persuade oneself to accredit the same artist with the production of a charming picture representing a Japanese girl playing on the *samisen*. So far as warmth of coloring and skillful disposition of light and shade are concerned, this portrait is second to none in the gallery, but neither in the face of the Minister, nor in that of the musician, has the Japanese complexion or anything approaching it been reproduced. These pictures also prompt us to enquire on what plea the works of Italian painters have been admitted to a national exhibition. Professorships in the school of art scarcely seem to justify such an anomaly, and we very much doubt whether the merits of the productions themselves will reconcile the public to their intrusion. The other exhibits in the permanent building represent little more than a tithe of its ultimate contents, and as the same may be said of the whole Exhibition, it would plainly be premature to discuss the merits of the various sections at present.

One point however deserves special notice. At the last Exhibition not foreigners alone but Japanese also, justly complained that a monopoly of choice was exercised by the officials connected with the enterprise. Most of the remarkable exhibits were bespoken by them before the public had any chance of competing, and only the inferior articles were left for those whose patronage would most have furthered the purposes of the undertaking. The fact that half the expenses of transmitting specimens was defrayed by the Treasury, and that Government aid was extended to many other details of the affair, has been urged in extenuation of this action, but the plea is obviously inadmissible. Nobody wants to "muzzle the mouth of the ox." By all means let those that have borne the burthen and heat of the day come in for the greater portion of any good things going in the evening. But moderation is a pleasant virtue and it seems to us that if the public is only to have a second-hand share in the disposal of the exhibits, some inexpedient rumours may find their way into circulation, if indeed the object of the Exhibition be not in great part defeated. Perhaps the comparative absence of State assistance and a consequent increase in prices may check the evil on this occasion, but symptoms of its presence are already more or less apparent, and a word of warning spoken in good time may be not unserviceable.

REVIEW.*

Despite his apparently misplaced affection for sesquipedalians, Dr. Johnson thoroughly understood the value of words and employed them to their fullest advantage. Nevertheless he was sometimes betrayed into trivial utterances, and never more so than when he spoke of philology as an "airy and elegant study." Sterner stuff than anything suggested by the Doctor's definition is needed by him who sets himself seriously to grapple with the complexities and subtleties of the English language as it is now spoken and written, and so far as Mr. Dixon is concerned,

* "HELPS TO THE MASTERY OF ENGLISH." A short handbook for Japanese students. By James Main Dixon, M.A., Professor of English in the Imperial College of Engineering.

a perusal of his miscalled "Help" conveys anything but an impression of its author's proficiency. With every desire to be lenient to a first attempt, we cannot describe this production by any term even hypothetically favorable. Indeed we should much have preferred to leave it altogether unnoticed, since no hostile criticism is needed to ensure its ultimate disappearance from use and memory, while at the same time we are very conscious, that if obligatory duties as reviewers were assumed by newspapers, not only would the patience of their readers be presently taxed beyond endurance, but their columns would often be converted into a vehicle for the illegitimate diffusion of rubbish. In the present case, however, silence is forbidden by the reflection that Mr. Dixon's position in the Engineering College may possibly lead to the temporary adoption of his grammar as a text book for the students in that institution; an accident little calculated to promote their progress, and one which our interest in the welfare of the place would make us sincerely regret. We have no desire to offer impertinent suggestions. The admirable results already achieved by the Engineering College—results amply demonstrating the excellence of its management no less than the thorough proficiency of its staff—suffice under ordinary circumstances to guarantee the impossibility of rashness or error, but since Mr. Dixon's book has been printed at the College press, we may fairly presume that it is by this time in the students' hands, whether with or without official sanction, and being thus on the road to mischief, it cannot be passed by unheeded.

At the outset, however, we frankly admit—even at the risk of seeming to confess incompetence—that we are totally unable occasionally to follow Mr. Dixon's meaning. To explain, for example, the use of two tenses which he calls "conditioned-in-the-present," and "conditioned-in-the-past," we are supplied with two diagrams, resembling those employed in algebraical geometry. Present past and future are represented by lines and points which diverge and converge after a fashion much more novel than lucid, and even as Euclid's definition of a line is "length without breadth," so Mr. Dixon's demonstration of this tense theorem may be shortly described as "sound without sense." We have a long dissertation in which the points "A," "O" and "F" assume various relative positions, but all the while no clue is afforded as to which of the two accompanying diagrams is to be used, though "A" and "O" occupy totally different places in each, while "F" occurs once in the first and three times in the second. Perhaps Mr. Dixon recognized the impossibility of extricating himself from this entanglement, for he tells us:—"Here the ambiguity exists that has caused so much trouble to Grammarians," and he has certainly succeeded admirably in demonstrating the ambiguity. At any rate his studies of "Aristotle and logic" have not helped him to form very clear ideas of "futurity in English" when he places among his examples such a sentence as *Cæsar expected that he would become King*. Cæsar, the only human being ever accredited with the ability to do two things at the same time, was no doubt a Roman of very extraordinary parts, but we cannot fancy him uncommon enough to utter speculations about his own future volition.

Elsewhere Mr. Dixon says:—"to suppose that a Teutonic language like English would admit of a future subjunctive in any form is opposed to all sound reason." So it is perhaps, but one is curious to know why. We were under the impression too that the term *Teutonic* was no longer deemed applicable to English, but indeed our impressions upon many points are not easily reconcilable with the author's dicta. One thing, however, we most emphatically decline to believe, and that is that when a man says *I shall go*, he means, *I go because I must*. If the expression really conveys this meaning to Mr. Dixon, we begin to understand the exaggerated sense of necessity which induced him to rush into print.

The difficulties presented to a Japanese by the definite and indefinite articles, have evidently been appreciated by our author. He gives himself no small pains to elucidate principles and devise practical rules in this context, but we can confidently predict that his labours will only have the effect of intensifying the student's perplexity. Is it possible to conceive any wilder or more unreasonable scheme than that which makes a learner's familiarity with the most elementary portions of a strange language depend on dissertations about *connotation and denotation*? This may be a pleasant

philological study, but it is only possible to persons who have already mastered the use of the article and a good deal more besides. Mr. Dixon himself is not an encouraging example of his system's success. He tells us that, *The definite article is used before a common noun in the singular, when the noun is taken as representative of the whole class, from which we infer that Englishmen employ such sentences as, "the knife is a thing to cut with," or "we do not respect the professor much in Japan."* These fragmentary rules are, however, very favorite things with Mr. Dixon. Thus he forbids the use of the definite article altogether before the names of meals, and bid us always use "some" in interrogations regarding number and quantity when the interrogation is put in the negative. "Hasn't anything been published about it," and "hasn't something been published about it," do not sound to us like faulty grammar, but they certainly have very different meanings, and if the former construction is inadmissible, it would be interesting to know what substitute Mr. Dixon proposes for it. The author's "hints in composition" are perhaps even better illustrations of his peremptory rashness in enacting laws. We are to avoid having sentences in the exclamatory or interrogative form, and, never to begin a sentence with "so;" and the application of these principles gives us the following corrections:—"For, Can we imagine a more cruel act?" write, *We can scarcely imagine a more cruel act*; and for, *Drake insisted on their finishing the game. So the game was played out, and in due time the Spanish fleet was met and conquered, read, Drake insisted on their finishing the game. They played the game out, and in due time &c.* Surely Mr. Dixon was not serious where he wrote these things? Perhaps he felt that nobody was likely to get very far with his book, and therefore gave himself little concern about the latter portions. If so, we quite agree with him, for a few sentences like the following are tolerably effective deterrents; *Words like rice, bread, chaff, are not common nouns when used indefinitely for the substance or thing 'rice,' 'bread' or 'chaff.' Used so they want denotation, and are allied on the one hand to collective nouns, on the other to abstract nouns. They may be called Material nouns, and it is only when they become applicable to individual portions of themselves that they have denotation.*

But we do not care to continue this task of fault-finding any longer. Mr. Dixon's work is not without evidence that he is capable of better things. He has been a very short time in Japan and could not by any possibility be in a position to write a really useful "help" for Japanese students. Indeed his examples shew that he has no conception whatever of the Japanese language, and during the period of his immaturity we recommend to his consideration the story of the Frenchman who undertook to write a book about England after he had been three months in that country; thought he should wait a little after he had been a year, and at the end of three, concluded he knew nothing at all about it.

"DIVINATION" SERIES.

The development of the occult sciences: magic, sorcery, divination, necromancy, astrology, alchemy etc., depends upon two productive agencies, viz., the desire for supernatural revelations or communications, and the desire for power over our fellow-men. To the philosophical mind all the mystical arts and *olla podrida* of superstitious faucies, from the Magi and Egyptian sorcerers down to the spiritualists and clairvoyants of to-day, are to be attributed to either one or the other of these motives. The world is as easily duped to-day as in its credulous infancy, for the giant Superstition is not yet conquered, but seems, like Antæus, to gain greater strength after each successive overthrow; nevertheless the deepest thinkers of all ages have proved successfully that we have the capability of discerning between truth and falsehood, substance and shadow, sense and nonsense. Half-civilized and pagan nations have always been hotbeds of the occult sciences; to the historian and archæologist these offer rich fields for investigation, and a more thorough acquaintance with them would go far towards reconstructing the history of the social, religious and political status of long-extinct peoples.

The history of divination and the magical arts is almost coeval with the history of mankind. Magic has often, it is

true, been condemned by public opinion and by the laws; but, as it tended to gratify the most imperious passions of the heart of man, though continually proscribed it was continually practised. "Genus hominum potentibus infidum, sperantibus fallax, quod civitate nostrâ et vetabitur semper et retinebitur" (Tac. Hist. i, 22). Before the Christian era magic and sorcery played a most conspicuous part in the religious beliefs of all nations, not excepting the Jews who, although holding magic professedly in abhorrence, were amenable to the subtle influence of superstitious practices, as shown by many passages in the Old Testament. In the year 373 of our era, the Romans instituted the first inquisition into the crime of magic, although an obsolete law of the Decemviri (451-449 B.C.) had made, eight centuries before, the practice of magical incantations a capital crime. The nations and sects of the Roman world admitted with equal credulity the reality of the magical arts, which were able to control the eternal order of the planets and the voluntary operation of the human mind. They dreaded the mysterious power of spells and incantations, of potent herbs and secret rites, which could extinguish or recall life, inflame the passions of the soul, blast the order of creation, and extort from reluctant demons the secrets of futurity (Gibbon). With all their detestation of such execrable arts, the Greeks and the Romans distinguished between "good" and "bad magic," the theurgic and goetic, the agathodæmons and kakodæmons; whilst in the Jewish and Christian systems, all dæmons were infernal spirits and all connection or commerce with them idolatry and apostasy deserving death and eternal condemnation. The sudden transition from believing the magical arts to be "a participation in the Divine Power," to an abhorrence of their very name, is well attested by the following example. At the commencement of the fourth era magic was spoken of by religious philosophers as "science which discovers the secrets of Nature" and "induces a contemplation of the Celestial powers" (Phil. Jub. lib. "de specialibus legibus"); one hundred and fifty years later the charlatanism of magicians had become so odious, and their pretended discoveries so palpably false, that the biographer of Apollonius of Tyana—Philostratus—repeatedly assures us that his hero "had really nothing whatever to do with magic"!

It was then in 373, that the first great shock was given to the promulgation of the dark sciences; wretched and miserable as their propagandists had been even during the halcyon days of sorcery, when Egypt's enervating influence first gained power over the Indogermannic race, now, rigidly pursued and punished, they disappeared from sight. In Spain, the art was preserved up to much later dates by the Moelim sorcerers and wizards, whose weird charms and spells find their counterparts in the traditions of the Spanish peasantry of to-day. Medicine too, was connected with the magical art, in the eyes of the people, from the very reason of its inexplicable and subtle effects. Alchemy, the parent of chemistry, grew similarly from magical incantations and decoctions. Indeed, almost every innovation or discovery was condemned for centuries as the product of magic.

It is not surprising, therefore, to find such writers as Rollins and Gibbon believers in the theory, if not the practice, of magic. They admit with Lactantius, Tertullian and St. Jerome the possibility of communication with demons or evil spirits, and, like good sons of the Church, denounce such connection as damnable and heretic. Indeed Rollins, who has much of Herodotus' simplicity, quotes Tertullian to prove that it was possible for the same demon to give prophetic answers in different places at the same time. The passage referred to by him is so curious, that I cannot refrain from giving it: "All spirits are winged. Therefore they can be in any place in a moment. To them the whole globe is as one spot, and what is done in it they know thus, and speak of, with the greatest facility." (Tertullianus in Apologia).

The earliest form of magic practised, was, without doubt, divination. The natural longing to lift the veil of futurity, to be assured of the success of some darling object or undertaking,—a desire common alike to the least civilised and more advanced nations—found its outlet in an incongruous medley of divinatory customs, that is, in a system of revelations believed to be made by supernatural powers, through the medium of some traditionally prescribed or fancied efficacious process, in answer to the questions of men. Divination was first reduced to a system in Accad, the

early home of the Protobabylonians or Chaldeans. It has been a question, whether Egypt was not the first to use a systematic form of divinatory proceedings, but upon examining the most ancient texts, judgment must be delivered in favour of Chaldea. I refer more especially to the Great Harris Papyrus and Lepsius' Todtenbuch on the one hand, and to the Chaldean lists of portents, symbols and traditional customs on the other (published in the Western Asiatic Inscriptions by Sir H. Rawlinson). The religions of Egypt and Chaldea were, it must be confessed, similar in many vital points, although naturally modified and adapted to the countries ("natura loci" Tertullian) in which these ancient peoples dwelt, as well as to the different characteristics of the Hamitic and Shemitic races. The Greeks however, borrowed their divinatory system entirely from the Egyptians; the Etruscans were taught it by the Greeks, and by the Etruscans it was communicated to the Romans. The Roman religion was divided into two distinct branches: the observation of the auspices (divination), and the worship of the gods. The priests of all denominations were of the first nobility of Rome, and the augurs especially, were men of consular rank, who had passed through all the dignities of the republic. This constitution necessarily threw the chief influence into the hands of the senate and the better sort, who, by this advantage, often checked the violence of the populace and the factious attempts of the tribunes. Nothing is more frequently mentioned in Grecian and Roman history, in Egyptian and Assyrian annals, than auguries, prophecies and oracles. No war was undertaken or colony settled, nothing of consequence was done either in public or private, without having first consulted the fates and receiving the presage of success at the hands of the national deity or the household Penates and Lares.

In endeavoring to bring into one straight line the tangled skein of traditional divinatory customs, it is advisable to commence *de primordio*; to seek for the earliest and simplest records, and by the help of these review the successive changes such customs have undergone. Ancient and modern historiographers, in relating the habits and traditions of barbarous or pagan nations, agree in regarding divination by lots as the simplest and most universal method. The pelagic traits of the Greco-Roman people point to the same conclusion, as do also the habits of the Huns, Goths and Scandinavian race. The Chinese especially, who have preserved their primitive traditions in so unadulterated a state, prove that divination by lots was their earliest and one of the most important divinatory methods.

I. DIVINATION BY LOTS.

Almost every great occurrence of antiquity was in some way connected with the drawing of lots. How often have men, setting aside the scruples of prudence, cast lots to decide some vital question! How often have political and ecclesiastical tyrants awed the people into involuntary submission by proving their rights by lots! To the eyes of men, incapable of detecting falsehood in its guise of religion, the result seems attributable solely to the intervention of some supernatural agency.

The drawing of lots to decide future events seems to have been a very simple process in early times. Greek etymologists derived the term *ἀλπος* (a lot) from the root *κλῶ* (*κλαμπα*), because, as they affirmed, twigs and potsherds were used for this purpose by the first inhabitants of Achaia. Herodotus says the same of the Scythians. "They (the Scythians) have amongst them a great number who practise the art of divination; for this purpose they use a number of willow twigs, in the following manner:—They bring large bundles of these together and having untied them, dispose them one by one on the ground, each bundle at a distance from the rest. This done, they pretend to foretell the future, during which they take up the bundles separately and tie them again together." Ammianus Marcellinus, in speaking of the Huns, says: "Futura miro praesagiunt modo, nam rectiores virgas vimineas colligentes, easque cum incantamentis quibusdam secretis praestituto tempore discernentes, aperte quid portendatur norunt." Tacitus relates in his Germania, that "the Germans give great attention to the auspices and the casting of lots: the method of the latter is very simple. A twig (first cut from some fruit bearing tree) is broken into several pieces, and after distri-

guishing each of these by a few marks, they are thrown at random on some white cloth. Having petitioned the gods, the priest then lifts his eyes to heaven and takes up thrice a solitary twig and then augurs according to the marks on these three. If the lots are unfavourable, nothing is further said on that day; if favourable, the auspices are then examined" etc. Pindar often speaks of the *ἀλποὶς Σκορπεῶν* as a custom universally observed in Greece. In Italy, the oracular temples of Fortuna (of which I shall have occasion to speak in a future paper) were devoted to the sortilegium, the "divinatio per sortes." Plato, in his Republic (book V.), desires that the marriages of citizens be contracted by lots. But at the same time the leaders of the state are to direct the drawing "by some artifice, so that nothing irregular may occur." This "artifice" is, however, to be so secretly conducted, that citizens displeased with their "allotments" will cast all blame on Chance or the Fates! So much for the testimony of classical writers.

The Israelites considered the drawing of lots to be overruled and directed by Divine Providence (Numb. xxvi, 55). Certain signs and tokens also, were to be regarded not only as innocent in themselves but as simple means by which the will of God was made known. (I Sam. xiv, 8-10). The crime of some unknown person had directed the Divine Wrath against Israel, and the nation was delivered up to the swords of its enemies. To discover the criminal who had brought such a calamity upon Israel, lots were drawn by the twelve tribes; by the families of the tribe to which the lot fell; by the members of the family designated. The lot fell finally upon Achan, who confessed his crime and suffered its consequences. It was by lot, that Saul was called to be King (I Kings x, 20-21), or rather it was by this means that Samuel sanctified the choice he had made of a young and otherwise obscure man. By a solemn vow Saul enforced a fast upon his army, until he had cut off the retreat of the Philistines. Not succeeding in his design, he hastened to believe the vow violated and the lot fell on his son Jonathan, as the one who had broken the fast. Only the united remonstrances of the people saved Jonathan from death, whilst Saul discouraged, gave up the pursuit of his enemies. Both Théodoret and St. Chrysostom condemn this vow of Saul as contrary to the dictates of prudence. In the early days of Christianity the disciples of our Lord had recourse to lots to decide as to whether Joseph or Mathias should be the twelfth of their number. Origen praises the disciples for this act of humility, by which they submitted to the Divine Power a choice, which they could have decided themselves. Origen does not hesitate to avow, that the angels in heaven draw lots to decide which nation or province shall fall to their care, or of which person they shall be the guardian (Homil. 23 in lib. Jes. Nave.) A protestant minister of the last century gave as his opinion, that "lots are a sacred institution and the smallest games in which little sums are won or lost, are thus most sacrilegious." (Dejoncourt, Quatre Lettres sur les jeux de hasard. La Haye, 1713. p. 19).

A remarkable example of divination by lots is recorded in Ezekiel xxi, 18-24, where the king of Babylon (Nebuchadnezzar) is said to have stood between the ways that would lead to Rabboth of the Ammonites and to Jerusalem, and to have decided upon which way to order his march by means of "arrows." This form of divination consisted either in writing the names of the cities on separate arrows, placing the whole sheaf of arrows in a quiver, then drawing out one of them, and so deciding to march against whichever city might have its name inscribed on that arrow; or a sheaf of arrows might be thrown up into the air, and that route would be chosen towards which the greater number of the arrows' points might be inclined; or this last method might be modified by shooting a single arrow perpendicularly into the air, and observing the direction indicated by its point when falling. Arrows were used in a different manner, at the command of Elisha, by Joash king of Israel:—Each time that the king smote the ground should indicate a victory for him. (II Kings xiii, 15-19). To a similar usage, in all probability, the following passage alludes: "My people take counsel at their stocks, and their staff declareth unto them" (Hosea iv, 2). Divination by arrows was in use among the Arabs at the time of Mahomet, who denounces it as an abominable sin (Alkoran v, 99). The Tartar hordes which Genghis Khan led to the conquest of Asia, always made use of divinatory arrows to be assured

of victory in advance. A little trickery made the process the more miraculous. The magicians wrote on two arrows the names of the rival armies; without being touched, the arrows became agitated, rose upon one end and appeared to fight; one, at last, fell beneath the other, foretelling thus, the fate of the army it represented (Petis de la Croix, *Histoire de Gengis Khan*, p. 66-67).

Christian monarchs have occasionally made use of lots or similar superstitious practices, in moments of suspense. Alexis Comnenus, anxious to ascertain whether he should attack the Comanos or not, placed two tablets on an altar; the first which struck his eyes, after a night spent in prayer, appeared to him to be an answer from Heaven. The senators of Venice, under Doge Michieli, were unable to agree as to which city should be besieged; lots were drawn and the decision thus arrived at, adopted. As late as the seventeenth century a similar case occurred. "In 1648 Col. Powel, Poger and Laugharne, having espoused the cause of Charles, were taken prisoners by Cromwell. Tried by court martial, they were condemned to death; but Cromwell, having been induced to spare the lives of two of them, it was ordered that they should draw lots for the favour, and three papers were folded up, on two of which were written the words "Life given by God:" the third was left blank. The latter was drawn by Col. Poger, who was shot accordingly on the 25th April, 1649" (Pennant).

The principal modes and circumstances of divination amongst the Chinese are figure, number, position and oracular responses.

The most ancient texts make frequent mention of such practices, more especially divination by figure and number. The *Shi King* contains many passages in which similar customs are referred to. Legge translates the expression 卜筮 "divining by reeds and shells."

"By reeds and shells have I divined
That he is near, they both assure my mind." Part II Book I, ix and

"Shells and seeds good answer gave" (I, v, iv, 2)—

The phrase 卜筮 or 卦 refers more properly to divination by the tortoise-shell. Legge translates it directly so in I, iv, vi, 2.

"These things once done, he asked the tortoise-shell,
Answer auspicious got, and all succeeded well."

See also III, i, x, 7, where the founding of the Fung is attributed to the divining shell used by Woo. The process peculiar to this method of divination consists in scorching the shell of tortoise until its veins are seen, from the position of which the question at issue is determined. The symbol of this operation, indicating probably the longitudinal and transverse lines on the tortoise-shell is 𪚩, originally drawn thus 𪚩. The scorching of the tortoise-shell is mentioned in the following:

"... He asked his men their mind,
And by the scorched tortoise-shell divined." (III, i, iii, 3)—

Divination by numbers is effected by reeds, portions of bamboo 筮, or the herb 蓍, for which purpose sixty-four slips of the plant (because this number is the square of the 八卦), of different lengths, are placed in a case and drawn out, under certain circumstances previously agreed upon by the parties, which, being referred to for decision in doubtful matters, constitutes it pre-eminently the mode of casting lots. The officers of government ascertain, by this means, in what part of the empire they are to be located. The names of all the provinces are inscribed on slips of bamboo and each officer appointed to serve in the province whose name he draws. "So thoroughly is this superstition inwrought into the political and social systems of the Chinese, that, although considered by Europeans as too absurd for grave refutation, its symbolical instruments, nevertheless, betoken practical results, which involve the present and future destinies of myriads of human beings. If devout and anxious worshippers present themselves in the temples of their respective sects to obtain a divine response to their prayers, there can be no hope of success, except for reasons indicated by these signs. If the trader requires a license from the government to vend his merchandise, the divination symbol must constitute his authority. If the licitor is about to punish a criminal, sentence can not be legally executed without the presence of this superstitious omen. It is not a civil warrant merely, to secure the ends of justice, but part of a complicated and mysterious plan of spiritual despotism,

which ever hangs in *terrorem* over its deluded votaries" (Prof. Kidd).

The oldest records on divination by numbers are found in the *Yih King*, which reduces the subject to four particulars: *instruments*, as the sixty-four slips of wood; *efficient causes* or the spiritual and indivisible energy embodied in the symbol; *external signs*, or the state of the prognostic on which results chiefly depend; and *ideal representations*, or comparisons between natural objects and phenomena, lucky or unlucky, according to personal experience. To the two latter I shall have occasion to refer later on.

The following practical directions occur in describing the process of divination:—In a chosen and purified spot, make a house of reeds, with a southern aspect, in the centre of which place a couch, five cubits long and three broad; cover fifty of the divination plants with red silk, and having enclosed them in a bag of rushes, place the bag in a case on the north side of the couch; set up a wooden frame on the south of the case, occupying the north of the two divisions of the couch; place vases for holding incense matches south of the frame work, and a fragrant vessel on the south of the vase as a token of the utmost reverence etc., etc.

In China and Japan every temple has its bundle of bamboo-slips for purposes of divination. Any god may be consulted as to future events, but some deities appear to have greater prognostical talent than others. The goddess 觀音佛 Kun Yam Fat or goddess of Mercy (see Doolittle's *Social Life of Chin.* I, 261) is the especial protectress of the 求籤 or divination by lots in China, whilst in Japan the universally adored Kannon Sama is the favourite deity of 御前 (Mikuji).

To make sure that one has drawn the right lot, the Chinese use the 筮杯 (Kam pui). This name is given to a utensil, generally made of wood if to be used in private families, and of the root of a bamboo tree if to be used in temples. It is usually from two to five inches in diameter at the largest, and from three to eight inches long. One end is considerably smaller than the other, sometimes tapering to a point. After it is made of the desired size and shape, it is split lengthwise through the middle. Each piece will have thus have, of course, a flat and a round side (Doolittle). The separate halves very often resemble the cowl of India, which is sometimes put to a similar use. The manner of proceeding is as follows:—After having drawn a lot (one of the above-mentioned reeds or bamboo-slips) the inquirer places the lot on the censor containing lighted incense, being careful to put the side or end having the number of the lot written on it toward the god so that he can see it. After this he takes the two pieces of the Kam pui with the flat surfaces together, and passing them slowly a few times through the smoke of the incense, he throws them up before the god. The answer is determined by the relative position of the pieces as they lie on the ground. If both 筮杯 Kam pui have the flat surfaces uppermost the answer is indifferent and called by the name of the male energy in nature 陽杯 the "clear, lofty cup;" if the oval surfaces are uppermost, the answer is in the negative and the lot previously drawn incorrect: this is the 陰杯 "quiescent, dark cup," and represents the female power. Finally, if one shows the flat, the other the oval side, the answer is affirmative and the chosen lot the right one:—this position is the 聖杯 or the "holy sages' cup."

For further information on this interesting subject, I would refer to Doolittle's work, in which it is treated exhaustively. I shall next consider "Divination by natural phenomena."

E.

December, 1880.

REUTER'S TELEGRAMS.

LONDON, 1st March, 1881.

The Land League has transferred its head-quarters to Paris.

LONDON, 27th February, 1881.

France has prohibited the exportation of arms to Greece. The House of Commons has finally passed the bill for coercive measures in Ireland.

[SUPPLIED TO THE "HONGKONG DAILY PRESS."]

LONDON, February 19th.

Communications with Durban and Newcastle are interrupted.

Mr. Gladstone gave notice of a motion to arbitrarily close the Committee on Coercive Measures Bill amidst great opposition.

LONDON, February, 16th.

A large meeting has been held in Hyde Park at which copies of the Irish Coercion Bill were burnt.

A favourable result is expected from the Bi-Metallic Conference proposed by France.

The *Daily News* publishes a paragraph stating that the Cabinet is considering the Boer peace proposals.

The steamer *Clydesdale* has put into St. Helena severely damaged and is unloading.

MISCELLANEOUS NEWS.

H. M. S. *Comus* left the dock at Nagasaki on the 19th ultimo, and started en route for Yokohama on the following Monday. She is expected to arrive here about the 10th instant.

The National Agricultural and Industrial Exhibition at Ueno, Tokiyo, was opened on Tuesday by His Majesty the Emperor. The building, which has been over a year in erection has on the whole a striking appearance, although the unfinished state of the grounds and general surroundings do not add much to the effect. We have already expressed our opinion that there was no need for such expedition as has been displayed, and that a delay of a month would have been beneficial both to the building itself and the exhibitors. The total exhibits have not arrived and there is a certain appearance of emptiness in the rooms at present. The articles are restricted to native manufacture and produce such as silk, tea, porcelain, lacquer-ware, manufactured stuffs, machinery, furniture, etc. etc. and such progress has been made in the last few years that the exhibits will no doubt be found greatly superior to anything shown at the first exhibition.

The grounds have been carefully laid out, well planted, and provided with two fountains of purely Japanese type. A handsome clock-tower forms a striking feature of the locality, and divides the buildings into two portions. The first part contains four buildings, two on either side, the right being destined for products from the East, and the left for those from the West. Four similar structures in the rear of the clock-tower contain horticultural and agricultural specimens, and machinery. A brick building at the far end contains fine art exhibits, and will eventually be utilized as a museum of antiquities. The buildings and grounds are studded with gas lamps, while post offices, telegraph offices and similar erections show how well the interests and convenience of the public have been studied. The extent of the buildings may be imagined when we repeat, as we have stated in our columns before, that to do the exhibition completely will necessitate a walk of nearly nine miles!

It is much to be regretted that the opening of an undertaking which tends so greatly to show Japan's improvement, and to encourage further progress, was not accompanied by better weather. On Monday, shortly after noon, a steady rain began, which gradually developed into a perfect deluge. On Tuesday morning the rain had ceased, but the sky was threatening and gloomy. This no doubt had an effect on the attendance, for the crowd that lined the approach to the Exhibition was by no means large. The grounds were in a state of quagmire, and had not the authorities most commendably laid down planks and straw mats, walking would have been a matter of great discomfort. Between the fountain and the art gallery a large temporary building had been erected in which His Majesty was to perform the ceremony of opening the Exhibition. This was tastefully decorated with flags and hangings bearing the Imperial crest. At the end of the building was a dais raised on several steps, on which stood a chair of state, and a table covered with a cloth gay in gold, red and green. Here the crowd was large and varied; native and foreign Ministers, Daijin, Suji, and other officials in their full court uniforms; Naval and Military officers, Police Inspectors, private citizens in full evening dress, conservative Japanese

in their old costumes all mingled together and awaited the arrival of the Imperial cortège. The day was bleak and raw and when, nearly an hour after the appointed time, the far off sound of military music warned the spectators of the approach of His Majesty, a general feeling of satisfaction was evident. Escorted by the Imperial Guard the Emperor drove into the gardens in his state carriage drawn by two remarkable fine and well-groomed horses. A military band stationed just inside the gateway struck up a salute while His Majesty alighted from his carriage, assisted by the Minister for the Imperial Household. The suite was composed of Their Imperial Highnesses Princes Higashi, Fushimi and Arisugawa, and Their Excellencies Iwakura and Kuroda. Their Excellencies Sanjo, Okuma, Terashima, Yamada, Yamagata, and Ito received His Majesty, who at once proceeded through the building in which the spectators were assembled to a private room prepared for him near the Art Gallery. Here the Daijin, Sangi, and foreign officials were presented to him. After a short rest His Majesty returned and took up his position on the dais, supported on the right and left hand by Their Imperial Highnesses Princes Higashi and Fushimi, while a number of Chamberlains of the Imperial Household stood behind. Meantime the foreign representatives had grouped themselves a few yards in front of the dais, on the right side. We noticed Mr. Kennedy, H. B. M.'s Chargé d'Affaires, the Hon. J. A. Bingham, Minister for the United States, Admiral Stackelberg, the French Minister M. de Roquette, the Austrian, German, Dutch, and Russian Ministers, and Consuls. The Chinese Minister and staff were very conspicuous in their handsome state robes. Neither the Spanish nor Belgian Ministers were present, as we were informed. In a reserved space on the left of the dais were several Japanese ladies, amongst whom we recognized the wives of Their Excellencies Ueno, Enomoto and Matsuda. In a similar reserved space on the right were the foreign visitors, including among others, Sir Samuel and Lady Baker, the veteran traveller wearing his uniform of a Turkish Pasha, Captain Errington of H. M. S. *Albatross*, and Captains Alescoff, Koltschan, Tirtoff, and Nazimoff of the Imperial Russian Navy, and several ladies. Among the native spectators who crowded the building were noticeable a number of visitors from the Okinawa Ken (Riukiu) who seemed to take the utmost interest in all the proceedings. Comparative silence being obtained, His Majesty read a short address but in so low a tone that it could not have been heard by any but those standing immediately beside him. At the conclusion the President of the Exhibition Committee, standing about six yards in front of the dais, read a reply, which he afterwards presented to his Majesty in a suitable casket. Next, the Governor of Tokiyo, representing the various Cities and Prefectures, read a congratulatory address in a clear and audible voice. The ceremony, which was of the simplest nature, was then terminated, and His Majesty, escorted by the various officials actually inaugurated the buildings by walking through them, after which he returned, and entering his carriage left the spot, his departure being marked by the same ceremonies as attended his arrival.

About noon numbers of people were wending their way towards the Exhibition and we have no doubt that it was well attended, but we fear that the general impression will be one of disappointment, as many of the cases are yet unfilled; this, however, is a state of affairs that every day will remedy, and we think that, on the whole, the exhibition will prove a decided success.

It would seem that we were never to see the end of the "fire season" this winter. On Tuesday night the alarm was sounded at about half-past eleven, as a fire had been discovered in a godown opposite the Mitsui Bishi Company's office. The conflagration is said to have broken out in a carpenter's shop in one of the large sail lofts, but how it originated is unknown. In a short time it had spread throughout the building. The engines were promptly on the spot, but as we are informed, admission into the compound was at first refused for some unknown reason. The English steam fire engine, however, put its suction hose into a large well and was soon supplying a magnificent jet of water. The

other engines worked hard, and thanks to the isolated character of the buildings the fire was prevented from spreading, and was got well in hand about 1 a.m. though the godown was completely destroyed. There was fortunately not a very strong breeze, or the shower of sparks which kept falling might have been carried to the frail houses opposite when a serious fire would have resulted.

The *Hiogo News*, in a summary of Shanghai intelligence, writes under date of 1st instant:—"No definite news has been received from Shanghai by yesterday's mail respecting the position of affairs between Japan and China, beyond the fact that Mr. Shishido had not left in the *Kongo Kan* when the *Hiroshima Maru* sailed. The Japanese Minister's departure from Shanghai had been fixed for the 22nd ultimo, but it is conjectured that some fresh suggestions may have been made by the Chinese, which rendered desirable a change in Mr. Shishido's plans; at any rate he was still in Shanghai when the mail steamer left. The *Mercury* remarks that the Taotai has stopped an unusually long time for his official visit, waiting perhaps for instructions at Nanking. Our contemporary hazards the conjecture that the Taotai's arrival has probably got something to do with the postponement of the Japanese Minister's departure, and recalls to mind that the Formosan business was not settled until the Japanese Envoy had left Peking, and the late governor of Shantung followed him to Shanghai. The *Mercury* mentions also that when Sir Thomas Wade withdrew from the capital Li Hung-chang was sent after him to Chefoo to settle matters."

It appears, writes the *Shanghai Courier*, that quite a number of former Shanghai residents have found their way to South Africa, and all appear to be doing well there.

A correspondent, writing under date Port Elizabeth, November 29th, says:—"Doubtless you know we are at war here again, and the Colonial Government is taking it in hand; the Imperial Government is to have nothing to do with it. The Burghers (i.e. Citizens) are being conscripted, all males between the ages of 18 and 30 are to draw lots, and a certain number have to go. But a great many of these Burghers do not want to go; and if they can find a substitute, they are free from that drawing, but are still liable to be drawn again, if more are wanted. As much as £150 has been given for a substitute."

We take the following items from the *North China Herald* of the 22nd ultimo:—"That most important negotiations are at the present time pending between the Governments of China and Japan is beyond all reasonable doubt. The hurried departure of the Japanese Minister, His Excellency Shishido, from Peking, and the hardships he might be expected to incur by an overland journey to Shanghai, are sufficient to indicate that momentous events are likely soon to be brought to an issue between the two countries; but we are assured on the best authority that he left the Chinese officials in the capital on the most friendly terms. There is no truth in the report that he has broken off negotiations with them, or that he has been recalled by his Government. He has come to Shanghai to meet Mr. Miamoto, the First Secretary of the Foreign Department, who arrived here by the *Kongo Kan*, and they are to remain here awaiting further instructions from their Government. The rapid development of Japanese influence in Corea is no less important to China than the hold the Tokio Government has already obtained of the Loochoo islands, and an amicable adjustment of the complications that exist between the two nations will, we think, now be found far more difficult to arrange than when China was threatened with a breach of peaceful relations with Russia. At the same time, it has long been evident that both nations have been acting on the principle that to be forewarned is to be forearmed. Shipments of war material have been arriving in Japan from Europe and America for several months past, while, since the Chinese New Year, scarcely a vessel has arrived in Shanghai from Europe, either steamer or sailing ship, that has not brought large consignments of munitions of war for the Chinese Government. At the present time, the steamer *Larch*, from Antwerp, and the British barque *Dartmouth*, from London, both of which vessels arrived on the 16th inst., are dis-

charging, the former heavy guns and rifles, and the latter gunpowder, gun-cotton and cartridges, while no inconsiderable portions of the cargoes of the *Thurland Castle*, *Kenmure Castle* and *Proponis* were composed of similar articles. The *Dartmouth* alone, it is said, has brought something like 400,000 pounds of powder and about 80 tons of gun-cotton."

"The British schooner *Lulu* is now in the Old Dock for the purpose of repairing damage sustained in the open sea in a way that proves that navigators have dangers to contend with other than shoals, rocks and collisions. The *Lulu* left Hongkong, for Foochow, on the 10th of December, in a seaworthy condition, and when off the Bashee Islands, on the 20th, she was obliged to heave-to during a N.E. gale. During the storm the vessel experienced a shock which caused the crew to imagine that she had struck a reef or a sunken rock. She was in deep water, with land invisible, and began to make water. The impression was that she had sprung a leak in consequence of the roughness of the sea. Fortunately the damage did not develop so as to endanger the vessel, and she was enabled to reach Foochow, where she loaded for this port. She also made the passage here in safety, and when her cargo was discharged, she entered the Old Dock to ascertain the cause of the leak. After a careful survey it was discovered that a sword-fish had pierced with its sword the four-inch live oak planking of the vessel about six feet from the keel and twelve feet from the stem on the starboard side. The sword, which was over two inches in diameter, had been broken off short, having pierced the plank diagonally and left a space an inch wide on either side, through which the water penetrated into the ship. The remains of the sword are now on view at the Old Dock. We are indebted for the above information to Captain Maher, master of the *Lulu*."

The following is a translation from the *Kobe Shimpo*, published in the *Hiogo News* of the 26th ultimo:—"Mr. Shimomura Kimpachiro, a native of Nagasaki Ken, left the port of Nagasaki last April in a ship bound for Fusan, Corea. Heavy gales caused the vessel to take shelter under the lee of a small island, which was found to be well wooded, but devoid of inhabitants. When Mr. Shimomura returned to Japan, he thought much about this island, and at last re-visited it properly supplied with means to explore it thoroughly. He found the soil extremely fertile, and came to the conclusion that he would settle there permanently. When he got back to Nagasaki he associated a capitalist in the venture, and applied to the Government for permission to enter and take possession of the island. An answer was returned that it was not certain whether the island belonged to Corea or Japan, and therefore the authorities would give no express sanction to the scheme, but of course private individuals could settle on such an island if they thought proper to run any risk there might be. This was quite sufficient for Mr. Shimomura, who made all necessary arrangements and started for his island last May. During the winter the climate proved so cold that the labourers could not work, and the whole party returned to Nagasaki until Spring brings more genial weather. We are told the name of the island is Takeshima, that it is situated one hundred and ten ri from Shimonoseki, and is nine ri in circumference. The climate is considerably colder than in Japan, but the soil is of extraordinary fertility. There are numbers of gigantic trees upon the island, and from five to six hundred were felled, sawn up into convenient sizes, and shipped to Tokio last year. It was remarked that *Matsu* and *Sugi* do not grow there. The waters which lave the shore of this favoured spot swarm with fish; in fact the workmen employed by Mr. Shimomura used to make hooks out of wire, use boiled rice for bait, and in an incredibly short space of time would catch hundreds of splendid fish two and three feet long. Rats are very numerous and were the cause of much discomfort; another drawback is the want of a wharf; but that is soon to be remedied. It is reported that the Korean Government allows its subjects to visit the island once a year for a period of one hundred days, but nothing definite seems to be known on the subject. Be that as it may, His Excellency Enomoto, the Minister of the Navy, is of opinion that the island belongs to Japan, and Mr.

Shimomura is building some vessels to engage in the timber trade between there and Tokio, and has determined to plant a flourishing colony of Japanese on the island."

The following letter appeared in *The Times* last December, signed by "One who lived several years in Zululand":—

"Sir,—You allowed me on several occasions during the progress of the Zulu war to express my opinion upon South African affairs in your columns. My knowledge of the Transvaal and Transvaal affairs immediately preceding the annexation makes me anxious to express my opinion upon what I believe to be the causes which have led up to the disastrous news which has just reached us from South Africa. I refer to the massacre of part of the 94th Regiment by Dutch Boers between Middelburg and Pretoria, now officially confirmed, together with an additional massacre of civilians at Potchefstroom, among whom fell my poor friend Reid, the most influential and respected merchant in that (the largest) town in the Transvaal.

"I cannot but think that the first mistake we made was the intolerant haste with which we drained away our troops from South Africa after the Zulu war. Where native races are concerned, reaction must ever be closely guarded against. A great issue such as that which placed us in conflict with the tribes of the old Cape Colony and then with the greatest savage military Power in South Africa is not so soon or so easily laid to rest.

"Although one side may seem to have come off the conquerors, there will ever be, under such conditions of warfare, dull after-beavings and lawless movements, the result of disquiet, excitement, and bloodshed. The wild beast that has tasted human blood is ever a difficult beast to control. For the suppression of these wild after-throes a certain military force is absolutely necessary to keep what, in the first flush of victory, has been won. This we did not guard against, and, knowing the native races and frontier Boers as I do, I am not at all surprised at what is passing in Basutoland and the Transvaal. But there was, in my opinion, a second, and even graver error committed than the impetuous withdrawal of our troops after the Zulu war, and that was the impatient cry that was raised everywhere throughout England by a certain section of politicians that, come what might, Imperial aid by Imperial troops should never again be granted to South Africa. The annexation of the Transvaal was an Imperial act, for which the colonists were not responsible. A grave responsibility, therefore, rests upon our Government to uphold that action. Impatient words unwisely and inconsiderately spoken, are sure to breed mischief, to be repented of sooner or later, and generally have to be retracted in action. It is thus with us, now, for we are sending out already the 6th Inniskilling Dragoons.

"The verdict upon the colonists at the close of the Zulu campaign was an unjust and un-English one. They were to be practically cut off from all aid and sympathy in the future from the mother country, as though they had been entirely and criminally to blame for these wars, while the native races were represented as having been cruelly and harshly dealt with. It is not too much to say that the English Press was full of such hasty threats towards our colonial fellow-subjects in South Africa. Of all our English newspapers, *The Times* took, throughout the Zulu war as well as at its close, the fairest and the most well-informed view between the English and colonial positions. This is important, for English Newspapers, it should be remembered, are read and quoted from as far, and sometimes further than the white man has penetrated; and the Dutch Boers, with all their dulness of intellect, have not been slow in putting two and two together and seizing what they consider their ripe opportunity to crush the colonial Englishman out of the land. 'England,' they say, 'has made up her mind to cut her South African colonists adrift. Those she has left to our tender mercies we will no longer leave in undisturbed possession. In touching them we do not touch Imperial England. She has told us so herself, and we will measure our strength against these intruders.'

"Such a state of things as this in the old Cape Colony would be all but impossible, not only because the English population outnumbers the Dutch, but because the Cape Dutch have learnt to value the settled rule of the English, which has surrounded their interests with security and enhanced in every respect the value of their property. On the rough, raw edge of civilization which exists in the Transvaal things are far different. These frontier Boers have all more or less settled recently, by comparison, in that part of South Africa. They have little to lose and all to gain by an *emeute*. They do not like the English colonist, of course, but neither do they like the trouble of tracking further afield to get out of his way. As an independent people, under an independent flag, they can no longer do so, and therefore they will try their strength with us, assured that if subdued by us they will be in no worse position than before; if victorious, they will regain that country which they were unable to hold and had practically lost, for has not England made up her mind to interfere

no more in South African affairs? The Dutch Boers are great cowards. It is in their nature to take a mean advantage. Let England show that she will not suffer her colonial empire to be dismembered and her colonial subjects to be massacred, and they will soon accept that position in which they placed themselves when, bankrupt, ruined, and threatened with a twofold destruction—by Secocoeni from the north and Cetewayo from the southeast—we stepped in and saved them at the cost, not only of our money, but of the best blood of our country."

YOKOHAMA GENERAL HOSPITAL. PATIENTS DURING THE MONTH OF FEBRUARY, 1881.

Class of Patients.	Remained.	Admitted.	Discharged.	Died.	Remained Mar. 1st.	Total Treated.
1st.....	1	5	0	0	6	6
2nd.....	1	1	2	0	0	2
3rd.....	10	11	8	0	13	21
4th.....	0	0	0	0	0	0
Charity.....	1	2	2	0	1	3
Total.....	13	19	12	0	20	32

E WHEELER.
Surgeon-in-Charge.

JAPANESE ITEMS.

[The following Notes on various Japanese matters are chiefly derived from the native papers, occasionally supplemented from original sources of information, and are carefully collated and edited, so as make them readable and intelligible.]

COURT, POLITICAL AND OFFICIAL.

The *Mainichi Shinbun* states that His Excellency General Kuroda, Minister of the Colonization Department, will leave the Capital for his post in the Hokkaido shortly and that His Excellency General Oyama, Minister of War will accompany him in connection with the establishment of a garrison there.

The *Nichi Nichi Shinbun* writes as follows:—When Mr. Shishido, our Minister to China, arrived at Shanghai from Peking via Chinko, the *Kongokuwan* had just reached there, and therefore he embarked on her. He was expected to arrive in Yokohama about the 28th ult. His return will dissipate all false rumours, and we shall be in a position to know precisely the actual condition of the affairs which concern our country.

The *Choya Shinbun* states that Mr. Shitomi, Governor of Ibaraki prefecture, has tendered his resignation; also that the prefecture of Saitama will be abolished, and out of the 16 districts of which the prefecture consists, 3 will be incorporated into the Tokio Fw, and the remaining 13 will be added to that of Gumba.

The new Educational Department having been completed, the present office will be removed there about the middle of this month.

The *Hochi Shinbun* states that the new Criminal Code, and the new Regulations for the Administration of Justice, are expected to be put in force on and after the 1st May next.

The *Akebono Shinbun* says:—We formerly stated that His Imperial Highness Higashi Fushimi-no-Miya had been made a hereditary prince of the blood, we now learn that Their Imperial Highnesses Kita-Shirakawa-no-miya and Yamashina-no-miya have, by special favour, been made hereditary princes also.

The same paper writes:—We formerly published a rumour that His Excellency General Oyama, Minister of War, would be appointed Minister to France; we now hear that he will certainly be transferred to the vacant place left by the late Sameshima, and will leave for his post in May or June next; also that he has already received private instructions, connected with that appointment, from the government.

We extract the following from the *Choya Shinbun*:—A short time ago, when one of our men-of-war was on a cruise in the Indian Ocean, some injury occurred to her engines, to repair which she put into Ceylon. On receipt of the news of the

arrival of a Japanese men-of-war, a Cingalese chieftain sent messengers several times requesting that he might be accorded an interview with her commander. In accordance with the request, the commander visited the Chieftain at his residence and a friendly conversation ensued, through the medium of an interpreter, in the course of which the host, in a sorrowful manner, said:—"It is a most deplorable matter that, owing to its tardy progress towards civilization, Asia, notwithstanding its being a most rich and powerful continent, is despised by people of the white race, and is always oppressed more or less by them. As far as India is concerned, all real benefits are absorbed by England, and our liberty is denied us to no small extent. We have heard that even on the confines of Asia, some trouble has occurred between your country and China with reference to the Loochoo affair, and that even after a peaceful negotiation had apparently been arrived at about it, yourselves and China are not actually on friendly terms on the subject. Such a state of affairs is most unsuitable to a country like yours, which has as close relations to China as the lips have to the teeth, and therefore should your country not despise the ignorance of India, we wish we might act as mediators between China and yourselves and succeed in uniting the two countries in a firm bond of friendship, without incurring the disapproval of other nations." On the departure of the man-of-war, after her repairs were completed, many of the native officials went down to the wharf to bid her adieu.

The same paper states that it is said that His Majesty the Emperor will proceed to the *Gakushin In* (Nobles' School) shortly, and therefore preparations for his reception are now being made in that establishment, and that Her Majesty the Empress is expected to visit the National Exhibition when it has been put into perfect order.

The *Mainichi Shinbun* states that Admiral Enomoto, Minister of the Navy, visited His Excellency Ito, Privy Councillor, on the 2nd instant at about 6.30 p.m. and remained there till about 8 o'clock. Soon after the Admiral's return, Mr. Ito went to the private residence of His Excellency Iwakura, Assistant Prime Minister, and had a secret conference which lasted till one in the morning.

The same paper writes as follows:—"It was telegraphed to the authorities on the 3rd instant, that Messrs. Shishido, Minister at Peking, and Miyamoto, one of the Chief Secretaries in the Foreign Department, left Shanghai by the *Kongo* on the 28th ultimo and arrived at Nagasaki on the 2nd instant. Mr. Inouye, a Chief Secretary of the *Daijokwan*, who went to China some time ago, returned to Tokio on the morning of the 3rd inst., arriving in the *Hiroshima Maru*.

The *Nichi Nichi Shinbun* publishes the following:—"It is said that the reason why Mr. Shishido, our Minister to China whose return has been reported has as yet not arrived here is that our government has ordered him by telegraph to delay his return, and a secretary is to be shortly sent to China in connection with this. It is said that the withdrawal of Mr. Shishido from Peking, simply referred to himself and that our Legation has not been withdrawn, because Mr. Tanabe, the chief Secretary, still remains in Peking as *Chargé d'Affaires*. If, as public rumour says, our Legation at Peking has really been withdrawn, the Chinese Legation at Tokio would hardly have remained here. This is palpably correct.

NAVAL AND MILITARY.

A new rifle, to be used for target practice in barrack rooms, has been invented by Colonel Murata.

As the repairing of Japanese men-of-war is now being pushed forward with all speed in Yokosuka dock, repairs to vessels of other nationalities will not be undertaken for some time.

We learn from a native source that a periodical named *Kaiko Zasshi*, will shortly be published by the *Kinkosha* (Military Club) at Kudan, Tokio; and that it will contain all matters connected with military affairs, arms, accoutrements, etc. Its circulation will be confined to the members of the Club.

The *Hochi Shinbun* states that since the Army and Navy were divided into the *Kaigun* (Navy) and *Rikugun* (Army),

the position of *Taisho* (i.e. a rank corresponding with that of Field Marshal) was not created in the former. The offices of the *Taisho*, both in Army and Navy, are the most important, and therefore these will be the reward only of those who have performed very meritorious deeds in warlike affairs, or such Princes of the Blood whose special qualifications fit them for the post. It is said therefore that His Imperial Highness Arisugawa Takehito Shiuno, Sub-Lieutenant in the Navy, who a short time ago went to London, will, after his return, be appointed to this the highest post in the Navy.

The same paper writes as follows:—"With reference to China affairs various opinions have arisen amongst our Generals and other commanding officers. We hear the following is one of them:—"If the negotiations between our government and China must actually lead to rupture, we had better take up arms in time and declare war ourselves. Should we vainly waste time, being tempted by the well-known policy of hesitation and delay adopted by China, it will afford her an opportunity of finding us unprepared. It is a well-known law in strategy, that if a delay of one day be given to an enemy ten days will be required to attack him successfully. Moreover, to attempt to contend against fleets and batteries, after they have been put in perfect order, is just the same as for firemen to resolve to extinguish a fire, not at its commencement, but after it has spread far and wide. Such being the state of things, there is no doubt that prompt action is the course called for by events.' All the young hotheaded young officers maintain this view strenuously. A strategical opportunity lies in a nutshell; but it is often a hard nut for strategists to crack."

INDUSTRIES, TRADE AND FINANCE.

A native paper informs us that by the British steamer *Sunda*, which left Yokohama on the 25th ultimo at 1 a.m., 310,000 yen in gold coins was exported to London by the National Debt Bureau, and 30,000 yen, also in bullion, by the Hongkong and Shanghai Banking Corporation.

The *Hochi Shinbun* states that Regulations on the subject of Trade Marks will shortly be issued by the Finance Department.

The tobacco merchants in the three provinces of Bizen, Bingo and Mimasaki, intend to establish a tobacco company under the name of *Tabacco Kwaiisha*, with a capital of 400,000 yen.

The *Nichi Nichi Shinbun* publishes the following report, furnished by the *Boyeki Shokwai*, under date of the 26th ultimo:—"Silk is becoming scarcer day by day. Hanks have been sought after, but it is difficult to supply the demands. Nevertheless none has been sold at extraordinary high prices. It seems that since the 23rd ultimo there have been no active changes in the home market prices. A telegram received on the 25th ultimo from a branch at London, states "The auction market for silk is weak." Foreign firms however continue making purchases, and therefore we suppose the staple is in fairly good demand. Deliveries on the 25th were as follows:—

Hochioji Filature	4 bales	@ \$610	by No. 177
Shinshiu "	20 "	" 620	" " 164
" "	17 "	" 572	" " 164
Hishiu "	63 "	" 600	" " 76
Chiohibu Hanks	30 "	" 530	" " 76
Joshiu Hanks	56 "	" 520	" " 76
Shinshiu Filature	33 "	" 630	" " 76
Koshu "	14 "	" 625	" " 90
Shinshiu Hanks	11 "	" 515	" " 19
Echigo Filature	17 "	" 610	" " 166
Shinshiu "	20 "	" 620	" " 166
Joshiu and Shinshiu Hanks	111 "	Jo. 550 Shiu. 565	" " 177

Total 396 bales.

The *Maijun Shinshi* says that during January last the specie coined in the Osaka Mint amounted to 37,715 yen in gold, 218,373 yen in silver and 77,763.70 yen in copper: total 333,851.70 yen.

We extract the following from the same periodical:—"In Tokio, numberless rumours are current owing to the departure of the *Kongo* for China some time ago. Speculators whose fortunes depend on the fluctuations of silver are especially active in spreading these reports and in consequence, it is supposed, of their actions, silver continues to rise daily.

A native paper writes as follows:—Paper seems to fall more and more, the quotations lately daily fluctuating between 176.3 and 176.7. The excess of imports over exports in our foreign trade is becoming greater and greater every day. From the 10th to the 20th ultimo it has averaged a total of from twenty to thirty thousand yen daily, and it was expected that by the end of last month it will amount to 120,000 or 130,000 yen. Money has become scarcer and the daily interest is 3/10 per cent. A few days ago trade dollars advanced 3/10 or 2/5 per cent. against the silver yen, 1,000 of the former equalling 1,003 or 1,004 of the latter. This is said to be owing to the fact that recently the former has been found to be slightly heavier than the latter. No appreciable change has occurred in foreign cotton yarn since our previous report of the 18th February, but owing to the downward tendency of paper it remains firm. No. 3 quality is saleable but only on a very small scale. Floss-silk is unsaleable and its price has fallen 2 or 3 yen. Tea; nothing doing. Prices are as follows:—

Yamashiro, good	\$35 @ 36
" Medium	25 " 26
" Common	17 " 18
Saruga, Good	57 " 58
" Medium	20 " —
" Common	14 " 15
Enshiu, Good	23 " 24
" Medium	20 " —
" Common	14 " 15
Seishiu, Good	27 " 28
" Medium	21 " 22
" Common	14 " 15
Katsuna, Good	22 " 23
" Medium	12 " 13

Since our previous report the arrivals of the above staple in Yokohama were:—

On the 10th February	548 Chests.
" " 11th "	170 "
" " 12th "	160 "
" " 13th "	none.
" " 14th "	61 "
" " 15th "	100 "
" " 16th "	99 "
" " 17th "	22 "
" " 18th "	93 "

One of the native papers states that in Yokohama coal is so extraordinarily scarce that if there are no fresh arrivals during the next two or three months, the stocks of all the foreign Steamship Companies and the Gas Works will be entirely exhausted. In consequence of this prices are going up.

From our usual source we take the following market report:—In Yokohama silk is more active and sales are reported daily. Foreign cotton yarn has slightly recovered lately, and prices have gone up 2½ per cent. generally. Transactions are pretty large: however, the stock in foreign hands is very small, and imports are also few. The amount imported last year is less than that of the year before last. Imports of woollen cloth, &c., are also few, owing, it is said, to the small profit derived from the sale of this staple. The only stock of coal is Takashima dust coal, which is saleable at 12 yen per ton. On the 22nd ult. 100 piculs of the Isahara coal arrived. Transactions were made at 62 yen per 10,000 catties, landed, and soon afterwards buyers were offering 70 yen.

The *Bukka Shinpo* writes as follows:—In Yokohama no changes are reported in the price of silk since our issue of the 26th ult. but sales are reported daily and the market is active. The quantities shipped by the *City of Peking* which left Yokohama on the 1st instant, were:—24 bales by No. 22; 2 by No. 3; 28 by No. 143; 18 by No. 33; 36 by No. 90; 47 by No. 89; 2 by No. 90a; 7 by No. 76; 3 by No. 166; 15 by No. 2; 24 by the *Kaitusha*; total 206 bales. The stocks on the 2nd inst. were:—

Hanks ...	...	...	1,287 bales.
Filatures ...	...	...	1,396 "
Kakeda ...	...	...	309 "
Okusen ...	...	...	254 "
Hamatsuki ...	...	...	464 "
Sodai ...	...	...	69 "

Total ... 3,779 bales.

Out of this total about 700 bales were inspected by No. 76. In tea nothing is doing as foreign firms are waiting

for freight before purchasing. Silver is comparatively inactive, and few transactions are made. The market opened on the morning of the 2nd inst. at 174.5 and the highest point reached was 174.6, after which it receded to 174.5; the average being 174.42. In the afternoon the average was 174.37.

The same paper states that just as in Tokio, coal has become very scarce in Osaka, and in consequence prices have gone up, owing to the increased use of machinery driven by steam, the requirements for coal for which are estimated at more than 1,000 piculs per day. Messrs Fujita & Co., have despatched men everywhere to prospect for coal and they have lately found out a vein at the Godaisan mountain at Taka-gori, in the province of Harima. Work has already been commenced on this deposit.

The same paper announces that Mr. Ishikawa Suma, an official in the Industrial Section in the prefecture of Yamagata, tried to manufacture sugar from the juice of the *Itaya* (a tree) some years ago. At first he did not succeed in his endeavours, but after many attempts his efforts were crowned with success and he has lately forwarded a sample of the sugar, together with a note containing the result of the analysis, to the Agricultural Bureau. The sugar, it has said, has not an excellent appearance, but it is so well crystallized that it looks like sugar candy.

The *Mainichi Shinbun* states that in Osaka the price of coal advances steadily daily. On the 26th ultimo the price of 10,000 catties ranged from 58.50 @ 64.50 yen, but on the next day (the 27th) it was quoted at from 80 to 100 yen, and on the 28th suddenly jumped to 130 yen. Owing to such an extraordinary rise coal merchants have made great endeavors to obtain stocks, but there actually are none. In consequence of this, work has had to be given up in such places as require coal for their business and great inconvenience is felt.

One of the vernacular journals has been informed by a native silk merchant that owing to the prevalence of intense cold in Europe, the silkworm rearing industry is expected to suffer considerably. In consequence of this silk is being actively purchased both in the districts and the capital and stocks are becoming so scarce, that the foreign firms in Yokohama, who are as a rule quiet at this season, are very active.

MISCELLANEOUS.

We learn from a native paper that General Grant, ex-President of the United States of America, has lately sent an order through the authorities of Osaka Fu, to Hanabusa Saburobei, a manufacturer of silk flowers, for specimens of the flowers of the four seasons to be made as delicate and beautiful as possible. The price will be about five or six hundred yen.

The *Mainichi Shinbun* contains the following from a correspondent at Fusan, Corea:—The general organization of the Japanese settlement has been reformed since the beginning of this month (February). It has been divided into twenty one *Ho* of twenty houses each. Each *Ho* is to elect a representative, who will be empowered to control public matters connected with his ward. For the public expenses of the settlement poll and house taxes were imposed, but lately it has been decided to substitute a land tax in proportion to the amount of ground rented by each individual. The regulations for the management of business transactions have already been issued. A fire brigade was organized last December. The firemen are 30 in number. In the Court there are many civil cases, but the majority of them are said to have also some connection with criminal ones. The restaurants and tea houses are, as said before, in a prosperous condition, but recently there are many who are urging the abolition of these establishments, and are earnestly hoping that a notification for their suspension will be issued as soon as possible. Kinzenkou, the newly appointed governor of Torai Fu, has not called upon the Japanese consulate since he assumed his post. It is was the custom formerly that when one Governor was replaced by another, the Japanese resident officials went to offer their congratulations. On the late occasion this has not been done, for reasons unknown to us. It is also reported that the communications by the Mitsui Bishi steamers were formerly to be maintained bi-monthly, but that since last July no regular time have been observed, and consequently great inconvenience has been caused to our merchants. Large stocks accumulated, and great losses resulted.

To avoid this inconvenience, and to encourage shipping, many energetic men are now making an effort to inaugurate a steamship company.

On the occasion of the last National Industrial Exhibition being opened, the officials, says a native journal, arranged to purchase nearly all the exhibits before the public had an opportunity, in order to secure the profits from their sale. It is to be hoped that this sort of thing will be put a stop to this year.

We learn from a native journal that in Nishi Tsukuma-gori, Shinano province, snow has been falling since January last. In the villages near the boundary of Hida, it has accumulated to five or six feet in depth. At a village named Nagawamura snow-slips from the mountains have damaged the houses, and a number of people and cattle have been killed. Beyond the Namiomoti-toge and Gombei-toge, on the Kiso-kaido, traffic is entirely interrupted by the accumulation of snow, consequently the people are suffering from a scarcity of provisions.

We extract the following from a correspondence which appears in the *Nichi Nichi Shinbun*:—No appreciably important matters have occurred in the internal affairs of Corea; there is simply a rumour that some reforms will shortly be made. With reference to the negotiations opened with the Korean government by Mr. Hanabusa, the Japanese Minister, nothing is heard, but it seems that the opening of the port of Jinsen will be at no remote date, because works have already been commenced in repairs to the road between the capital and the town, a distance of about 8 ri. It is said that the trade done by natives with Chinese merchants at the end of last year in the province of Gishiu was very little, which was quite different from the preceding year. Is this not owing to the fact that trade in both Fusan and Gensanshin has increased year after year? In the city of Kiojo-Fu, which is situate at the northern boundary of the kingdom, a market is yearly opened from the 30th of the 12th month till the 20th of the 1st month. The Manchoorians come there across the river of Toman to make purchases. This year, quite unlike the state of affairs in Gishiu, commerce is said to have been pretty flourishing in that city. We have yet received no reliable report about the state of business there, but we shall not fail to publish particulars by the next opportunity. If the commerce of that city be developed and fostered a large amount of merchandise will come down from the interior of Manchooria, and thus Gensanshin will become the leading port of Corea.

Visitors are already attending the recently inaugurated exhibition in good numbers, and no doubt when the weather becomes milder and the cherry trees present their annual attractions, the buildings at Ueyo will be thronged with natives and foreigners. A native journal tells us that on the opening day of the ceremony no less than 9,143 sightseers visited the exhibition between the hours of two and four in the afternoon. We are sorry to find the paper goes on to say that another class of persons, less bent on pleasure than business was present, as no less than twenty pick-pockets were arrested, while in pursuit of their avocation, by the police. This class of lightfingered gentry is very numerous in Tokio, over three hundred having been convicted there last month, so we would warn all visitors to the exhibition to keep good guard over their pockets.

The correspondent of a native paper informs its readers that since it has been decided that the Japanese Minister will reside in the Korean capital, public feeling seems to have become tranquil. Formerly it was not seldom that the Japanese, when walking in the streets, were pelted by the natives, but lately such rude acts have entirely disappeared, and no Japanese is known to have suffered from such unlawful proceedings. It is said that negotiations have been opened with the Korean government since January last for the opening of the port of Jinsen, but that they still obstinately hang out for what they did the year before last, not appearing to approve of the proposal; but it is said by some Koreans that their government will, when it becomes unavoidable, agree to open the port. Beside Jinsen, here are various ports not more than 10 or 20 ri from the Capital, such as Tausiin, Kok'wa, Nanyo, Kioto, and Gazan &c., but these are not good ports, that of Jinsen being the only

available one. It is widely rumoured that the Korean government have decided to make great changes in their diplomatic policy shortly; and that, on the establishment of a special Department for all foreign affairs, students will be sent both to Japan and China. This is a most unreliable rumour, but it seems that the opinion in favour of keeping the ports closed has been discouraged. It is also rumoured that when, a short time ago, the difficulty between Russia and China seemed likely to lead to a rupture, the Peking government sent an order to that of Corea stating that if war with Russia should be declared, many thousands troops must be despatched as auxiliaries.

The *Hochi Shinbun* states that a member of the *Kwaniso Kwaisha*, (one of the Japanese shipping companies) at Fusan, Corea, intends to publish a newspaper under the title of *Chosen Shinbun*, and has applied for permission to the authorities. The paper will be written in the Japanese language on one side, and in the Korean on the other, and, for a while, it will be distributed gratis amongst the Koreans.

IMPERIAL GOVERNMENT RAILWAYS.

TOKIO AND YOKOHAMA SECTION.

Statement of traffic receipts for the week ending Sunday 30th February, 1881.

Passengers, parcels, &c.	Yen 8,709.14
Merchandise, &c.	" 1,130.71
Total	" 9,839.85
Miles open, 18.	
Corresponding week last year.	
Passengers, parcels, &c.	Yen 7,910.64
Merchandise, &c.	" 871.59
Total	" 8,782.03
Miles open 18.	

KIOTO, KOBE AND OOTSU SECTION.

Statement of traffic receipts for the week ending Sunday 27th February, 1881.

Passengers, parcels, &c.	Yen 16,037.45
Merchandise, &c.	" 2,676.59
Total	Yen 18,714.04
Miles open 58.	
Corresponding week last year.	
Passengers, parcels, &c.	Yen 14,354.99
Merchandise, &c.	" 1,852.79
Total	Yen 16,207.78
Miles open 55.	

THE JAPANESE PRESS.

THE FORTHCOMING CONFERENCE OF SUGAR MANUFACTURERS.

(Translated from the *Kinji Hiron.*)

THE enterprising sugar manufacturers in Shikoku, Kishiu, Chugoku, and Tokai intend holding meetings at Osaka for a week, beginning on the 1st instant, with a view to a mutual exchange of ideas and experiences in order to improve and encourage the sugar manufactures of the country. In accordance with their request two officials were despatched on the 13th ultimo from the Agricultural Bureau to attend the meeting. A similar meeting was held under official auspices last year at the time when the competitive Exhibition of cotton and sugar was opened in that city, but private individuals propose to hold it themselves this, and every succeeding year, at the same season.

When we first heard of this proposal we at once expressed our satisfaction with it, as we are firmly convinced that it will not be an ephemeral scheme but one based on sound principles and calculated to confer lasting benefits on the industries of our country. There are some well-intentioned but short-sighted men who, earnestly wishing to develop the products and to stimulate the several industries of the land, whenever they see any produce or manufacture of foreign countries, assert that such and such things should be produced and be manufactured, or that such and such manufactures must be initiated in our country, without paying the least attention to whether our soil is adapted for the one or whether our people have sufficient

experience to undertake the other. This is indeed a deplorable matter. With such mistaken notions in their head, they imported and planted vines, and having heard of the woollen cloth manufactured by foreigners, proposed to copy it in our country. They went on at such a headlong rate that they had no time to turn their mind to the fact that the benefit to be obtained from planting vines in our country is less than that to be gained by employing the same labour to some original product, and that our country being totally unfit for producing wool, the income of the cloth manufactory is altogether inadequate to meet the expenses. They are moreover ignorant even of the existence of those original products of which there is no doubt as to the fitness of soil and experience of the people for producing them. How regrettable is their ignorance!

What are then our important original products? Besides silk and tea, as to the importance of which no argument is required, there are others such as sugar, cotton cloth etc. Foreign sugar is well manufactured and imported cotton stuffs are cheap in price, and therefore they rule the market considerably, and our sugar and cotton cloth being always found inferior cannot prevent their importation. But these two latter are actually original products of our own, which are well fitted to the soil, and of which the people have great experience as they have been engaging in the production of them from ancient times. If so, why are ours inferior to those imported? It is owing to nothing but the fact that either the methods employed are unfitted to the requirements, or that the machines used in the manufacturing are bad. We have always regretted such a state of affairs whenever we have heard of those thoughtless people who have turned their attention only to the branches of the principle of the encouragement of agricultural industries, instead of going at once to the root of the matter. Now, however, that we have heard of the above-mentioned praiseworthy intention of our sugar manufacturers, we feel the greatest pleasure. We earnestly applaud them for their intention, and have resolved to make it public in order to let our brethren throughout the country hear and approve of it, and at the same time to awaken short-sighted producers from their empty dreams. We say to you, the energetic sugar manufacturers in Shikoku, Kiushiu, and other parts of the Empire, that sugar is one of the principal original products of our country, well suited to the soil; and that you, in whose families this industry is an heirloom, have great experience in it. We are not only importing from abroad such things as could be produced in our own country, but at the same time we have caused this original industry, which has existed for many hundred years, to disappear in the country, and have thus thrown many thousands of people out of employment. Is not this a disgraceful and deplorable matter? However, should you be able to avoid old mistakes, and mutually to interchange experiences and secrets of manufacture, thus urging each other on towards improvement, we do not think you need anticipate any difficulty in restoring the industry to a state of prosperity. Thus we can drive foreign imported sugar out of our markets, and in course of time, actually export our own. Diligence—diligence, is what we most strenuously would advocate.

A SPEECH ON DIRECT TRADE.*

(Translated from the *Mainichi Shinbun*.)

GENTLEMEN, we have lately heard a strange report, which can only be termed at present a "flying rumour," and therefore we must not place too much confidence in it. But experience teaches us that these flying rumours prove sometimes to be in accordance with facts, and therefore, we will assume for the moment that it is true, and will comment upon it accordingly.

Our government, being convinced that the distress which we, the people, are suffering, owing to the enhanced price of all commodities, has its origin in the superabundance of the paper currency and can only be alleviated by a reduction of that currency, have adopted several schemes recently in order to bring about this consummation. For instance, the appropriations of the various Departments have been

reduced, the government factories have been offered for sale, and the expenses for the construction and maintenance of roads, bridges &c., have been transferred to the local taxes from the Imperial Exchequer. Working in another direction, the revenue is said to be increased some four million yen by raising the tax on saké. All these steps to remedy the financial difficulties, for which the government is responsible, are, we consider, favourable and convenient schemes.

By these various methods the government has been able to calculate upon an annual surplus of ten million yen, and we now learn that, having conceived the idea that the true source of the enrichment of our country is the encouragement of direct foreign trade, it contemplates lending this enormous sum to traders in every city and prefecture in order to develop commerce, and thus by equalizing exports with imports, to restore the currency to its proper level. The intention is doubtless well meant, but we cannot express approval with the scheme. Why do we say this, for there can be no reason why, in similar transactions, no profit should result from sales to natives, while great gains accrue from sales to foreigners? How is it that abundant profits are to result from the export of our produce abroad by native merchants direct, without the interference of foreigners? Do native merchants charge an unreasonable premium on the produce they sell to foreigners or do the latter never buy unless they can do so at enormous profits? Natives who engage in export have to sustain freight and such incidental expenses just as foreigners do, and it is a truism that the latter cannot escape from losing owing to the occasional unexpected changes that occur in the course of commercial affairs. We can remember how some well-known foreign firms have actually gone bankrupt through these causes. Although foreign merchants at first sight may appear to make large profits, the reverse is often the real case. Our merchants who engage in direct trade will have to risk the same losses, owing to unexpected changes of the market, as their competitors the foreign merchants. This being the case it must be evident that those who believe that the sale of produce to resident foreigners is unprofitable, and direct trade beneficial, are lamentably ignorant of the first principles of political economy, and their ideas are what is therein described as the "Indiscreet View."

Reviewing the subject from this standpoint, it will be seen that direct trade is not a perfect or undeniable boon. Gentlemen, this "indiscreet view" is the most objectionable view that can be taken by a political community. Heikiteu, one of the three supreme ministers of the Kan dynasty, (which ruled in China some 2,000 years ago) was in the habit of passing with the utmost indifference killed and wounded persons whom he might happen to see in the street, because their ills were due to themselves for have mixed up in quarrels; when, however, he met an ox, panting hard and labouring for breath, he would express the greatest sorrow. Being asked one day for his reason he replied that, believing as he did that the ox's sufferings were due to the vitiated state of the atmosphere, he regretted them as if caused by his own act, for he thought it the duty of himself and his two colleagues to attend to the state of the atmosphere of the city. His remarks were taken by his brother officials to be full of sense. There have been many other statesmen like him in the East. But there have been, from ancient times, imprudent statesmen, who in their shortsightedness, believed that the practice of economy was most essential for a true political administration, and thereupon they imagined themselves great statesmen in prohibiting women from wearing gold hairpins, and in wearing ragged clothes themselves and living on poor food. The ignorant credulous masses believed in them also, but can we possibly do so? Can we consider them either wise or true statesmen? If the political administration is to be conducted on such principles, we cannot refrain from expressing our sorrow for our country. Is not this new idea of direct trade, if rumour speaks true about it, based on such erroneous ideas? As a rumour we need not feel deeply about it, but should it be true we, and you, gentlemen, must express our unfeigned and deep regret. Is it true that the sum of ten million yen, which our government expects to obtain by the various schemes we have mentioned above, is to be applied to the redemption of the paper currency for which purpose it was announced that they were to be adopted?

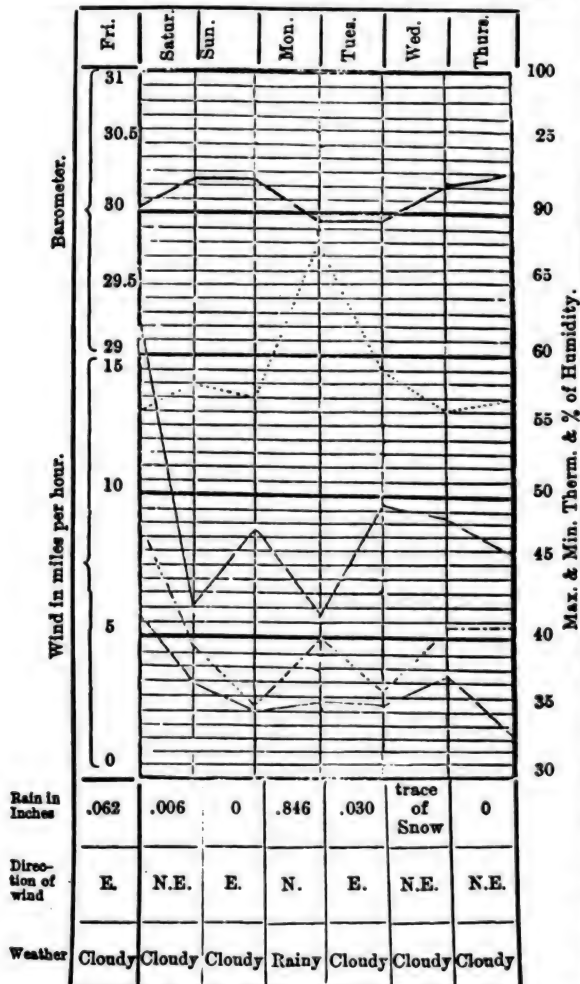
*The above speech was recently delivered at a meeting of the Tokio Political Society, by the editor of the *Mainichi Shinbun*.

If the object of the increase of the taxes and the reduction in national expenditure is to be not for the redemption of Kinsatsu, but for the purpose the rumour states, we must endeavour to prevent it for the benefit both of our government and our fellow countrymen.

METEOROLOGICAL REPORT

FOR WEEK BEGINNING FRIDAY, FEBRUARY 25TH, 1881.

Observatory of Daigaku, Moto-Fujicho, Hongō, Tokio, Japan.



REMARKS.

Heavy line represents barometer.

Light continuous line—max. & min. thermometers.

.....represents velocity of wind.

.....percentage of humidity.

Max. velocity of wind 15 miles per hour on Friday at 1 p.m.

The barometer is reduced to the freezing point and to the level of the sea.

The highest reading of the barometer for the week was 80.340 inches on Thursday at 10 a.m. and the lowest was 29.793 inches on Monday at 11 p.m.

The highest temperature for the week was 61°.5 on Friday and lowest was 33°.5 on Thursday, the maximum and minimum for the corresponding week of last year were 64° and 26°.4 respectively. The total amount rain for the week was .944 inches, against a total of 2.889 for the corresponding week of last year. A trace of snow was recorded on Wednesday.

CHURCH SERVICES.

CHRIST CHURCH.

Sunday Morning 11 A.M.

„ Evening 5.30 P.M.

E. CHAMPNEYS IRWINE, M.A.,

The Parsonage, 101.

UNION CHURCH, No. 167.

Sunday Morning 11 A.M.

„ Evening 8 P.M.

REV. LUTHER H. GULICK, M.D.,

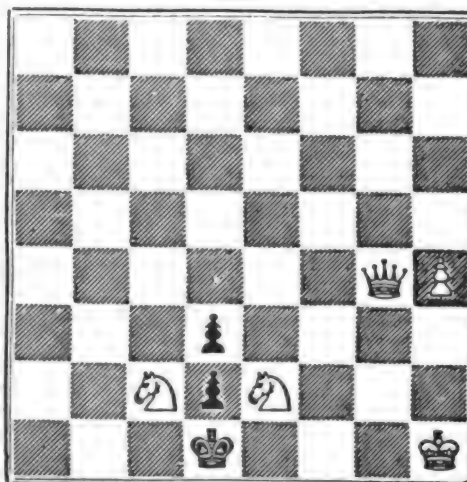
Pastor

CHESS PROBLEM,

By B. G. DAWES.

(From the Chess Players Chronicle.)

BLACK.



WHITE.

White to play and mate in 3 moves.

SOLUTION OF CHESS PROBLEM OF FEB. 26TH, BY O. F. REED.

White:

- 1.—B. to B. 2.
- 2.—K. takes Kt.
- 3.—Q. to R. Sq. or R. 8.

- 2.—Q. takes P.
- 3.—Q. mates.

- 2.—Kt. takes Kt.
- 3.—Q. mates.

- 2.—Q. to R. 3, ch.
- 3.—Kt. to B. 4, mate.

- 2.—Q. to R. Sq. ch.
- 3.—Kt. to B. 4.

Black:

- 1.—Kt. takes B.
- 2.—P. advances.

- or 1.—Kt. to R. 3.
- 2.—Anything.

- or 1.—Kt. to K. 6.
- 2.—P. advances.

- or 1.—K. to Kt. 7.
- 2.—K. takes Q.

- or 1.—P. advances.
- 2.—K. to Kt. 7.

Correct solutions received from Q. and Omega.

SHIPPING INTELLIGENCE.

INWARDS.

Feb. 28, French corvette *Champlain*, Captain Dubrot; 2,000, tons, 10 guns, from Kobe.

March 1, British steamer *Larch*, Colledge, 916, from Antwerp via Manila and Shanghai, General, to Wilkin & Robison.

March 2, British steamer *Oxfordshire*, Jones, 998, from Shanghai, Mails and General, to Smith, Baker & Co.

March 2, Japanese steamer *Kiushiu Maru*, Davidson, 690, from Kobe, Mails and General, to M. B. Co.

March 2, Japanese steamer *Kokonoye Maru*, Dithlefsen, 1,133, from Hakodate, Mails and General, to M. B. Co.

March 2, Japanese steamer *Kumamoto Maru*, Drummond, 1,240, from Kobe, Mails and General, to M. B. Co.

March 3, Japanese steamer *Hiroshima Maru*, Haswell, 1,780, from Shanghai and ports, Mails and General, to M. B. Co.

Mar. 3, Japanese steamer *Shinagawa Maru*, Walker, 908, from Kobe, Mails and General, to M. B. Co.

Mar. 4, British steamer *Oceanic*, Metcalf, 2,440, from San Francisco, Mails and General, to O. & O. Co.

Mar. 4, British steamer *Malacca*, Cole, 1,079, from Hongkong, Mails and General, to P. & O. Co.

Mar. 4, Japanese steamer *Kiushiu Maru*, Davidson, 690, from Kobe, Mails and General, to M. B. Co.

Mar. 4, British Barque *Hedwig*, Frahm, 375, from Takao, Sugar, to Soon Hoo.

March 5, American 3-masted schooner *Amoy*, J. E. Schade, 314, from Takao, Sugar, to Chinese.

PASSENGERS.

Per Japanese steamer *Hiroshima Maru* from Shanghai and ports:—Messrs. De Williamson, A. Evers, H. W. Hagart, C. E. Fenner, and 15 Japanese in cabin; 2 Chinese, and 274 Japanese in steerage.

Per Japanese steamer *Kokonoye Maru* from Hakodate:—Mr. Strand, and 14 Japanese in cabin; 200 Japanese in steerage. Also the Chief Officers and crew of the wrecked barque *Ellis Bostrice*.

Per Japanese steamer *Shinagawa Maru* from Kobe:—40 Japanese.

Per British steamer *Oceanic* from San Francisco:—For Yokohama: King Kulakua and servant, Col. Judd, Col. Armstrong, Ichitaru Morimura, Miss Nonna St. Aubyn, John Andrew, A. C. Watts, Revd. G. R. Leavitt J. L. Maclean, W. H. Ray, H. H. Robison, Miss Talcott, Foster Conner, Edwin Rogers, Miss Rogers and 4 Europeans in the steerage. For Hongkong: Messrs. E. C. Ray, J. L. Anderson, Geo. Austin, Mrs. Wood and 2 daughters and 119 Chinese in the steerage.

Per British steamer *Malacca* from Hongkong:—Revd. and Mrs. Taylor, Dr. Nelson R.N., and 10 Chinese in the steerage.

OUTWARDS.

Feb. 28, British barque *Artemisia*, McFarlane 333, for Nagasaki, Ballast, despatched by J. E. Collyer.
 March 1, British steamer *Flintshire*, Morgan, 1,236, for Kobe, General, despatched by Adamson, Bell & Co.
 March 1, British steamer *Telemachus*, Jones, 1,581, for London via Kobe, Nagasaki and Hongkong, General, despatched by Butterfield & Swire.
 March 1, Japanese steamer *Tobai Maru*, Hogg, 1,047, for Kobe, Mails and General, despatched by M. B. Co.
 March 2, American steamer *City of Peking*, Berry, 5,079, for San Francisco, Mails and General, despatched by P. M. S. S. Co.
 March 2, German schooner *Benedicta*, Jansen, 247, for Takao, Ballast, despatched by Chinese.
 March 2, Japanese steamer *Genkai Maru*, Conner, 1,917, for Shanghai and ports, Mails and General, despatched by M. B. Co.
 March 5, French steamer *Menzaleh*, Homery, 1,273, for Hongkong, Mails and General, despatched by M. M. Co.
 March 5, British barque *Remonstrant*, Stoddart, 1,044, for Kobe, General, despatched by Wilkin & Robison.

PASSENGERS.

Per British steamer *Telemachus* for London:—Dr. Manning, Mrs. Gould and infant.

Per American steamer *City of Peking* for San Francisco:—For Liverpool: John Jeffrey, Miss Jeffrey, G. H. Alcock. For New York: Revd. J. H. Conell, wife and 3 children, Mr. and Mrs. M. M. Scott and 3 children. Revd. J. K. M. McLain and wife, Dr. W. R. Lambeth, Dr. H. Latham and J. M. Ross. For San Francisco: Mrs. C. Wheeler, E. Wiegand, wife and child; 7 Europeans and 994 Chinamen in steerage.

Per British steamer *Flintshire* for Kobe:—M. Kruss; and 100 Japanese in steerage.

Per Japanese steamer *Genkai Maru* for Shanghai and ports:—Mr. and Mrs. Thomas, Mr. and Mrs. Tada, Ma. and Mrs. Goto, Messrs. Kawada, Shoda, Yamawaki, Frischling, W. Joest, Nuva, Matsumoto, Inoui and child, Doi, Oka, Asagawa, Nakano, Nambu, Fukushima, Aoki, Sugiyama, Trevithick, Yoshinaga, Tada, and F. E. Lewis.

Per French steamer *Menzaleh* for Hongkong:—Count and Countess Barbolani, Messrs. Vilamor, Weidemvikler, Van Aalst, and 3 Japanese in cabin.

CARGOES.

Per American steamer *City of Peking* for San Francisco:—

TEA:				
From	San Fran.	N. York.	Other Cities.	Total
Shanghai.....	—	219	161	380
Nagasaki.....	—	—	—	—
Hioo.....	87	1,625	401	2,113
Yokohama.....	3,055	1,100	1,328	5,483
Hongkong.....	56	45	100	201
Total.....	3,189	2,989	1,990	8,177

SILK:				
From	San Fran.	N. York.	Other Cities.	Total
Shanghai.....	7	378	—	385
Hongkong.....	—	103	—	103
Yokohama.....	2	199	—	201
Total.....	9	680	—	689

Per Japanese steamer *Genkai Maru* for Shanghai and ports:—

Treasure

Per Japanese steamer *Hiroshima Maru* from Shanghai & ports:—

Treasure

Per French steamer *Menzaleh* for Hongkong:—

Silk for France

" " London

Total 1,133 bales

REPORTS.

The Japanese steamer *Kokonoye Maru* reports:—Left Hakodate 28th ulto. with N. W. winds and cloudy sky; latter part of voyage W. winds and fine weather. Arrived 2nd inst. 11.30 p.m.

The Japanese steamer *Hiroshima Maru* reports:—Fair weather with Northerly winds throughout the passage.

The British steamer *Oceanic* reports:—Left San Francisco Feb. 8th 1881. Had mod. to fresh Head winds until the 16th from that day to the 25th mod to strong head gales and high seas. 26th to Port. mod to fresh variable winds: arrived 7.30 a.m. March, 4th 1881, Passage 22 days 22 hours.

YOKOHAMA-TOKIO RAILWAY.

DOWN TRAINS LEAVE SHINBASHI.

A.M.	A.M.	A.M.	NOON.	P.M.	P.M.	P.M.	P.M.	P.M.	P.M.
8.0	9.15	10.30	12.0	1.30	2.45	4.0	5.15	6.30	8.0

UP TRAINS LEAVE YOKOHAMA.

A.M.	A.M.	A.M.	NOON.	P.M.	P.M.	P.M.	P.M.	P.M.	P.M.
8.0	9.15	10.30	12.0	1.30	2.45	4.0	5.15	6.30	8.0

NATIVE CURRENCY QUOTATIONS.

(For Week Ending 5th March, 1881.)

	Discount on Yen Sats.			Gold Yen.	Silver Yen.	Silver Subsidiary (New.)	Silver Subsidiary (Old.)
	A.M.	Noon.	Closing.				
1881							
Saturday ... Feb.	26 74½	74½	74½	—	—	—	—
Monday	28 75½	74½	74½	—	—	—	—
Tuesday	1 74½	74½	74½	—	—	—	—
Wednesday ...	2 74½	74½	74½	—	—	—	—
Friday	3 74½	74½	74½	—	—	—	—
Friday	4 74½	75	75	—	—	—	—
Saturday	5 75½	75½	75½	—	—	—	—

NEXT MAIL DUE FROM.

AMERICA	P. M. Co.	Mar. 24th
AMERICA	O. & O. Co.	April 8th
EUROPE, via HONGKONG	M. M. Co.	Mar. 10th
HONGKONG	P. & O. Co.	Mar. 17th
HONGKONG, via KOBE	M. B. Co.	Mar. 14th
HONGKONG	P. M. Co.	April 18th
HONGKONG	O. & O. Co.	Mar. 15th
SHANGHAI, HIOO & NAGASAKI ..	M. B. Co.	Mar. 10th

1.—Left San Francisco, March 1st, *City of Tokio*.
 2.—Left Hongkong, March 3rd, *Volga*.

NEXT MAIL LEAVES FOR.

AMERICA	P. M. Co.	April 20th
AMERICA	O. & O. Co.	Mar. 18th
EUROPE, via HONGKONG	P. & O. Co.	Mar. 10th
EUROPE, via HONGKONG	M. M. Co.	Mar. 20th
HAKODATE	M. B. Co.	Mar. 6th
HONGKONG, via KOBE	M. B. Co.	Mar. 7th
HONGKONG	O. & O. Co.	April 8th
HONGKONG	P. M. Co.	Mar. 24th
SHANGHAI, HIOO & NAGASAKI ..	M. B. Co.	Mar. 9th

The arrival and departure of mails by the "Occidental and Oriental," the "Pacific Mail," and the "Peninsular and Oriental" companies, are approximate only.

VESSELS EXPECTED IN JAPAN.

SAILING.

DATE.	NAME OF VESSEL.	FROM	FOR
Sept. 26	Anna Seiben	ANTWERP	Yokohama
July 17	Sto. Lucie	PHILADELPHIA	"
Aug. 7	Philip Nelson	HAMBURG	Yokohama
Nov. 18	Pakhoi (s.s.)	GLASGOW	Jap. via Manila
" 19	Ordovic	LONDON	Yokohama
" 23	Malacca	HAMBURG	Yoko. & Hioo
Dec. 17	Marie	ANTWERP	"
" 30	Mora	LONDON	"
Jan. 3	Fleurs Castle (s.s.)	"	"
" 3	Benledi (s.s.)	"	"
Dec. 17	R. Robinson	NEW YORK	"

YOKOSUKA STEAMERS TIME TABLE.

LEAVE YOKOHAMA.

DAILY:—8.30, and 9.45 a.m.; 12.00, 1.30, and 4.15 p.m.

LEAVE YOKOSUKA.

DAILY:—6.45 and 9.30 a.m., and 12.00; 1.30 and 4.00 p.m.

SHIPPING INTELLIGENCE.

VESSELS IN HARBOUR.

NAME.	CAPTAIN.	FLAG AND REG.	TONN.	FROM.	ARRIVED.	CONSIGNEES.
STEAMERS.						
Hiroshima Maru	Haswell	Japanese steamer	1,790	Shanghai & ports	Mar. 2	M. B. Co.
Larch	Colledge	British steamer	916	Antwerp via Manila &c.	Mar. 1	Wilkin & Robison
Malacca	Cole	British steamer	1,097	Hongkong	Mar. 4	P. & O. Co.
Oxfordshire	Jones	British steamer	998	Shanghai	Mar. 1	Smith, Baker & Co.
Oceanic	Metcalf	British steamer	2,440	San Francisco	Mar. 4	O. & O. Co.
Tanis	Reynier	French steamer	1,735	Hongkong	Feb. 22	M. M. Co.
SAILING SHIPS.						
Alexander	Carson	American schooner	52	Nagasaki	Nov. 3	J. E. Collyer
Baltazar	E. C. Fulda	German schooner	275	Takao	Feb. 20	E. B. Watson
Cilurnum	Beadle	British ship	1,850	Hongkong	Nov. 8	Edward Fischer & Co.
Hedvig	Frahm	British barque	375	Takao	Mar. 4	Soo Hoo
Helena	Ewalt	German schooner	60	Kurile Islands	Oct. 31	Captain
Lottie	Hilts	German schooner	26	Kurile Islands	Sept. 4	Hohnhots & Co.
Mary C. Bohm	Petersen	German schooner	55	Kurile Islands	Oct. 24	P. Bohm
Minatitlan	J. Edwards	British brig	224	Takao	Feb. 26	Chinese
North Star	Johnson	Russian schooner	42	Kurile Islands	Nov. 16	H. W. Hohnhots & Co.
Otome	Hardy	American schooner	72	Kurile Islands	Dec. 13	H. Snow
Otogo	Isaacsen	Russian schooner	46	Kurile Islands	Nov. 3	H. Cook
Pioneer	Maies	Russian schooner	72	Romo, via Hakodate	Jan. 17	Walsh, Hall & Co.
Stella	Werner	American schooner	30	Kurile Islands	Oct. 11	Captain

VESSELS OF WAR IN PORT.

NAME.	GENS.	TONN.	H. P.	DESCRIPTION.	WHERE FROM.	COMMANDER.
BRITISH—Albatross...	4	894	838	Sloop	Chefoo	Captain Errington
FRENCH—Chauplain...	10	2,000	—	Corvette	Kobe	Captain Dubrot
RUSSIAN—Africa...	14	1,400	500	Cruiser	Nagasaki	Captain Alekoff
" Ermak...	4	375	—	Transport	Hiogo	Captain Kolfchan
" Kniaz Pojarsky...	12	4,291	—	Ironclad	Nagasaki	Captain Tirtoff
" Minin...	16	5,300	6,300	Ironclad	Nagasaki	Captain Nazimoff
" Crayasser...	—	1,500	275	Ironclad	Atami	Captain Nazimoff

VESSELS ON THE BERTH.

DESTINATION.	NAME.	AGENTS.	TO BE DESPATCHED.
San Francisco	Gaelic	O. & O. Co.	March 18th
Hongkong via Kobe	Kokonoye Maru	M. B. Co.	March 7th, at 4 P.M.
Shanghai and way-ports	Hiroshima Maru	M. B. Co.	March 9th, at 4 P.M.
San Francisco via Hiogo	Remonstrant	Wilkin & Robison	Unsettled
San Francisco	Cilurnum	Edward Fischer & Co.	Unsettled
Hongkong	Malacca	P. & O. Co.	March 10th, at 1 a.m.
Hongkong	Oceanic	O. & O. Co.	March 6th at daylight

COMMERCIAL INTELLIGENCE.

IMPORTS.—Everything rather dull. Buyers not eager to operate except at a reduction. *Yarns*; moderate business only. *Shirtings* dull and neglected. *Lawns*; buyers in the market at low rates to which sellers will not submit. *Woollens* neglected and nominal.

COTTON YARNS :—

Nos. 16 to 24, Common to Medium ...	per picul	\$29.50 to 31.25
" " Good to Best... ..	"	\$31.75 to 33.00
Bombay, No. 20 do.	"	\$29.50 to 31.25
Nos. 28 to 32, Common to Medium ...	"	\$33.75 to 34.75
" " Good to Best... ..	"	\$35.00 to 36.00
" 38 to 42	"	\$39.25 to 40.25

COTTON PIECE GOODS :—

Grey Shirtings :—7 lb. per piece 28½ yds. 39 in.	\$1.25 to 1.65
" " 8½ lb. " 38½ " 39 in.	\$1.50 to 2.00
" " 9 lb. " 38½ " 45 in.	\$1.95 to 2.57½
T. Cloths :—7 lb. " 24 yds. 32 in. per piece	\$1.52½ to 1.67½
Drills, English :—14-15 lb. 40 " 30 in.	\$2.50 to 2.70
Indigo Shirtings :— " 12 " 44 in.	\$1.47½ to 1.57½
Prints :—Assorted " 24 " 30 in.	\$1.40 to 2.60
Cotton Italians & Sateens Black 32 in.	\$0.09½ to 0.14
Turkey Reds : 2 to 2½ lb. 24 yds. 30 in.	\$1.50 to 1.70
Do. 2½ to 2½ lb. 24 " 30 in.	\$1.65 to 1.80
Do. 3 lb. 24 " 30 in.	\$1.80 to 1.90

COTTON PIECE GOODS :—Continued.

Velvets :—Black ... 35 yds. 22 in. per piece	\$7.00 to 8.50
Victoria Lawns ... 12 " 42/3 " "	\$0.70 to 0.75
Taffachelaas :— " 12 " 43 " "	\$1.70 to 1.90
WOOLLENS :—	
Plain Orleans ... 40-42 yds. 32 in.	4.50 to 5.50
Figured Orleans ... 29-30 " 31 " ...	3.50 to 4.25
Lastings ... 29-30 " 31 " ...	10.00 to 11.00
Italian Cloth ... 30 " 32 " ...	0.18 to 0.30½
Camlet Cords ... 29-30 " 32 " ...	4.50 to 5.50
Mousselines de Laines :—Crape 24 yds. 30 in.	0.16 to 0.17
do. Itajime 24 " 30 " ...	0.23 to 0.29
do. Yuzen 24 " 30 " ...	0.35 to 0.40
Cloths, all wool plain or fancy... 48 in. to 52 in.	0.80 to 1.80
Pilots... " 54 " to 56 " ...	0.30 to 0.45
Presidents... " 54 " to 56 " ...	0.45 to 0.55
Union ... " 54 " to 56 " ...	0.30 to 0.55
Blankets, green, 6 to 8 lbs. ... per lb. ...	0.37 to 0.39

SAIGON RICE.—No sale. Stock 19,000 piculs.

KEROSINE.—Stock is reduced to 400,000 cases.

Sugar :—Takao in bag New ... per picul	\$4.37
" " " Old... ..	\$4.25
" Taiwanfoo in bag... ..	\$4.25
Ching-pak and Ke-pak ...	\$7.75 to \$8.50
China No. 4-5, Kongfun & Kook-fah... ..	\$6.50 to \$8.75

Japan Rice ... per picul	\$2.82 to 3.37
Japan Wheat ...	\$2.10
Saigon Rice [cargo] ...	\$1.80
Kerosene Oil... case	\$1.88 to \$1.89

EXPORTS.

SILK.—A very large business has been done in silk since our last report. Advices from the home markets have been more favourable and there has been a great competition to secure good classes of silk, stocks of which are becoming scarce. Natives are asking an advance of \$10 to \$15 per picul all round and the market closes in an unsettled and rather excited state. Sales of the week 1,000 shipping bales; shipments to date 17,670 bales.

	Exchange 3/9½	Exchange 4.80
Hanks.—No. 2	\$570 = 18/8	= fcs. 49/20 to fcs. 48.90
" " 2½	\$545 to \$550 = 17/10 to 18/	" 47.00
" " 3 & infra.	\$500 to \$520 = 16/5 to 17/1	" 44.80
Filatures.—Extra 1	\$640 to \$650 = 20/11 to 21/3	" 57.90 to " 58.70
" " 2	\$630 to \$640 = 20/3 to 21/	" 56.10
" " 3	\$610 = 19/10	" 53.50
" "	\$580 to \$590 = 18/11 to 19/3	" 49.10 to " 50.00
Kakodas—Best	\$625 to \$630 = 20/3 to 20/5	" 55.40 to " 57.90
" Medium & Good	\$590 to \$610 = 19/3 to 19/9	" 51.80
Re-Reels Medium to Best	\$580 to \$620 = 18/11 to 20/1	" 52.20 to " 54.00

TEA.—During the week a fair business, settlements amounting to 850 piculs. Choice and Common grades are in most demand. We leave quotations unchanged. Stock 3,500 piculs.

Common { ... } \$10 to \$13	Fine ... \$23 to \$25
Good Common { ... } \$15 to \$17	Finest ... \$27 to \$29
Medium ... \$19 to \$20	Choice ... } Nominal
Good Medium ...	Choicest ... }

EXCHANGE AND BULLION.

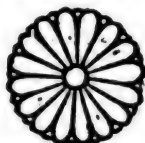
STERLING—Bank 4 months' sight	3/9 to 3/9½	ON SHANGHAI—Bank sight.....	72½
" Bank Bills on demand.....	3/8½ to 3/8½	" Private 10 days' sight.....	73
" Private 4 months' sight.....	3/9½	ON NEW YORK—Bank Bills on demand.....	90½
ON PARIS—Bank sight	3/9½	" Private 30 days' sight.....	91½
" Private 6 months' sight.....	4.70	ON SAN FRANCISCO—Bank Bills on demand.....	90½
ON HONGKONG—Bank sight	½ % prm.	" Private 30 days' sight.....	91½
" Private 10 days' sight	½ % disct.	KINSAZE	75½ dis.
		GOLD YEN	380 mom.

SHIPPING.

SHIPPING.—A few charters have been made of Sugar coasters at private rates. The *Telemachus* is loading for London.

MISCELLANEOUS.

[TRANSLATION]



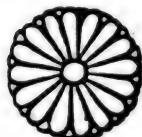
NOTIFICATION

No. 13 of Daijokwan.

IT IS HEREBY NOTIFIED that any Master, Mate or Engineer, holding a Certificate of Competency from any Foreign Government shall, provided the qualifications and requirements under which any such Certificate was issued are deemed to be in no ways inferior to the qualifications and requirements for a Certificate of a corresponding grade under Notification No. 82 of the 9th Year of Meiji, be entitled to a Certificate of Competency of a similar grade without undergoing any examination.

It is also further Notified that the regular examination of applicants for Masters, Mates or Engineers Certificates shall here-after only be held during the 3rd, 6th, 9th and 12th Months of each Year, on such day and hour as shall hereafter be Notified by Yekitei Kioku.

(Signed) SANJO SANEYOSHI,
Daijō-Daijin.



NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that in accordance with Notification of Daijōkwan No. 13, the regular examination of Applicants for Masters, Mates or Engineers Certificates will, till further notice, be conducted at Tokio on the third Tuesday in every 3rd, 6th, 9th and 12th Month of each year, commencing at 9.00 a.m.

H. MAYESHIMA
Chief Superintendent.

Yekitei Kioku, Feb. 24th, 1880.

NOTICE TO MARINERS.

No. 129.

CHINA SEA.

SHANGHAI DISTRICT.

WRECK NEAR THE AMHERST ROCKS.

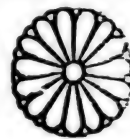
NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that the British Bark *CHINAMAN* lies sunk in 5 fathoms of water 7 miles to the S. 37° W. of the Amherst Rocks. The iron masts are at present visible.

By order of the Inspector General of Customs.

DAVID M. HENDERSON,
Engineer-in-Chief.

Imperial Maritime Customs,
Engineer's Office,
Shanghai, 24th January, 1881.

MISCELLANEOUS.



NOTICE TO MARINERS.

No. 1 of the 14th Year of Meiji, (1881.)

KAGENO SIMA LIGHTHOUSE.

ENTRANCE TO NAGASAKI HARBOUR.

THE GOVERNMENT OF JAPAN hereby gives notice that, on the night of the 1st day of the 3rd Month of the 14th Year of Meiji (1st March, 1881), and every night thereafter, from Sunset to Sunrise, a Fixed Red Light of the 6th Order will be exhibited from the tower built on the Northern point of Kageno Sima, at the Entrance to the harbour of Nagasaki, in the province of Hizen.

According to the Japanese Admiralty Chart No. 108, and the British Admiralty Chart No. 2415, the Lighthouse is situated in latitude 32 degrees 42 minutes 42 seconds North, and in longitude 129 degrees 49 minutes 37 seconds East of Greenwich.

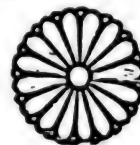
The Tower is built of stone, and is 15 feet 8 inches high from the base to the center of the lantern.

The Light will have an arc of visibility of 206 degrees, the cut off bearings being N. 81° 30' W. and S. 55° 30' E. Bearings true.

The total elevation of the Light above the sea will be 40 feet, and its range of visibility, in clear weather, about 8 Nautical miles.

YAMAO YOZO,
Minister of Public Works.

Tokei, February 3rd, 1881.



NOTICE TO MARINERS.

No. 2 of the 14th Year of Meiji, (1881.)

BLACK BUOY OFF HANEDA LIGHTHOUSE.
BAY OF YEDO.

THE GOVERNMENT OF JAPAN hereby gives notice that the Black Buoy, which was moored off Haneda shoal, Bay of Yedo, before the erection of the Pile-Lighthouse in the 8th Year of Meiji (1875) on said shoal, and which has remained in same position ever since, will be removed on the First day of the Seventh month of the Fourteenth year of Meiji (1st July 1881), experience having proved that navigation is now safe without the Buoy.

YAMAO YOZO,
Minister of Public Works.

Tokei, February 22nd, 1881.

MISCELLANEOUS.

IMPORTANT

—FOR—

WATCHMAKERS!

IMPORTANT

FOR

EVERYBODY!

THE Rodanow Manufacturing Company (Limited—Capital \$2,000,000), Boston (America), will forward, hereafter, even one single Watch to any part of the world at wholesale prices, i.e., 35 per cent cheaper than any watchmaker, as none of them is manufacturing Watches himself, but only buying them from here. We call the particular attention of every one intending to purchase a first-class reliable Watch to our following price list:—

Key-winding Watches.

SILVER WATCH.	£	s.
Crystal glass, seconds hand.....	0	10
Hunting case, engraved, highly finished..	0	14
Skeleton movement, extra jewelled, stout double cover.....	1	00

GOLD WATCH.

Jewelled, maintaining power, crystal glass.	1	10
Half hunter, enamel or gold dial, lever escapement	1	16
Hunting case, superior nickel movement, best quality with all the latest improvements, two gold covers	2	03

Keyless Watches

(Stem-Winders.)

The keyless mechanism to a watch is one of the great modern improvements in Watch work, it does away with the old-fashioned key, with which so many persons have ruined their Watches. The Watch is wound by turning a knurled knob, placed on the handle or bow, instead of by the ordinary means; the hands are set in the same way. The advantages of these improvements are obvious, the case, which never need be opened in winding, is made airtight and dust-tight, thus preserving much longer the fluidity of the oil, and greatly prolonging the intervals between the necessary cleaning of the Watch.

SILVER KEYLESS WATCH.

Lever movement, flat, jewelled, crystal glass	£	s.
Double cover, enamel or ornamented silver dial	1	05
Superior skeleton movement, extra jewelled, stout double cover	1	15

GOLD KEYLESS WATCH.

Open face, lever escapement, ten jewels...	2	05
Half hunter, best movement, all latest improvements, fifteen jewels.....	3	00
Two stout gold covers, chronometer movement with centre seconds hands, a splendid Watch for presentation	3	15

GOLD KEYLESS CHRONOMETER.

Three gold covers, movement of finest workmanship, centre seconds hands, repeating hours and quarters.....	8	10
--	---	----

MISCELLANEOUS.

Imperial Chronometer, showing days, date, weeks, and month on dial, repeating hours, quarters, and eighths, three heavy gold covers, warranted for five years, and without doubt the best and handsomest Watch in existence..... 15 00

OBSERVATIONS.

1.—All the above Watches can be had in smaller size to suit for ladies' wear at the same price. Monograms, initials, arms, etc., engraved on the back of the Watch free of charge.

2.—All our Watches are thoroughly finished and ready for immediate use, and will be sent securely packed in morocco case, *post free*, to any part of the world, together with spare mainsprings, glasses, and keys, these being a great convenience, as in many out-of-the-way places, it is almost a matter of impossibility to replace one of those articles.

3.—Every watch is accompanied by a written warranty, guaranteeing the regularity and superiority of its workmanship for three years, during which time no charge will be made for repairing if the watch is returned *post free*.

4.—All our gold cases are eighteen carat gold; the silver cases are of the best sterling silver.

5.—Six per cent discount will be allowed on orders for six and more Watches.

6.—All our Watches have compensation balance, which renders them equally accurate in either hot or cold climate.

7.—All Watches may be ordered without seconds hand, with engraved, plain polished, or engine-turned cases, without difference of price.

8.—No orders from abroad filled unless accompanied by a remittance to cover the amount, or a reference on a Boston house.

Persons residing in any part of the world need not hesitate to forward their orders to this establishment as they may rely upon receiving the exact Watch ordered by them, which if not approved, will be exchanged free and safe by post, or money refunded. The best means of sending money is by draft on New York, Paris, or London, which can be procured at any banker and everywhere,—or enclose the amount in bank-notes, gold coins, or postage stamps of any country of the world. All orders, the smallest as well as the most important, will receive the same particular attention and will be forwarded without delay. We respectfully ask for a trial order.

THE

Rodanow Manufacturing Company,

5 and 7, Portland Street, Boston, U. S. of America.



NOTICE TO MARINERS.

SHIMONOSEKI STRAITS BUOYS.

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN, that KANABUSE BUOY and MIDDLE GROUND BLACK BUOY, which were advertized as having broken adrift from their moorings, have been replaced.

BY ORDER.

Lighthouse Establishment,

Benten,

Yokohama, 17th January, 1881.

MISCELLANEOUS.

SEVENTH DRAWING. CHINESE IMPERIAL GOVERNMENT LOAN OF 1877.

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN, that in conformity with the stipulation contained in the Bonds of this Loan, 1146 Bonds of £100 sterling each—£114,600, to be paid off at par, on the 28th of February next, when the Interest thereon will cease, were this day Drawn at the Offices of the HONGKONG and SHANGHAI BANKING CORPORATION, 81, Lombard Street, London, E.C., in the presence of GEORGE HENRY BURNETT, Esq., Accountant of the said Corporation, and of the undersigned Notary Public.

FOR THE HONGKONG AND SHANGHAI
BANKING CORPORATION,

(Signed) GEO. H. BURNETT,
Accountant.

Countersigned,

W. W. VENN, Jun.,
Notary Public,

2, Pope's Head Alley, Cornhill, E.C.

London, 13th December, 1880.

The Numbers of Bonds Drawn can be ascertained on application at this Office.

For the HONGKONG AND SHANGHAI
BANKING CORPORATION,

JOHN WALTER,
Manager.

Yokohama, February 5th, 1881.

"HIGHEST AWARD & PRIZE MEDAL PHILADELPHIA
EXHIBITION, 1876."

OAKEYS
WELLINGTON KNIFE POLISH
PREPARED EXPRESSLY FOR THE PATENT KNIFE-CLEANING MACHINES, INDIA RUBBER AND BUFF LEATHER KNIFE BOARDS. KNIVES CONSTANTLY CLEANED WITH IT HAVE A BRILLIANT POLISH EQUAL TO NEW CUTLERY. PACKETS 3D. EACH; AND TINS, 6D., 1/-, 2/6 AND 4/- EACH.

OAKEYS
INDIA RUBBER KNIFE BOARDS
PREVENT FRICTION IN CLEANING AND INJURY TO THE KNIFE. OAKLEY'S WELLINGTON KNIFE POLISH SHOULD BE USED WITH HIS BOARDS.

OAKEYS
SILVERSMITHS SOAP
[NON-MERCURIAL],
FOR CLEANING AND POLISHING SILVER, ELECTRO-PLATE, PLATE GLASS, &c. TABLETS 6D. EACH.

OAKEYS
WELLINGTON BLACK LEAD
IN SOLID BLOCKS—1D., 2D. & 4D. EACH, & 15. BOXES.

JOHN OAKLEY & SON'S
MANUFACTURERS OF
EMERY CLOTH, BLACK LEAD, CABINET GLASS-PAPER, &c.
WELLINGTON EMERY & BLACK LEAD MILLS
WESTMINSTER BRIDGE ROAD, LONDON, ENGLAND.
July, 1879.

MISCELLANEOUS.

THE GREATEST WONDER OF MODERN TIMES HOLLOWAY'S PILLS.

PERSONS suffering from weak or debilitated constitutions will discover that by the use of this wonderful medicine there is "Health for all." The blood is the fountain of life, and its purity can be maintained by the use of these Pills.

SIR SAMUEL BAKER, in his work entitled "The Nile Tributaries in Abyssinia," says, "I ordered the dragoman Mahomet to inform the Fahey that I was a Doctor, and that I had the best medicines at the service of the sick, with advice gratis. In a short time I had many applicants, to whom I served out a quantity of Holloway's Pills. These are most useful to an explorer, as possessing unmistakable purgative properties they create an undeniable effect upon the patient, which satisfies him of their value."

SIMPLE, SAFE AND CERTAIN! HOLLOWAY'S OINTMENT.

Is a certain remedy for bad legs, bad breasts, and ulcerations of all kinds. It acts miraculously in healing ulcerations, curing skin diseases, and in arresting and subduing all inflammations.

MR. J. T. COOPER, in his account of his extraordinary travels in China, published in 1871, says—"I had with me a quantity of Holloway's Ointment. I gave some to the people, and nothing could exceed their gratitude; and, in consequence, milk, fowls, butter, and horse-feed poured in upon us, until at last a tea-spoonful of Ointment was worth a fowl and any quantity of peas, and the demand became so great that I was obliged to lock up the small remaining stock." Sold by all Chemists and Medicine Vendors throughout the World May 17th, 1873.

**ASTHMA,
FOR
DIFFICULT
BREATHING
&c**
**SAVORY & MOORE'S
DATURA
TATULA**
Cigars, Cigarettes or Tobacco, also Pastilles and Powder for Inhalation.
SAVORY & MOORE, NEW BOND STREET, LONDON,
And of all Chemists and Storekeepers throughout the world.
December 1880.

H. MacARTHUR,
SHIP-BROKER AND CUSTOMS
AGENT,
NO. 70, Yokohama,
(Opposite the Old British Post Office).
Yokohama, 4th May, 1880.

MISCELLANEOUS.

ANDW. HANDYSIDE & Co.

Limited.

32, Walbrook, London,

BRITANNIA IRON WORKS, DERBY.

Manufacture all kinds of

IRON WORK,
Structural & Ornamental.

BRIDGES of every description. Girder Bridges. Arch Bridges. Suspension Bridges.

A. H. & Co. make every year for Foreign Countries some thousands of Tons of Bridges.

LANDING-PIERS AND JETTIES.

ROOFS AND BUILDINGS. MARKETS.

*Illustrated Catalogue (A) free on Application.***ORNAMENTAL IRONWORK, ETC.***See Large New Illustrated Catalogues (B. & C.) with 1,300 designs.*Railings. Balcony Panels.
Gates. Street Posts.
Lamp-pillars. Lamp-brackets.
Balusters. Newels.
Ornaments. Terminals.Columns. Column Capitals.
Brackets. Gratings.
Windows. Casements.
Fountains. Drinking Fountains.
Vases. Pedestals.


Conservatories. Band-Stands.

SMITH'S HEARTHES & PORTABLE FORGES

12 Shapes and Sizes.

*Catalogue (D) free on Application.***Andw. Handyside & Co., Limited,**
LONDON.

26 ins.

	JOSEPH GILLOTT'S STEEL PENS.	Gold.
	JOSEPH GILLOTT'S STEEL PENS.	Medal.
	JOSEPH GILLOTT'S STEEL PENS.	Paris.
	JOSEPH GILLOTT'S STEEL PENS.	1878.

April, 1880.

MISCELLANEOUS.

SAVORY & PANCREATIC EMULSION MOORE'S MEDICINAL FOOD	SAVORY & PANCREATIC EMULSION MOORE'S MEDICINAL FOOD	SAVORY & PANCREATIC EMULSION MOORE'S MEDICINAL FOOD	SAVORY & PANCREATIC EMULSION MOORE'S MEDICINAL FOOD	SAVORY & PANCREATIC EMULSION MOORE'S MEDICINAL FOOD	SAVORY & PANCREATIC EMULSION MOORE'S MEDICINAL FOOD
FOR INFANTS ROYAL NURSERIES. THE MOST DIGESTIBLE, CONTAINS THE HIGHEST AMOUNT OF NOURISHMENT IN THE MOST CONVENIENT FORM. In Tins 1lb., 2lb., 4lb. and 10lb.			FOR ASTHMA ASTHMA & DIFFICULT BREATHING promptly relieved and paroxysms averted by Datura Tatula Inhalations Testimonials accompanying each box of Cigarettes, Cigars and Pipes. This is the economical form of tobacco, and also in powder for smoking, from 2s. 6d. to 12s.		

August 2, 1879.

26780

TRADE



MARK.

ELLWOOD'S

PATENT AIR CHAMBER

HATS AND HELMETSTHE ONLY EFFECTUAL PROTECTION
AGAINST SUN STROKE.To be obtained of all respectable Hatters and Outfitters
and Wholesale only of**J. ELLWOOD & SONS,**
LONDON.

Beware of Useless Imitations.

DINNEFORD'STHE BEST REMEDY FOR ACIDITY
OF THE STOMACH, HEARTBURN,
HEADACHE, GOUT AND INDIGESTION.**DINNEFORD & Co., Chemists**
London,

N.B. ASK FOR DINNEFORD'S MAGNESIA.

April 10, 1880

THE SAFEST MILD
APERIENT FOR DELICATE
CONSTITUTIONS, LADIES,
CHILDREN AND INFANTS,
AND FOR REGULAR USE
IN WARM CLIMATES.**FLUID
MAGNESIA.**And of Druggists and Storekeepers throughout
the World.

1y.

MISCELLANEOUS.

**CROSSE & BLACKWELL'S
CELEBRATED OILMEN'S STORES.***Five Prize Medals, Paris, Vienna and Philadelphia.*

PICKLES AND SAUCES,
JAMS AND JELLIES,
ORANGE MARMALADE,
TART FRUITS, DESSERT FRUITS,
PURE SALAD OIL,
MUSTARD, VINEGAR,
POTTED MEATS AND FISH,
FRESH SALMON AND HERRINGS,
HERRINGS A LA SARDINE,
YARMOUTH BLOATERS,
BLACKWALL WHITEBAIT,
PREPARED SOUPS, IN TINS,
PRESERVED VEGETABLES,
HAMS AND BACON, IN TINS,
PRESERVED CHEESE,
OXFORD AND CAMBRIDGE SAUSAGES,
BOLOGNA SAUSAGES,
YORKSHIRE GAME AND PORK PIES,
TONGUES, GAME, POULTRY,
PLUM PUDDINGS,
LEA AND PERRINS' WORCESTERSHIRE
SAUCE.

*Fresh supplies of the above, and numerous other table
delicacies, may be had from most Storekeepers.***CAUTION.**To prevent the fraud of refilling the bottles or jars
they should invariably be destroyed when empty.Goods should always be examined upon delivery, to
detect any attempt at substitution of articles of inferior
brands.*All genuine goods bear the names of Crosse & Blackwell
on the Labels, Corks and Capsules of the Bottles,
Jars and Tins.*

CROSSE & BLACKWELL,
PURVEYORS TO THE QUEEN,
SOHO SQUARE, LONDON.

July, 1878.

ADOLPHUS SINGTON & CO.,

5, St. PETER'S SQUARE,

MANCHESTER,
ENGLAND.**CONTRACTORS, CIVIL ENGINEERS, AND
EXPORTERS**

OF ALL DESCRIPTIONS OF

MACHINERY.

May 4, 1878.

MISCELLANEOUS.

**J. & E. ATKINSON'S
PERFUMERY,**celebrated for nearly a century past, is of the very best English
manufacture. For its purity and great excellence it has
obtained the following**EXHIBITION PRIZE MEDALS,**LONDON, 1862. PARIS, 1875. CORDOVA, 1872. LIMA, 1872.
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Opopanax, Jockey Club, Ess Bouquet, Treval,
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a most fragrant Perfume distilled from the choicest Essences

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action and promotes the growth of the hair.**ATKINSON'S****ETHEREAL ESSENCE OF LAVENDER,**

a powerful Perfume distilled from the finest flowers.

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manufacturers**J. & E. ATKINSON,**

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Water Street. } Water Street.**O**N and after this date, the following prices will be
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Very comfortable bed-rooms,

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Yokohama, November 9th, 1880.

THE BEST REMEDY FOR INDIGESTION.

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MARK.

CAMOMILE PILLS are confidently recommended as a simple Remedy for Indigestion, which is
the cause of nearly all the diseases to which we are subject, being a medicine so uniformly grateful
and beneficial, that it is with justice called the "Natural Strengtheners of the Human Stomach."
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Be sure and ask for "NORTON'S PILLS," and do not be persuaded to purchase an imitation.

November 11th, 1878.

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TESTIMONIAL.

Medical Hall, Gildersome, Nov. 28th, 1876.

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Proprietor—THOMAS KEATING, London.

REWARD AND CAUTION.—Whereas fraudulent imitations of this unsurpassed remedy have been sold, I hereby request anyone knowing of the vendor of the same to communicate with me, on conviction of the offender a liberal reward will be paid.

April, 1880.

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April, 1880.

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in advance.

Terms for Advertising can be obtained at

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Yokohama, February 12, 1874.

tf.

MISCELLANEOUS.

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JOHN WALTER, Manager.

Yokohama, 26th February, 1881.

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A Daily, Weekly, and Fortnightly Journal,

ESTABLISHED, 1865.

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annum, \$24: Six months, \$13: Three months, \$7.

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in Harbour &c. &c. Also the latest Telegrams. Japanese
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A. HERBERT BLACKWELL, at the "Japan Mail" Office, 16
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SUPPLEMENT TO THE JAPAN WEEKLY MAIL.

YOKOHAMA, SATURDAY, 5TH MARCH, 1881.

ARRIVAL OF THE AMERICAN MAIL.

London, February 7th.—It is rumored that Sir William Harcourt will make a statement about Davitt to-day, to the effect that Davitt was not arrested on account anything in connection with the Land League, but because of a grave suspicion of the Government that he was connected with a new movement looking toward the employment of physical force for the establishment of the complete independence of Ireland. Mr. Egan left London, yesterday, for Paris, with a portion of the Land League Treasury. Parnell's presence in the French Capital, as co-trustee of the fund, being also necessary, he went to Paris.

London, February 7th.—It is understood that a careful examination of Davitt will be made, in consequence of statements with regard to his health.

Dublin, February 7th.—Although terrorism is undiminished in the west and south of Ireland, there is a decided improvement in other parts of the country.

The Government is prepared to defeat the Fenian schemes.

Many tenants are now paying rents, although heretofore refusing.

Parnell has gone to Paris, respecting the Land League funds.

Large meetings were held yesterday.

London, February 7th.—Richard Graves McDonnell, successively Governor of South Australia, Nova Scotia, and Hongkong, is dead.

St. Petersburg, February 7th.—The war party in Peking collapsed on receiving intelligence of the capture of Geok-Tepa.

London, February 7th.—The shooting affray between Edinburgh policemen and robbers had no political significance.

London, February 7th.—Twelve men are imprisoned, and probably have perished, by a colliery explosion in Whitfield, near Chall, Staffordshire. The pit is burning yet.

London, February 7th.—Seventeen persons perished in the Whitfield colliery explosion.

London, February 7th.—More Lancashire miners have struck for wages. Many thousands are now out of work. The weather is severe, colder and stormy.

Berlin, February 7th.—Evidently the Powers have agreed on a policy for compromise between Turkey and Greece.

Dublin, February 6th.—Most of the Land League meetings announced for Sunday are prohibited.

A report from a trustworthy source is that Davitt will be released, on conditions that he will not return to Ireland. Davitt has been taken to the Portland prison.

London, February 6th.—A large demonstration was made in Trafalgar Square on Sunday by the Radical Club protesting against coercion.

The premium on the overdue steamer *Batavia* has been raised from 5 to 7.

Natal, February 5th.—A despatch states that the Wakkeratroom garrison is holding out well. They made a sortie, capturing many stores. The garrisons of Pretoria, Lydenburg and Rustenburg are well provisioned.

Omaha, February 6th.—The heaviest snow storm that has visited Nebraska has been prevailing all day, the snow having fallen to a depth of 6 or 8 inches on a bed of packed sleet 2 or 3 inches deep, which fell yesterday. The snow is very heavy with water, but farther west it is dryer and lighter, and is drifting some. It is snowing from Omaha to Cheyenne, and further west, and the wind is blowing strong. Telegraphic communication is almost entirely cut off, the only Eastern outlet being by way of Cheyenne, Denver and St. Louis. The cattle men entertain great fears about their cattle, which have already suffered a great deal.

All the trains came in and departed nearly on time to-day.

New York, February 6th.—The police report an attempt to blow up the Sound steamer *Bridgeport*. Two barrels of nitro-glycerine cartridges were shipped. The carriers had no bill of lading, and, acting suspiciously, the clerk knocked out the head of one barrel. He was surprised to find it

filled with cartridges, and more surprised that there was not an explosion. The cartridges were sent down the bay.

New Orleans, February 6th.—The front of E. O. Palmer & Co.'s paper and printers' warehouse, 93 and 95 Camp street, was destroyed by an explosion to-night. The windows were blown entirely across the street and the building fired. The cause and extent of the explosion is unknown. The explosion was apparently the work of inexperienced burglars. The safe and vault doors were blown open. The concussion was so great that it completely wrecked three front windows of the second floor and opened all the doors of the building, scattering the glass and splintering the woodwork. A number of windows opposite were broken. No damage resulted from the flames.

Philadelphia, February 6th.—The widow of Richard Realf, who committed suicide in San Francisco, has filed her declaration in a suit against J. B. Lippincott & Co. for \$20,000 damages for defamation of character.

San Marcial, February 6th.—It is reported from Fort Craig that 300 Navajoes are on the warpath, but only a few bands of renegades have painted. A scout from the Black Range says the mountains are full of Indians.

Albuquerque, February 6th.—The Sheriff's posse this evening brought in Faustino Gateiro, another of the gang who murdered Colonel Potter. He will be taken out, under a strong guard, to point out the place of concealment of Leibor and the others implicated.

Cleveland, February 6th.—The Cleveland Rolling Mill Company, Union Steel Screw Company, and upward of forty other companies, firms and individuals prominently identified with the iron interests, have signed a memorial to be forwarded to Garfield, setting forth that the late decisions of the Secretary of the Treasury are affecting seriously, if not utterly destroying, the manufacture of hoop-iron in the United States, and other decisions now pending, as to duty on tank and plate-iron, of like importance.

City of Mexico, January 30th, via Havana, February 6th.—The ecclesiastic authorities of Michoacan have excommunicated the Governor and all the officials, on account of the establishment of a Protestant church.

Three hundred Indians from New Mexico have invaded Chihuahua, and are spreading a panic among the settlements.

Galveston, February 6th.—The north-bound express was wrecked nine miles north of Hempstead, on the Teas Central R. R. yesterday evening. The engine fell through Cedar Creek bridge, throwing the express, two baggage and two passenger coaches down a fifteen-foot embankment, bottom upwards. The sleepers kept the track. The Strakosch and Hess English Opera troupe were among the passengers. Eighteen persons were injured. The most serious are Conductor Lettig, side and hip; Rose Marion, chorus singer, thrown through the window and badly cut; one of the coronet players, broken arm; Levy, New York, broken nose. The injured people have been sent to Houston.

New Orleans, February 5th.—An easterly gale, which set in yesterday, continued during the night, and this afternoon the wind varied frequently, obtaining a velocity of 52 miles per hour. The Julia street fire-tower fell, crushing the roofs of adjoining buildings to the east and southeast. The gale continued twenty-four hours, carrying the waters of the gulf over the lowlands. Along the New Orleans and Mobile Railroad track between Michoud and Lookout station the lands are submerged, and several miles of track washed out. No trains have gone over the road since 2 o'clock this morning. A freight train is reported wrecked between Michoud and Chef Menteur. The wires are nearly all down.

London, February 5th.—The King of the Ashantees has declared war against England. Stores and ammunition have been ordered to Cape Coast from Madeira. The War Office held a special council to-day, and it was decided to take immediate and effective measures to protect the British settlements on the west coast of Africa. It seems the King of the Ashantees sent a special Ambassador to Cape Coast Castle, demanding of the Governor the surrender of one Gannu, a refugee chief of the Ashantee tribe. The Governor

declined, and the King at once declared hostilities. The Governor applied to the Governor of Sierra Leone for reinforcements, which are being pushed forward.

London, Feb. 5th.—Thomas Carlyle died at half-past eight this morning. From last evening until his death, Carlyle was unconscious. His respiration was extremely feeble, and the heart's action barely perceptible. He suffered no pain the last thirty-six hours. His niece was with him to the last. It is understood Carlyle will be buried in the church-yard at his birthplace.

[Thomas Carlyle was born at Ecclefechan, Dumfriesshire, Scotland, in 1795. He graduated at the University of Edinburgh, and was destined by his father, "and by his father's minister," to be a minister of the King of Scotland. What changed his future is best told by himself: "After arriving at man's estate, I began to doubt whether I fancied the doctrines of my father's kirk, and as it was needful I should settle it, I entered my chamber and closed the door." He continues to tell how he wrestled with the phantoms of doubt, fear, unbelief, mockery and scoffing which came trooping up from an abyssal depth of perdition. Thus it was for weeks, but whether he ate or drank or slept, "I know not," he says, "but I do know that when I came forth it was with the direful persuasion that I was the miserable owner of a diabolical arrangement called a stomach." This was when he contracted a chronic dyspepsia, which was with him through life, hastened his death, and tintured more or less all his writings. Having resolved that he was not destined for the ministry, he devoted himself to the writing of books. He wrote a life of Schiller in 1824, and then translated Goethe's "Wilhelm Meister"; in 1833-4 was published his "Sartor Resartus"; in 1837 he wrote "The French Revolution—a History"; in 1840 he delivered his lectures on "Hero Worship." Following these came "Oliver Cromwell," "Life of John Stirling," and his "Life of Frederick the Great." In 1865 he was elected rector of Edinburgh University. Since 1872 he has resided in Chelsea, in the house where he died. Perhaps a just estimate of Carlyle's work as a historian and philosopher is given by one of his critics, when he said "he writes not from conviction but from temperament." He wrote best, and, it might be said, only as an opponent. What all the world hated he generally admired and took pleasure in defending; anything that other people sought after he mocked and derided. At times he was eloquent beyond all other writers, and often he was diffuse and entangled. There must have been something peculiar in the mental constitution of a man who saw much to admire in Danton and Mirabeau, and declared that "all talk about the improvement of the present age, the march of intellect and progress of the species, is evidence of an unhealthy state and the precursor of still worse health."

Chicago, Feb. 4th.—Advice from Panama of January 25th say; "Lima dates to the 18th instant are exceedingly meagre. A few skirmishes are reported as favorable to the Peruvians. The battle of Verrugas seems to have been the most important of these in its results; 1,500 Chileans and 900 Peruvians being the losses. The battle of San Bartolome is described as a formal combat. Four thousand Chileans attacked the advanced post, which was situated on an elevated plateau, defended by only 150 men. These resisted the attack for about an hour and a half, and were about retiring, when Pierola appeared at the head of the Peruvian division, which immediately occupied the position, and, after a well-resisted fight, drove the Chileans from the field. The loss is not stated.

London, February 4th.—After a vote suspending Home Rulers, Gladstone rose to move his resolution to prevent obstruction, when O'Donnell moved that Gladstone be not heard. O'Donnell was immediately named, and Gladstone moved his suspension, which was carried, 311 to 1, and he was removed.

A motion for adjournment was defeated, 371 to 28.

The first amendment of Northcote having been added to the original resolution, it was agreed to. Northcote's second amendment, that a majority decide the question of urgency must consist of not less than 400 members, was rejected.

Gladstone's resolution, as amended, was then agreed to. Gladstone moved a bill for protection of life and property in Ireland.

Gladstone referred to the irretrievable waste of time since

the commencement of the session, and then moved his resolution. He said he was willing to accept certain suggestions from the Opposition. The only way of meeting obstruction was to give the House enlarged powers to check it. He earnestly appealed to the members to support the Government and rally to a performance of the great duty, and not let the House degenerate into a laughing-stock of the world.

It was moved as an addition to Gladstone's resolution that a Minister shall declare any motion urgent.

Northcote assented, and the amendment as an amendment was withdrawn and moved by Sir William Harcourt as an addition to the resolution.

Mitchell Henry said the resolution would go forth to Ireland and to Europe as an unfair advantage over the expelled Home Rulers.

London, February 4th.—The principal alterations in Gladstone's resolution, as finally adopted by the House of Commons, are that the motion for urgency must be made by a Minister, who must state his reasons, and that a majority vote for urgency must consist of three to one in the House of at least 300 members.

Most extraordinary precautions were taken in the House, last night. Almost every door leading into the lobbies and corridors were watched by detectives. Forster's office, the Speaker's house, and Gladstone's private residence, were guarded by the police. The lobby was cleared from an early hour, and strangers were not allowed to enter for several hours.

The only English members of the House of Commons who voted against Dillon's suspension were Cowan, Radical and Home Ruler, and Labouchere, Advanced Liberal. They also voted against Parnell's suspension, but not against Finnegun. The six members who voted against suspension among the twenty-eight Home Rulers, refusing to go out on a division of the House, were Callan (Liberal), Cowan, Labouchere, MacDonald (Liberal), MacFarlane (Home Ruler), and Sir Joseph McKenna (Home Ruler).

Bradlaugh moved the rejection of the bill, because he said there is no certainty that the House of Lords will and prove the Land Bill as readily as they will the coerced measures.

The Home Rulers expelled from the House yesterday, held a meeting last night, at which they decided to issue a manifesto to the Irish people, denouncing the conduct of the House, but advising the people to keep within the lines of the Constitutional Act.

In expectation that the Home Rulers might carry resistance to the extreme, yesterday, 185 policemen were stationed in the vicinity of the Commons.

Dublin, February 3rd.—Davitt is arrested, and the Castle authorities declare his ticket-of-leave forfeited. There is intense excitement all over Ireland at the news. The Government by this act has thrown off its disguise, and gives all whom it may concern to know that it will make open war on the Land League or any other organization through which the Irish people may declare its will. Great crowds gathered around the newspaper offices, discussing the act and speculating as to the next step the Government will probably take.

Dublin, February 4th.—The news of the arrest of Michael Davitt spread through the provinces with amazing rapidity. Many indignation meetings have already been held.

Dublin, February 4th.—Michael Davitt was arrested for not reporting himself to the police. Immediately after his arrest, Egan, Brennan and Dillon, of the Land League, went to the Castle and sought to have an interview, but the police informed them that he was not there. The detectives, on arresting Davitt, drove to Kingston, where the prisoner was placed on board the mail steamer for London. Egan, Brennan and others went to Kingston to see him before the steamer sailed, but the police refused them admittance and would allow no one to see the prisoner except the doctor, who advised him to go to the hospital as soon as he arrived in the prison, as he was threatened with lung trouble. Egan and Brennan subsequently succeeded in obtaining an interview with Davitt, who was in good spirits. He expects to go before a magistrate in Bow street to-day and thence be conveyed to the convict prison at Dartmoor.

Dublin, February 4th.—Meetings to denounce the Government will be held in many places on Sunday next, but

there is generally an absence of excitement. A number of arrests, especially among members of the League, are expected directly after the Coercion bill has passed the House of Commons.

London, February 4th.—In the House of Commons today the Speaker, on taking the Chair, read a statement that he would exercise the authority entrusted to him with circumspection, so as to ensure freedom of debate and that he would lay the rules the House. Meanwhile he will make a rule, the practical effect of which will be to prevent a member who is dissatisfied with an answer to a question moving an adjournment of the House.

Forster rose at 5 o'clock p.m., amid cheers, to move a second reading of the Protection bill.

London, February 4th.—A manifesto to the Irish people was published yesterday, signed by Parnell on behalf of the Irish members, and addressed to the Irish race at home and abroad.

Dillon goes to Ireland immediately.

Davitt, on reaching Bow-street Court, was at once taken before the Chief Magistrate. The proceedings are private but officially announced. Davitt was ordered to finish the remainder of his sentence of penal servitude. He was removed from Bow street under an escort.

New York, February 4th.—The *Herald* says: As the plan for sending an expedition to the aid of the *Jeannette* is so rapidly crystalizing, and Congress is like to complete the necessary legislation for carrying it out immediately, it may not be amiss to suggest the necessity of care in the selection of the relief ship. On this subject no one probably has more carefully reflected than Lieutenant Payer of the Austrian Arctic expedition, who recommends vessels of not more than three hundred tons as the best suited for all Polar work. In choosing the ship now to go in search of the *Jeannette* the possibility of her detention one or two Winters in the Arctic ought not to be overlooked, and, consequently, the importance of the making her comfortable as well as safe, "since a ship in the Arctic Sea ceases for a term of years to be a ship, and becomes, in fact, a house," says Lieut. Payer, the principle of bestowing on those, who are for a time, banished, the greatest possible amount of comfort should be kept in view when she is being fitted out. The Government steamer *Wachusett* would, no doubt, admirably fulfill this condition, and perhaps other naval vessels could be found that would serve every purpose of the relief expedition. It is not clear that a steam whaling ship would do so well, as whaling vessels are not built with a view to wintering with a large crew in high Polar latitudes, as the relief vessel now to be despatched may be compelled to do; and though exceptionally strong, their adaptability for Polar expedition service is apparently not so well proved as that of an ordinary merchant ship. There can be no objection to choosing a good merchant steam vessel, which, by strengthening, can be made both stout and comfortable. But, whatever selection is made, it may be proper to suggest at once that she should be suitable for a two years' cruise in the roughest ice, and combine accommodation for the maximum comfort of the crew which is practicable, and room for scientific work on board.

San Francisco, February 8rd.—The one topic of immediate and personal interest to every Californian is the flood on the Sacramento and its tributaries. This is a very remarkable season of heavy rains and consequent high water, such as has not been known for many years, and may not be seen again by the present generation. The unusually full telegrams published in this issue give a connected and vivid picture of the scenes along the Sacramento, on the Tule islands, and at threatened points on the Yuba, Bear, Feather and other rivers.

Yet, no language can fitly describe the mingled gloom, terror and sublimity of the tangled currents and wild eddies of yellow and stormy floods which roar along the river channels, pile them full to the very brink, fret against the barriers, and tug, as with giant hands, at trembling levees and lonely islands. Here, perhaps, a levee crumbles into ruin under the wave's continual efforts, and some poor man loses his crop or bit of orchard. When these losses are footed up it may not be more than a few thousand dollars, but it will mean the all of some hopeful toiler and faithful citizen. Then, about some island whose levees still hold, though feebly, the hapless people are toiling through mud and rain, working with dumb and fierce energy, to upbuild stronger

barriers against the mountain floods and the sea-like rivers which sweep about their fertile domain. Scenes such as these cannot but be occurring over and over again along the great interior valley, and the thoughts of thousands go out towards the toilers, hoping for their victory.

In other cases there has been warning given along the Sacramento Valley by messages from the mountains, but the present flood was a surprise to every one. The heavy rains led most people to expect some high water, but no one realized how deep and extensive were the snow tracts in the upper Sierra region. From the results already manifested, the accumulations of snow in mountain ravines must have been enormous. This was the source of the trouble, for the warm rains beginning last week Thursday brought this snow down in great waves of water. These conditions prevailed generally, and to an extent never before known. Heretofore, in most cases, the snow-slides came at different times on different rivers, so that the resultant freshets did not quite harmonize. But now the rain has continued long enough to bring each tributary stream and rivulet to the condition of a raging torrent, each adding its quota to the majestic floods which are knocking at the gates of Marysville, and testing the massive levees of Sacramento.

Nor is the injury already done by this storm confined to the Sacramento Valley, for the Northern Coast Range will have many sad accounts of loss and desolation when communications are re-established with Trinity, Humboldt and Mendocino. The creeks and rivers of the Coast Range may be said to be in a state of insubordination, and all manner of lesser incidents, both grave and gay, will soon begin to crowd the columns of interior journals. Railroads, as usual, have suffered extensively. Sections of track on exposed hill-sides have been swept away by cloud-bursts, or torrents rushing down the narrow canyons, or have been overwhelmed by land-slides—perhaps the greatest danger of all. Bridges and culverts in many places are gone. Telegraph wires are tangled up in inextricable confusion. The South Coast Narrow-gauge, through the Santa Cruz Mountains has suffered severely, and the line from Santa Cruz to Watsonville is badly washed out. The same is true of the railroads north of this city. Great activity is being shown by the officials in coping with the difficulties of the occasion.

It is at present impossible to estimate the loss which this storm has already inflicted upon the agricultural and other interests of the State. The floods may rise higher; may break more levees, and engulf, more islands, in which case the loss will be proportionately increased. Overflowed grain fields, ruined orchards, and drowned cattle, sheep and hogs, are a kind of losses rather difficult to figure upon until the waters subside. There seems to be so far but one or two fatal accidents, though, as communications are established, more may be reported. As matters now stand, the threatened districts present all the interest which surround a battle-field. Human skill and tenacity are pitted against the forces of nature, and the limits of successful warfare are narrow indeed. All that man can do will be done; of that let us be certain. If families are made homeless and destitute by this flood in the Sacramento Valley, the salutary spirit will be wakened, as of old, in the hearts of Californians, and all that money can buy or warm hearts give, will be forthcoming, in swift, measureless sympathy.

Washington, February 8rd.—To-day's *National Republican* printed an editorial, understood to have been written by George C. Gorham, insisting that the Chinese Immigration Treaty should be amended, as the Burlingame Treaty was by the Senate in 1868, by the addition of a clause expressly excluding Chinese from the privileges of naturalization. The writer argues that "The most favored nation" clause is applicable not only to rights and privileges accorded to subjects of the most favored nations by treaty stipulations, but also to the rights and privileges accorded to them by our laws. He therefore, contends that the amendment of 1868 was indispensable to prevent Chinese naturalization under the Burlingame treaty, and is equally necessary now, and continues as follows: "Some say that a treaty could not confer the right, but that it could only engage our Government to supply the laws to meet the case, but treaties are equal to laws, and a treaty agreement to extend a given law to subjects of a nation might suffice

to confer the desired privilege. We should be sorry, indeed, to see any failure of the treaty. It is of great value, and was negotiated with much skill and dispatch; but it would be far better that it be lost than that our courts be thrown open to the naturalization of the Chinese, who have no vocabulary in which to so much as think of republican liberty, and who will never sympathize with our political morals or intellectual standards. We hope the amendment of 1868 will be made to the pending treaty."

This editorial has attracted a good deal of attention, and in connection with the similar position taken by a large party in the California Legislature, towards which the Pacific Coast Democratic Senators seem to be strongly inclined. It is likely to exert a considerable influence upon the Senate's decision of the question whether the treaty should or should not be rectified without amendment. To-day has been fixed for consideration of the treaties.

If however they do not come up this week final action upon them may be confidently expected next week.

King Kalakaua has been entertained right royally by our social lions since his re-entry into San Francisco society, and can hardly feel otherwise than pleased at the marks of esteem that he is everywhere receiving. That his Majesty had a right to expect an ovation, his previous visit assured him, still he must have been unprepared for the very generous outpouring of hospitality that has greeted him. This lionizing is not so much the outcome of a desire to honor the rank of the royal visitor, as an admiration of him who has done so much in one short reign towards the social and political advancement of his people; a people whom he found, on coming into his heritage, to be very far down in the scale of nations. That the ruler of the Sandwich Islands is to-day sited the world over, is an all-sufficient argument as to the success of his earnest efforts; hence these tokens of respect.

The week that has passed has been one continual whirl of excitement, and the tax put upon the visitor's strength must have been immense.

Durban, January 31st.—The losses of the Boers are estimated at 500 killed and wounded. It is reported that the Boer Commandant was killed. The position held by the Boers was a very strong one.

London, January 31st.—It is not considered necessary to send any more troops to the Cape at present.

London, January 31st.—The *Times* announces that Thomas Carlyle is seriously ill. The *News* reports that his illness is dangerous.

London, January, 31st.—Colliers at over eight mines in North Staffordshire give notice for an advance of wages.

London, January 31st.—A conference of English authors and publishers will be immediately summoned to express their opinion on the American proposal to International copyright, with British amendments.

PARTY IN HONOUR OF KING KALAKAUA.

In addition to the attractions of an unusually brilliant season, the advent of King Kalakaua has made the past week particularly lively in society circles. The old style of large receptions is somewhat neglected this Winter, and instead we are called upon to chronicle innumerable musicales, "Mother Goose" parties, kettledrums and receptions, combined private masquerades, teas, germans, and other novelties. These innovations are apparently giving satisfaction among society people, and the universal opinion is that the past season has been the most brilliant, social and enjoyable, ever experienced on this coast. Below will be found a full record of the doings of the week just ended:

THE RECEPTION AT THE PALACE.

His Majesty, King Kalakaua of the Hawaiian Islands, has the good taste to confess a weakness for the society of the fair sex, and has frequently intimated a desire to attend a dancing party where he might witness the subtle motions of the waltz to his heart's content. Indeed, a select ball in the metropolis of the Pacific is a sight calculated to fill with emotions one even more accustomed to the terpsichorean revels of the elite of San Francisco than is his Majesty of Sunny Hawaii. Agreeable to his expressed wish, and that his last evening in California might be filled with pleasant memories, the ladies of the Palace Hotel determined to tender to the jolly monarch a reception in the parlors

of the hotel, ere he departed upon his tedious ocean voyage to the Flowery Kingdom. Gigantic efforts were put forth by the ladies, and everything done that could add one *iota* to the perfection of detail or brilliancy of the whole fete. Last evening the auspicious event transpired, and a grander reception it has seldom, if ever, been allotted to a San Franciscan to witness. The ladies of the Invitation and Reception Committees may rest satisfied with their well-earned laurels. The arrangements were simply perfect; the list of guests was taken from the *creme de la creme* of our society, and the judgment of the delighted guests was a unanimous verdict of praise. The most wonderful circumstance in connection with last evening's affair was the astonishing rapidity with which the whole had been elaborated since the inception scarce one short week ago, and adds one more to the honors of the Committees.

The cards of invitation were engraved in script, on a heavy card, four by five and a quarter inches and read as follows:

*The Ladies of the Palace Hotel
request the pleasure of your company
Monday evening, February seventh,
at eight o'clock,
To meet His Majesty King Kalakaua,
R.S.V.P. Palace Hotel parlors.*

ARRIVAL OF THE GUESTS.

The guests began to arrive by nine o'clock, and were received by the ladies of the Reception Committee, of whom Mrs. Newlands was unfortunately and unavoidably absent. The Committee present were Mrs. Lugsdin, Mrs. John S. Hager, Mr., W. H. L. Barnes, Mrs. Henry Schmiedell and Mrs. Kinsey. The guests were all in full evening dress, the toilets displayed by the ladies being the most brilliant ever worn at a reception in San Francisco. Among the gentlemen a number of military and naval uniforms, with here and there one of the Diplomatic Service, served to break the monotony of sombre black dress suits, and added much to the general gorgeous effect. That none but the elect might obtain entrance within the sacred precincts of the reception salons, a pretty arrangement of pink was placed as a barrier at each side of the great corridor in front of the parlors. The entrances were guarded by dusky Cerberuses, in white neckties and dress suits, who were prepared to visit fearful punishments, upon he who should attempt to pass and had not the magic "open sesame." The band discoursed soft strains of melody, which were wafted through the corridors and were surreptitiously enjoyed by a scarcely less brilliant throng of Palace Hotel habitués. To adequately describe the magic scene enacted in the great white salons would be task a task beyond the skill of reportorial pencil. Suffice it to say that all that rich furniture, costly hangings, rare paintings and floods of warm light could do to enhance the brilliant tableaux were lavishly displayed. The parlors are three in number, the larger being in the centre, flanked on either hand by the smaller.

The reception will long be remembered by the fortunate guests who were permitted to witness this, one of the grandest social events in the history of the city. The major portion of the guests had all assembled before the advent of the royal cortege, the arrival of which had been delayed until half-past ten o'clock, at which hour the announcement of the arrival of the King was made. A flutter of excitement was visible, a whispered "here he comes" was passed through the parlors, and each couple took their stand to receive His Majesty. Precisely at half-past ten King Kalakaua entered the parlors, accompanied by Colonel Judd, his Chamberlain, Major McFarlane, of his staff, and Sir Claus Spreckels, and was presented to the ladies of the Reception Committee by Mr. George W. Smith, the chief clerk of the Palace. After being introduced to any of the ladies present, and chatting pleasantly with all, the King took his stand in front of the raised dais, upon the left hand, as the portals were entered, and was introduced to General Barnes and staff, General McComb and staff, and the remainder of the guests. The King was attired in plain evening dress, those of his suite being uniformed and wearing deep red sashes. The Royal Lancers were formed as follows: His Majesty, King Kalakaua and Mrs. John S. Hager; Colonel Judd and Mrs. Kinsey; Major McFarlane and Mrs. Schueler; Major-General Barnes, &c.—*S. F. Bulletin.*

THE Japan Weekly Mail,

A WEEKLY REVIEW OF
JAPANESE COMMERCE, POLITICS, LITERATURE, AND ART.

VOL. V. No. 10.]

Yokohama, March 12th, 1881.

[\$24 PER ANNUM.]

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The Japan Weekly Mail.

'FAIS CE QUE DOIS; ADVIENNE QUE POURRA.'

NOTICE TO CORRESPONDENTS.

No notice will be taken of anonymous correspondence. Whatever is intended for insertion in the JAPAN WEEKLY MAIL must be authenticated by the name and address of the writer, not for publication but as a guarantee of good faith.

It is particularly requested that all letters on business, relating to Advertisements, Job-printing, or Accounts, be addressed to the MANAGER.

And that literary contributions of every description be addressed to the EDITOR.

YOKOHAMA: SATURDAY, MARCH 12TH, 1881.

JAPANESE ERA 2541, MEIJI 14TH YEAR, 3RD MONTH, 12TH DAY.

DIED.

On the 4th of March, at the International Hospital of Hiogo, of typhoid fever accompanied with pneumonia, sub-lieutenant CHARLES-LEFEBVRE (of the French corvette *Champlain*), aged 21 years, a native of St. Malo, Ile de Vilaine.

The special despatch of a man-of-war to meet and bring home Mr. Shishido has been described as a somewhat fussy proceeding, but the public is seldom satisfied. Had the Japanese Plenipotentiary been left to find his way back in any steamer that chanced to be available, his Government would inevitably have been accused of neglect, or accredited with a desire to mark their disapproval of the Riukiu negotiations' unsuccessful conduct. This latter would obviously have been a mischievous impression, since it would have afforded occasion for a misconstruction of the failure's cause. Mr. Shishido's rank, too, prohibited any display of unconcern, and above all it is very conceivable that his detailed explanation of the situation was awaited with no little impatience. Be this as it may the *Kongo-kwan* proved a genuine "white elephant." Her passage eastward was expeditious enough, and her ascent of the Yang-tse very creditable in point of style and speed, but her officers seem to have ignored the tides altogether. For eight weary days she

was obliged to lie "neaped," and when she got away at last it was with more derision than dignity.

This was certainly a most unfortunate blunder, nor one bit less inexcusable because it was easily committed. If one of our own naval officers were in question, we should not have much hesitation in selecting an appropriate term for his moral condition, and though the commander of the *Kongo* may deserve a more lenient verdict, he cannot escape the imputation of having brought a good deal of ridicule on his countrymen. Surely the peculiarities of the Yang-tse's navigation ought to be by this time tolerably familiar to the officers in charge of Japan's sea-going men-of-war.

The *a. s. Oceanic*, which came into port on the 4th inst., brought six Japanese whose return was little looked for by their friends. They are natives of Taga in Mito, whence they set sail last November in a junk laden with salmon and other salted fish. Off Matsushima in Sendai they encountered a terrific gale, by which their vessel was completely disabled and five of the crew washed overboard. The remaining six managed to cling to the wreck for several days, and were ultimately picked up by a sailing vessel bound for San Francisco from Hongkong. The kind treatment they received on board this ship seems to have made a vivid impression on them, but the story is nothing new when told of men serving under the English flag.

We should not of course as a general rule take any notice of anonymous correspondence addressed to other journals, but the points raised by "Nemo" with regards to the *Fuso-kwan*, being of a scientific nature, may easily be misunderstood by the uninitiated. In the first place it may be as well to state that when we spoke of the *suspensions of galvanic action being diminished*, we simply recorded the latest opinion of foreign experts in the service of the Japanese Government. We were not ourselves disposed to endorse that opinion, and it must have been obvious to any one who read our note with the least attention that the sulphate of copper theory had reference to galvanic action, and by no means to the *formation of the sulphate in quantities* on the bottom of a vessel. This latter hypothesis would obviously have been both meaningless and extravagant. To make the matter clear to the general public, we may explain that the galvanic action which has proved so destructive to armoured ships is, for the most part, caused by a want of homogeneity in the iron of the plates, different qualities of metal in the presence of an electrolyte—the chlorine of sea water—supplying conditions similar to those that exist in an ordinary battery. Now it has been proved by experience that the seas in the neighbourhood of Chili, Peru and certain other South American shores—where copper formations are known to exist—are exceptionally injurious to iron ships, and it seemed to us theoretically possible that the presence of a small quantity of sulphate of copper might considerably increase the power of the water as an electrolyte. This was the sum and sub-

stance of our *sensational extravagance*, and in order that our readers may be able to judge whether our conjectures were altogether inconsistent with scientific conditions, we give here the result of some experiments made within the last few days by Mr. T. Gray, Professor of Physics at the Imperial College of Engineering. Mr. Gray says:—

A small quantity of copper sulphate dissolved in sea water would produce a marked difference in the galvanic action which takes place between the different parts of a ship when immersed in it. If the galvanic action taking place between two plates of iron in ordinary sea water be called 100, then the action in the same water plus $\frac{1}{1000}$ of copper sulphate will be about 140, and if $\frac{1}{100}$ of the sulphate be added the action will be about 250. This is the direct action between the plates and takes no account of the local action set up between different portions of the same plate. The local action is probably increased in a higher proportion, as it will occur in many cases between small copper plates deposited on the surface of the plate and the exposed iron, having in that case the full electromotive force of a copper iron couple. The action between a plate of copper and a plate of iron would be hundreds of times greater than that which usually takes place between different plates of iron. I examined a specimen of the water in the bay near the Forts off Shinagawa, but found no copper. It had a very low density for sea water and contained sulphate of Magnesia. But neither of these facts would influence the electrical action much. The water at Yokohama may, however, be very different. I may remark that the great difference of density between the surface, and deeper water in Yedo Bay may have a considerable effect. A current flows from the iron in the water at higher density, through the water, to the iron in the water of lower density. The iron in deep water would in this case be more corroded than that near the surface.

It need scarcely be said that the presence of sulphate of copper in any such quantities as those employed by Mr. Gray for experimental purposes, would be exceedingly unlikely, but the theory remains intact. Finally we would ask "Nemo" whether it is quite fair to accuse us of statements which we did not make. We did not say that there is (sic) *ample accommodation and skilled labour at Yokosuka*, but we did say that these exist in Japan, and it so happens that when we wrote these words, we were thinking of Nagasaki, where the *Minim*—which, by the way, is a sheathed vessel, though the *Iron Duke* is not—has lately been docked for the repair of damages from which galvanic action might have resulted. With "Nemo's" strictures on the conduct of this journal we have of course nothing to do, since they do not at all effect the question at issue, but it seems a pity that discussions of this sort cannot be carried on in a calmer and more scientific tone.

A review of the troops in garrison at Tokiyo was held last Tuesday on the general parade ground at Hibiya in honour of His Majesty the King of Hawaii. The parade was under the command of Lieut.-General Miyoshi, Colonel Shiguro acting as his adjutant. The day was raw, gloomy and about as little fitted for a review as possible, more especially as the ground was a mass of mud-heaps and puddles. It was not to be expected of course that the troops would do themselves much credit under such circumstances, and they did not. The performance was confined to an inspection by their Majesties, a march past and a general advance in line. The King of Hawaii has an excellent military seat—the very seat taught by our martinet riding regulations, to the grievous bodily hurt of many a stout soldier—but his martial carriage was somewhat marred by the puny dimensions of his charger, an ordinary Japanese pony. To European eyes these Japanese horses certainly convey anything but an idea of efficiency. The Emperor does well to ride round the ranks on his neat little Nambu cheanut, but

his large carriage horses standing near the saluting point, impress one irresistibly with the idea that they are the transformations of Cinderella's godmother, while the Japanese ponies are the original mice of the pumpkin coach. We cannot help thinking that the military authorities in Japan are a little too facile in the matter of general parades. Such things are more than rare at home during the winter season and notably when it is such a season as this. Few people understand everything that is implied by an Imperial Inspection, the Emperor arriving on the ground at 9.30 a.m. It implies that the troops fall in on their private parade-grounds at 7.15 a.m., that they march off at 7.45 and form up at the place of inspection by 8.30 or 8.45, so that they have to remain motionless for about 1½ hours before the inspection begins, and as much longer before they break into column for marching past. The King of Hawaii, who, it is said, finds the weather in Japan at present anything but endurable, would probably have been much better pleased to visit the men's barracks and see something of regimental interior economy, which is a more important matter and a not less reliable test of military efficiency than marching past or advancing in line.

The hospitality of his hosts has of course provided some amusement each day for the King of Hawaii, and Friday forenoon was accordingly devoted to an inspection of the Imperial College of Engineering, which is now justly considered one of the best evidences of successful progress Japan can show. His Majesty was received at the College by H. E. Yamao, Minister of Public Works; Mr. Otori, Director of the College and Mr. Dyer, Principal. The various class rooms and museums were visited in order, and the King shewed very keen interest in everything he saw, asking many pertinent questions which proved that his sight-seeing is not by any means of the usual perfunctory nature. In leaving the College he congratulated Mr. Yamao on his connection with an institution which would do credit to any country in the world, and complimented Mr. Dyer on the success which had evidently attended his able management.

The remains of the late Mr. Sameshima, Minister for Japan at Paris, reached Yokohama on the 11th instant, in the M. S. S. *Volga*. They were received by their Excellencies Terashima, Kawamura and Saigo, with Messrs. Uyeno and Kusumoto, and we understand that arrangements have been made by these gentlemen—acting under Imperial instructions—for the performance of funeral ceremonies on a scale befitting the rank of the deceased, and not unworthy of the esteem in which he was justly held by his sovereign.

The last telegram from the Cape, if it be thoroughly reliable, strikes us as one of the most serious disasters that have overtaken our troops for many a day. Sir G. Colley, it will be remembered, had failed in his attempt to force the position held by the Boers and was consequently acting on the defensive. After his repulse he reported himself safely intrenched and capable of defending his lines until the arrival of reinforcements. Now, however, his death and the total defeat of his forces are announced. This means nothing more or less than that an intrenched camp held by British troops has been attacked and taken by a body of undisciplined rustics. The thing is scarcely credible. Sir G. Colley had already given proof that he appreciated the courage and capabilities of the enemy to whom he was opposed, and it is inconceivable that he would have hazarded a second assault on the Boers' position under the circumstances in which he was placed. But the fact is that to military eyes this telegram does not read like either a defeat of the British

forces acting on the defensive within intrenched lines, or the repulse of a renewed attack on the enemy's position. It will be observed that six companies are said to have been engaged on our side. Now six companies means at most three hundred and fifty men, not a moiety of the number defending the camp nor yet of the force that would have ventured to resume the offensive. The truth probably is that the general communications were seriously threatened, and that he moved out to protect them at the head of a few companies. He was defeated with a loss, so far as we can judge, of two hundred and fifty men, but the camp may still remain intact, though its defenders are now sadly reduced and are at the same time exposed to all the grave consequences of severed communications.

Retail dealers throughout the provinces are said to be greatly inconvenienced by the scarcity of copper coins and paper money of the smaller denominations, insomuch that people are openly advocating an issue by the Treasury of two and five sen notes. It seems strange that this paucity of copper money should have become so exceptionally apparent of late. Considerable quantities have certainly been shipped to China, where the people do not seem to be quite so conservative about their money tokens as they are in other matters, but this fact is altogether inadequate to explain the dearth existing in all the provincial towns. Can it be that in their unreasoning mistrust of kinsatsu, people have begun to hoard copper as well as silver and gold? Such a proceeding would not be by any means without precedent, nor a whit less irrational than the panic which persuades men to acquire everything within reach of their resources, whether it be an article of use or an object of virtue, rather than keep in their possession paper which has lost caste in their eyes. If this process of hoarding has attained anything like the dimensions rumour describes, it furnishes a very strong argument against the inexpediency of attempts to appreciate the currency by reducing its amount without changing its character. Every dollar issued by the Treasury for purposes of arbitrary redemption would find its way into some strong-box or hiding place, and it is conceivable that even when kinsatsu were at a premium at the great trade centres, the country folk would still regard them with the same ratio of esteem as when two hundred paper cents hardly purchased a silver yen. The Government will do well to watch this newly developed tendency with the utmost closeness. It is not a question of the amount hoarded, but of the sentiment that inspires the hoarder. We have had in our own time some very curious examples of extravagances brought about by fashion in Japan, and it is quite within the limits of possibility that kinsatsu at two hundred may be another item in the story before long.

The late payment of interest on the national foreign loan—three hundred and eighty thousand dollars—is said to have been issued from the Treasury for the first time in gold.

Competency to teach a language and ability to write a book about it seem to us two very distinct matters. The review we published last week was a review of Mr. Dixon's work, not of Mr. Dixon. That gentlemen may, for ought we know to the contrary, be a most excellent professor, but our opinion of his authorship remains unchanged. To infer, however, that anything we have written in this journal is intended to demonstrate the necessity of an acquaintance with the Japanese language in order to teach English efficiently to Japanese, would be an utterly erroneous conclusion. We have no such belief. Ample evidence to the contrary is before us in the results achieved at the Tokyo University and the Engineering College, where, so far as we know, the teachers of

language are not Japanese scholars, and where the students speak and write English in a way that reflects equal credit on their own assiduity and their instructors' efficiency. We certainly do hold that the only really logical and rational method of imparting a living tongue is by a comparison of its syntactical structures with those of the language spoken by the learner, but if this expression of faith be construed into an impeachment of Mr. Dixon's capacities, it would seem to follow that he, in his own person, represents the whole body of foreign teachers in Japan, either because he is the best English, or the worst Japanese, scholar among them. We believe that Mr. Dixon would be the last person to arrogate such a position. His book is not without evidence of considerable ability and originality, but he will pardon us if we emphatically declare, that long experience makes us very sceptical about the possibility of writing a useful "Help" for Japanese students until one has been a little more than six months in the country.

It is a little difficult to credit the report which reaches us from China through the foreign press to the effect that the Japanese Representative, Mr. Shishido, shortly before his departure from Peking, remonstrated with the Tsungli-yamen because a deputation from Riukiu had been received there. This deputation can have been nothing else than an embassy bearing the usual letter of congratulation to the Chinese Emperor on the occasion of the New Year. Now Mr. Shishido left Peking on the 20th of January, whereas the Chinese New Year fell on the 31st of that month; consequently though the deputation had very probably reached the capital before Mr. Shishido's departure, his remonstrance, if addressed to the Tsungli-yamen, would have been rather premature. That such a deputation should have been sent at all, under existing circumstances, seems a little strange at first sight, but is in reality easily explained. Okinawa has become a Japanese prefecture, but for all that there is a certain section of the islanders whose attachment to China remains unchanged. They are the descendants of thirty six Chinese officers who crossed over to Riukiu and settled at a village called Kume, when the Min dynasty of Tartars occupied the Celestial throne. Naturally their influence has always been thrown into the scale against Japan, and to their exertions have been due the regular despatch of a biennial tribute, and of an annual letter of congratulation, to their native country. This tribute owes its continuance, however, to something more than loyalty. The Chinese never failed to repay it by presents fully three times its value, and these when sold in Riukiu, proved a very comfortable addition to the income of the nobility; an addition of almost net profit in its totality, for it need scarcely be observed that the tribute itself cost nothing more than the expense of forwarding it. China is thus endeared to the ruling class in Riukiu not by consanguinity alone but by beneficence also, and though the general mass of the people are undoubtedly favorable to Japan, we shall probably hear of sundry abortive intrigues before the islands became an indisputably integral part of the Japanese Empire. This embassy of congratulation—if indeed it really was sent to Peking—must be regarded as an attempt on the part of the Riukiu nobles to re-awaken China's interest, and possibly to persuade the Tsungli-yamen that the Celestial braves may expect something more substantial than devotion should they pay a visit to the Okinawa islands, but China has never shown herself remarkably giddy or headstrong. War she does not and cannot possibly desire, especially when the pretext is so utterly inadequate to the cost, but come what may she is scarcely likely to choose as battle ground a place extremely difficult of access, far

removed from any possible base of operations, and already occupied by the enemy.

It is announced that the Military Band will perform throughout the day at the Ueno Exhibition on the 20th inst. in honour of the Shunki-Kôreisai or Vernal festival of prayer for the Souls of the departed Emperors. The Exhibition certainly looks a little more complete than it did a week ago, but a very large number of specimens have still to come in, and the continuance of unfavorable weather has totally prevented any work out of doors, so that the grounds present the same appearance of mud and misery. Visitors, however, are not at all deterred by these imperfections. There is a steady attendance from day to day of four or five thousand resolute folk, who make their way good humouredly through the rain and slush, and seem very much disappointed at finding that every article in the colossal shop is marked "sold." Men who croak about bad times and commercial crises must be rather troubled to account for the state of things this industrial enterprise has made apparent. Nothing is too expensive to find a purchaser, and the fact that their goods are in such extraordinary demand has exercised a sort of reflex influence upon sellers, so that their consequential ways are causing scarcely less grumbling than their inability to supply everybody with everything. Of course, as we before hinted, the officials connected with the Exhibition are supposed to have assimilated the lion's share of the things, but outsiders have not by any means come off portionless, especially a certain well known German firm whose agent's name is to be found on the back of many specimens, by no means the least costly or æsthetic. One is puzzled to conceive by what method things are "bought to arrive," but such has been the plan pursued in many instances, and notably in the case of a tea house of which nothing is as yet apparent but the site. It purports to be an exact copy of a building made two centuries and a half ago by desire of Sôtan, grandson of the renowned Sen-no-Rikiu, while the furniture and utensils are the very articles that Sôtan himself used, a fact which in these days of *Cha-no-Yu renaissance* is enough to turn the heads of all the *dilettanti* in Tokiyo. Up to the present the exhibitor's assertions have been the only proof of the thing's existence; a sufficient proof for somebody, however, it would seem, since a red ticket is already attached to the site of the pavilion, and every stone, stick and appurtenance, bargained for and sold. All this goes to prove that whether the Exhibition be an artistic success or not, it is certainly a monetary one, so far at least as the exhibitors are concerned, and we must content ourselves with putting it down among the list of anomalies in the history of commerce, its contemporary parallel in our own case being Bluff property, which has suddenly developed a propensity to appreciation regardless of "godowns filled with unsaleable goods."

The proceedings of a very subtle set of rascals have lately been brought to light through the exertions of the Tokiyo detectives. The older residents of Yokohama will no doubt remember that about the period of the Restoration extensive forgeries of ancient Japanese money were carried on at various places. Many a majestic looking slab of gold that found its way in those days into the hands of European curio collectors, was nothing more than a specimen of skilled fraud; not to be easily detected, however, for like everything else produced in bygone years, these gilt effigies were masterpieces of their kind. The affair was discovered before long and the forgers punished after the fashion of the time; a fashion which at any rate precluded them from engaging

in any similar enterprises in this world, but did not suffice to deter others from following their example. The band of coiners, whose ringleaders have just been arrested, seem to have gone to work in a most systematic way. They formed a company with a capital of sixty thousand yen and employed agents here and there to keep them posted in the local facilities for "placing" a batch of their merchandise. Report does not say much of their dexterity as producers, but the *Oban* and *Koban* of the Keichô (1596-1615) and Kiyôhō (1716-1786) periods are too clumsy to require very great skill in an imitator. It seldom happened either that the forgers found any very accurate knowledge of their coins among people who had never seen anything of the kind before, and who like certain trustful purchasers of rubbish direct from *Daimiyos'* collections, never thought of questioning the authenticity of gold tokens which had all the air of the nobility they were said to have belonged to. Large quantities were therefore sold to simple country-folk, or deposited with pawnbrokers, which latter fact is the only redeeming feature in the whole transaction. Several of the band are still at large, but their arrest is no doubt a mere question of time. Meanwhile we recommend our readers to be very careful before they invest in any elliptical gold tokens. Several "great bargains" of this species have been lately seeking to enrich the fortunate, and we can scarcely hope to detect a blemish in what pawnbrokers have passed as sound.

In our last number we explained the nature of the new building act for Tokiyo, which came into force from the 25th of last month, and remarked that its provisions might possibly bear with a certain amount of harshness on the poorer inhabitants of the "Lines." The same idea seems to have occurred to the framers of the act, for we find that Mr. Matsuda, Governor of Tokiyo, subsequently laid before the Local Assembly (*Kubuk'wai*) a proposal to exempt from "house and land taxes" all persons affected by the schemes. The aggregate amounts of these taxes are insignificant—viz: house tax, 18,541 yen, and land or local tax 1,573 yen—so that the measure would only have afforded a very nominal relief. At any rate the proposition was strenuously opposed by the Assembly on the grounds, first, of its trivial nature, and second, of its unjust tendency; for since the taxes would have to be procured from some quarter, nothing would remain but to levy them on other districts, where they would probably prove much more oppressive, inasmuch as the inhabitants of the "Lines" are among the richest and most thriving folk in the capital. The act too is designed they said, for the benefit of the city in general, and the effect of its provisions on particular districts ought not therefore to be considered, while at the same time it was essential not to lose sight of the fact that property in the "Lines" would be largely enhanced in value by the proposed improvements, and the owners of that property were consequently not entitled to any extraordinary indulgence. The Governor's proposal accordingly fell through and on the whole it seems to us that equity was on the side of his opponents. Probably nine-tenths of the people in the "Lines" would long ago have consented to expend on improvements in house construction even larger sums than they are now required to disburse, could they have been assured of any uniformity of action, but it would obviously have been absurd for one man to put tiles on his roof if his neighbour was at liberty to employ shingles. Government interference was needed to obviate such contingencies, and it is a matter of infinite congratulation that efficient action is at last about to be taken.

A perusal of the act shows that the scheme advocated

some time ago in the columns of this journal is to be carried out almost in its integrity. The houses in the "Lines," i. e. in certain streets which traverse the most populous portions of the metropolis, are to be built of brick, stone, or plaster similar to that employed in the construction of godowns, while shingle roofs are completely interdicted. With regard to houses already standing in the "Lines," and not complying with the conditions of the Act, their reconstruction within certain periods is ordered. This will affect the inhabitants of Ginza, where almost every house has its kitchen and bath-room in the form of a lean-to; appendages that furnish strong evidence of improvidence or incompetence on the part of an architect who forgot that men's dwellings are generally furnished with places to cook their food and wash their bodies.

Returns just furnished to the Municipality of Tokiyo show the number of houses in the fifteen urban districts to be a hundred and seventy two thousand four hundred and eighty two, covering an area of about two thousand six hundred acres, while the six suburban districts have a total of seventy five thousand four hundred and fifty four houses with a covered area of nine hundred and forty five acres. It would thus appear that each house in the city occupies on the average twenty two square yards of space, against thirty square yards for each building in the suburbs. The sum of the above figures would however represent a total somewhat larger than Tokiyo proper, since though some of the suburban districts as Yotsuya, Shinagawa etc, may fairly be included in the city, others as Itabashi and Shinjuku can scarcely with propriety be said to belong to it.

The Ex-King of Rinkiu is, they say, about to import a party of young ladies from that country to keep him company in his exile. We cannot congratulate His Majesty on his good taste if he prefers the disfigured specimens of womanhood Okinawa furnishes to the trim little beauties of Japan. Perhaps, however, it is a question of quantity rather than quality, for it appears that the royal prerogative in Chiujojima included, among other comfortable items, the services of seven or eight noble damsels, and it is just possible that under the influence of foreign contact Japanese women have been so spoiled that they actually object to connubial gregariousness. The Rinkiu ladies will be guaranteed against similar flippancy by their charming habit of besmearing themselves permanently with ink, for although the Japanese profess rather a predilection for blackened teeth and shaved eyebrows, they have, it appears, a frivolous objection to smutty fingers and artificial moustaches. In Rinkiu girls begin to bedeck themselves after this fashion at a very tender age. It is not unusual to see a little lass of seven or eight with just one tiny black dot on the upper joint of her thumb, and so long as she is in her teens she goes on merrily enough, no doubt, adding dot after dot each year, but unless her moral constitution is somewhat different from anything existing in Europe, she must one day or other experience a modicum of chagrin at the consciousness that she carries about an indelible record of her age on her hands and face. History, however, does not tell us that the women of Rinkiu ever made any attempt to emancipate themselves from a custom so unpleasantly frank. On the contrary the only serious remonstrance ever formulated appears to have come from a King who ruled at Shiuri in the middle ages. He, indeed, went so far as to frame an edict directing that ladies should in future keep their hands clean, but strange to say his queen persuaded him to abandon the project, pointing out that so peculiar an institution must owe its origin to a

proportionately imperative reason, and that the deity, or Kin-man-mou as she called him, would probably resent any frivolous interference. Events have sometimes very inexplicable sequences. We may safely assert that but for the interference of this superstitious queen, His Ex-majesty Shotai would scarcely be in a position to-day to furnish himself with seven helpmates, for without their smutty fingers such a household would be exposed to some very perturbing influences in Tokiyo.

The 25th of February, 1881, will be a day long remembered in the province of Yechigo, for it witnessed the fall of an avalanche by which six or seven houses at the foot of Mount Mikuni were destroyed, and all their inhabitants, with the exception of one little child, killed. The appearance of the corpses when drawn from the snow is said to have been very extraordinary. No wound of any sort was visible, nor yet any discoloration, but the bones of the legs and arms seemed to have been changed into flesh, so completely were they pulverized. The child was found in a nook under the tie-beam of a cottage, where it had been imprisoned for many hours without apparently suffering any inconvenience. Its father had been carried by the avalanche some three hundred yards down the valley. The snow is reported to have accumulated to a depth of fully ten feet in certain parts of the north-western provinces, and the Yechigo route as well as the path of Wada on the Nakasendo are impracticable. Yokohama and Tokio have not escaped either, for up to the present this mis-called spring has scarcely brought us one genial day, and instead of plum-blossoms and holiday-making, we have rain, sleet and gloom. One advantage Japan certainly has in the matter of climate; its weather follows an almost invariable routine, differing perhaps two or three days from year to year, but on the average admitting well-nigh certain prediction.

We notice the appointment, on the 8th instant, of a new Judge at the Yokohama Saibansho. Mr. Taketaro Megata graduated at the Law School of Harvard University, U.S., and was admitted to practice in the U. S. Consular Court in Japan, in December, 1879. He was subsequently attached to the Department of Justice, where he remained until the date of his present appointment, for which his antecedents seem to betoken exceptional qualifications.

JUDGES AT A DISTANCE.

SINCE the Duke of Montague's celebrated "Bottle-trick" swindle filled the Haymarket theatre in 1748, it has been generally confessed that the bounds of public credulity have no attainable limit of elasticity. In all ages men will probably be found foolish enough to stand waiting till a Signor Villocrop suspends himself from a fifty foot pole by a "shenese" cord, or to pay fifty guineas for a night's repose on a Dr. Graham's "Electro-celestial Couch of Hymen." We shrewdly suspect, however, that neither Signor Villocrop nor Dr. Graham would find much congenial material for such charlatanism among the hard-headed, business-driven communities of foreigners resident in China and Japan. Literally and figuratively their members may say with the Yankee skipper, "I've traveled," and indeed if the circumstances of daily life have any influence in sharpening faculties, it ought to be a very difficult task to make husks do duty for grain with such experts as are found here. But the fact is that a law of work obtains in moral matters no less

than in physical: what is gained in one direction is lost in another. Exceptional activity in some things is accompanied by compensatory indolence in others, nor is sanity of mind and body separable from this equilibrium. The merchant who with infinite toil keeps the complicated machinery of modern commerce in adjustment, driving it perhaps at a pressure that is almost precarious, will not give himself much concern to balance theological arguments, for example, nor yet to investigate the truth or falsehood of everything he finds in the journals that contain his advertisements. Weariness, apathy, selfishness, call it by what name you please, this is a moral phase developed sooner or later by the circumstances of our exile, and we shall all recognize its existence if we take the trouble to compare the events that come within the field of our vision with the impressions they produce upon our psychical retina. Unless they affect us individually they are scarcely reflected at all. Life is too short, we say, or its inevitable concerns too tyrannical, to suffer any frivolous defection from the goal we shall scarcely find strength to reach at all, and so we drift along, sometimes indeed suffering from the scantiness of mutual sympathy, but in the end avoiding much moral friction unwholesome to brain fibre.

The same principle that fosters this inertness among one section of our community, begets a corresponding temerity among another. Those whose duty is to provide pastime for the jaded man-of-business in his hours of ease, knowing that his interest must be spurred, and that provided it be so spurred, he will not take much trouble to examine the rowel, draw material unhesitatingly from every accessible source, and find their rule of conduct in a slight modification of the Scotchman's adage; "be entertaining, with veracity if you can, but—be entertaining." Thus it happens that we, on our side of the water, sometimes incur the umbrage of our Chinese confrères, and encroaching upon their domain, are expelled not without caustic derision, while they on the other hand, are quite as often guilty of similar trespass. A short time ago, for example, the Shanghai press commented severely on the presumption of the Yokohama journalists, who, if they were to be judged by their writings, knew a great deal more about China than those whose constant presence in that Empire afforded much better opportunities of acquiring knowledge. This certainly had a semblance of truth *a priori*, but it is extremely entertaining now to observe how unhesitatingly our erstwhile critics have themselves assumed the rôle they then condemned. For in a few brief, and peremptory sentences they describe a totally new phase of national character in Japan, and declare the people of this country to be in a condition of partial inebriation which impels them to "break a lance with anyone they can come across, provided he is weaker and less determined than themselves." A marvellous discovery this in sooth! A discovery couched in terms that suggest a definition of its own origin, for this very inebriety that induces bellicose propensities, is invariably accompanied by a disposition to suspect all the world of intemperance and credit oneself alone with sobriety. On what evidence is Japan accused of a "pruriency for military renown"? Once only since she entered upon the path of progress trodden by all the civilized world, have her foreign relations been at all disturbed, and history has most amply justified her action on

that occasion. Little military renown was to be looked for in a contest with the barbarous Formosans, but a worthier end was to be attained—an end which social economists unanimously declare to be the primary and most legitimate object of all governments—the protection of their subjects' lives and property. England, always foremost in the march of enterprise, is constantly brought into contact with conditions that obtain beyond the limits of civilization, and is thus compelled, time after time, to take action precisely similar to that of Japan in the Formosan affair. Nobody thinks, however, of charging England with a thirst for military renown. Her title to that sort of glory is pretty clearly established already, and the world looks on unconcernedly while she wages a hundred wars with adversaries who, after the fashion of the venomous reptiles, are doomed to be crushed even as they bite. But when a country like Japan is concerned, the case looks very different. Confronted by a necessity identical in every particular, she is forbidden to do her duty on peril of comparison with the "elevated" Irishman who challenges the world to "tread on the tail of his coat."

We cannot persuade ourselves to believe that such a line of argument is seriously pursued. Japan's accusers—unless their words be utterly idle—must have some other evidence to adduce, and that evidence can only be sought in the conduct of the Rinkiu affair. Now the most bigoted pessimist will not venture to assert that Japan contemplated or desired a war with the Chinese Empire when she included among her newly formed prefectures a group of islands long regarded as a dependency of Satsuma. It has been pretended that her action in this matter was neither courteous nor judicious, but we ought not to forget that any reference to China would have been a virtual acknowledgment of that power's right to interfere, a right which Japan did not for a moment admit, and one which western jurists have found it impossible to support. At any rate neither nations nor individuals have hitherto made it a custom to preface their proceedings by inviting their neighbours' remonstrances. The business of life only contemplates that sort of thing in the marriage ritual, and though it will probably be a condition of the millenium, it is unfortunately not yet practicable. Japan assumed a position which she believed to be obligatory, and from General Grant, down to the humblest of politicians, everybody who has since given the question a moment's serious thought, confesses that to retire from that position would be a moral impossibility. But did she subsequently refuse to enter into negotiations with China, or did she, afflicted by a "pruriency for military renown," oppose frivolous obstacles to a peaceful adjustment? Quite the contrary. She not only accepted General Grant's wise suggestion without hesitation, but she also made at the outset a concession which, though comparatively trivial, was emphatically corroborative of her pacific disposition. She consented to send her plenipotentiary representative to Peking, or in other words, she agreed to plead her cause before the court whose jurisdiction she denied. China, be it observed, would make no such concession, but then China was not possessed by a prurient longing for martial fame. With the subsequent course of the negotiations that ensued the world is already acquainted. Japan agreed to

a partition of the islands, asking for nothing in return except that her diplomatic relations with China should be placed on the same footing as those of other nations. If China had openly rejected this proposal, rational men could not have differed in their definition of her attitude. She did not reject it. She had recourse to an expedient with which she is tolerably familiar, and for which the history of other countries unfortunately supplies sundry precedents. She declined to ratify a treaty drawn up by officers on whom she had pretended to confer irresponsible authority. It has been suggested that a woman's caprice is the explanation of this breach of faith, for so we must continue to call it until a very different version of the affair is established. The Empress of the East desired, they say, some occasion to assert her authority, and found it, unfortunately, in this Riukiu question. For ought we know, this may be true. The motive principle of the automaton chess-player was not more unintelligible to a rustic viewing its performance for the first time, than the secret influences that direct that complex machine called the Chinese Government are inscrutable to us. A country that may at any moment be exposed to mortal peril by the whim of a woman or the croquet of a cabinet, is an object of pity not of anger, and if China finds herself in this position now, she deserves all the consideration that Japan is disposed to shew her. Still the fact remains that, whether by her misfortune or her fault, she failed to grasp the hand of friendship her neighbour held out to her, and from the imputation to which her conduct consequently exposes her, there is no escape. But what is there here that fixes upon Japan the reputation of a "pruriency for military renown?" Nothing that ordinary scrutiny can detect, unless indeed the manifestation of a reluctance to engage in hostilities be considered a method of inviting attack.

We are not left entirely in the dark, however. Three definite statements are advanced by Japan's detractors: that her attention is directed to warlike preparations; that her government is making strenuous efforts to put the army on a war footing and to fill the arsenals with war material, and that gold and silver is being hoarded up in the treasury, all payments except for improved guns and war material being suspended. Now assuming all this to be true, it is very plain that if such things are to be admitted as evidence of a "pruriency for renown," every country which refuses to be found unprepared in the day of battle must be found guilty of similar madness. There is no escape from the conclusion, hopelessly irrational as it seems. But in the present case it happens that these three statements are one and all absolutely false. Japan is not engrossed in warlike preparations; is not making strenuous efforts to put her army on a war footing and to amass war material, and is not, we regret to say, hoarding gold and silver in her treasury. Not one tittle of reliable evidence could possibly be produced in support of such a theory. Some capital may indeed be made out of the construction of fortifications to protect Tokiyo Bay, but it will scarcely be pretended, we presume, that these works have reference to a war with China. The Government at Pekin may have two iron-clads on the stocks and two hundred thousand "braves" on foot, but it will be many a long day before the yellow dragon creeps as far East as Sagami and Saru-

jima. In very truth the whole thing sounds more like a clumsy joke than anything else to us who see the attention of the Japanese people directed, not to military preparations, but to industrial exhibitions, and who have just heard the Emperor and Prince Kita Shirakawa declare that the prosperity of the empire depends on the industry of its inhabitants and on the welfare of commerce. Our friends across the water may be very much better qualified to diagnose our condition than we are ourselves, but they will scarcely deny us the right to be a little sceptical of their ability, when the one unassailable fact they advance among a very ample following of fiction is this entertaining platitude:—"We have only to wait the progress of events to know whether these two powers intended putting themselves in battle array against each other."

HORSE-RACING IN JAPAN.

OF all English things nothing is more essentially English than the thoroughbred horse. He is an institution round which public interest centres with unabating keenness, and although the history of his career is disfigured by innumerable instances of inhumanity and fraud, our gentlest dames and most worshipful patricians point to him with a pride that other nations find inexplicable. The truth is that, performing the two rôles of race-horse and sire, he is the representative of an absorbing pastime and an important benefit. On the turf he provides an amusement which has become a national necessity; at the stud he begets the stock which has won us so many triumphs on the hunting and battle fields alike. When Scarlett's "heavy hundreds" rode through the Muscovite thousands at Balaklava, or when a few squadrons of dragoons and a small battalion of Sikhs shattered Li's immense phalanx of Chinese "braves" at the Peiho, Englishmen congratulated each other on the weight and mettle of their horses not less than on the courage and nerve of their soldiers. Nor was this view unwarrantable. Russians and Chinese alike made the mistake of forgetting that the effective power of a body in motion is represented by the product of its mass and velocity, and when they pulled up to a walk, nay even halted, to receive our charge, they placed themselves at a disadvantage much greater than anything entailed by differences in horses or strength. This was a palpable error in tactics; an error which Japanese cavalry would not be likely to imitate, but for all that, under existing conditions, a similar contest must inevitably have for them a similar issue. Smart troopers they undoubtedly are—indeed we have no hesitation in saying that whether in the ménage or on parade they display all the most essential qualities of efficient cavalry—but mounted on the light weedy cattle their country provides, they would be overborne by sheer weight in a collision with western dragoons—swept away and annihilated like unarmed infantry.

The point is not perhaps of vital importance seeing that no such contingency is likely to arise, but it furnishes the most easily demonstrated proof of the necessity Japan is under to introduce a better strain of blood into her horses. What has been done hitherto in this direction does not appear very successful. Up to the present the progeny of the western sire and the Japanese dam are disfigured, for the most part, by the same faults, weakness of loin and disproportionate length of pastern. We are still,

however, in the first generation, and when we compare the English thoroughbred of to-day with his progenitors previous to the time of the Kehilan Ras-el-Fedawi, it seems premature to declare that the American or Arabian sire is incapable of transmitting his qualities through the medium of Japanese blood. Be this as it may, there can be no doubt that public interest in the matter requires to be kept alive, and for this purpose some object is needed very much more proximate than the ultimate improvement of the breed of horses. That object is provided by racing, and recognizing this, we discover in the programme of the next Spring Meeting at Yokohama, certain points which seem at once unfortunate and not irremediable.

It is not of course to be supposed that our community as a whole can be induced to regard the matter from a Japanese standpoint. The course at Nigishi is to them, and must for the moment at any rate remain, a mere place of pastime. They give their money and their time for amusement and nothing more, neither does it much concern them whether or not they are destined to continue for ever taking their morning spins on fiddle-headed ponies, with flat sides, drooping quarters, upright shoulders, and narrow hips. Three holidays in the spring and three at the fall, much good-fellowship and a modicum of gentle excitement—these are objects amply incentive, and for a time they were successfully attained, until little by little noxious influences creeping in, converted the happy meetings of former days into—well, let us draw our pen through this part of the history. The club has been resuscitated at no small pains and on a footing that seems to promise permanent well-being, not, however, as an institution supported by foreigners alone, but as one of which the Japanese element constitutes an important factor. The benefits likely to accrue from this addition, or to speak more correctly, its absolute essentiality, received conclusive demonstration at the time. So long as we possessed the monopoly of racing we were able to count on a supply of tolerably fair stock, and the griffin plate generally brought out a good show of promising competitors; but when the Japanese become our rivals, with the cavalry remounts at their disposal for turf purposes, and a number of young half-breds coming forward every season, the events at Nigishi in which native cattle alone were concerned degenerated into a mere fiasco, and we were forced either to abandon racing altogether or to import Chinese ponies at a ruinous expense. Other equally important and not less obvious considerations recommended the coalition, but we need not enter into them here, for we presume that all those who belong to the united club appreciate its *raison d'être* and desire to preserve its integrity. Will they be surprised then if we tell them that their wish seems likely to be defeated and that the danger lies in matters admitting easy reform.

The main interest of the Japanese members must inevitably centre on the performance of the half-breds. It is to this strain that they look for the amelioration of the native blood, and everything else is more or less a side issue. Five races for half-breds have therefore been wisely left upon the programme, but a fatal change in the conditions is either contemplated or accomplished. The weights in future, it seems, are to be for inches alone, without any allowance for age. Now the ultimate effect of this law is not in the least obscure. Each remove from

the native blood may reasonably be expected to bring with it an increase of size. The three years old of the second generation will be a bigger horse than the seven year old of the first, but that the former will be able, with a surcharge, to stay against the latter, or that they would be fairly matched at even weights, is inconceivable. A minimum of height with a maximum of development will thus be the chief desiderata in the racer, and the useful connection of the turf and the stud will be effectually severed. We do not mean to say that the desire of taking a place in ten or a dozen comparatively insignificant events at Nigishi each year is likely to weigh much with breeders. It will be merely a question of selecting the cattle best adapted to the conditions laid down. The main purpose of introducing foreign blood will be pursued on the whole in its integrity, but so far as the Nippon Race Club is concerned, theory and practice will be at variance. The small horse will be at a premium, the large at a discount, and it is quite irrational to expect that the Japanese will support a principle so inimical to the attainment of the end they have in view.

Then again the whole scale of weights seems to have been fixed without any reference to the change in the constitution of the Club. The Japanese who can ride 9 st. 12 lbs. without carrying lead is quite exceptional. This amounts to a penalty, as all experience proves. Many complaints have been made by Japanese jockies on the subject, and it certainly seems scarcely equitable to determine the normal weight in accordance with Foreign standards alone. If there be any honest intention of encouraging native competition some concessions are unavoidable, and a reduction of this normal weight from 188 to 180 lbs., say, would greatly benefit Japanese, without seriously inconveniencing foreign riders.

The diminution in the number of mixed races is a step in the right direction, but three still remain, and in our opinion this is too many. A mixed race under the existing bye-laws is almost a foregone conclusion. Out of eight such events at the last two meetings a Japanese pony was only once successful, and a like result is morally certain in the future. It may very fairly be urged that first-class native cattle are practically inaccessible to foreigners, and that mixed races are consequently the only equitable expedient for controlling the superior opportunities of Japanese owners. But we have good reason for believing that an honest desire to remove this disability exists among the native members of the N. R. Club. As for the means, they are simple enough. A commission to the various Prefects would ensure a selection of the best horses in the producing districts, and on the assembly of the whole batch at Tokiyo, the most likely animals could be culled out and divided by lot among the foreign and native owners. Such a scheme presents no difficulties, and would, we are persuaded, be carried out with the utmost good faith so far as the Japanese are concerned. As the programme stands at present it may be said that there are ten races for China ponies and eight for Japanese, or in other words, ten events entirely in the hands of foreigners against eight in which native owners have a hypothetical and by no means permanent advantage. Thus supposing—though in doing so we shall be making an assumption scarcely warranted by experience—that the races for half-breds fall entirely to Japanese, two to

one will very nearly represent the ratio of events favorable to foreign and native stables respectively. A very slight concession in this matter would probably suffice to conciliate the Japanese. From what we have been able to gather, they would be willing on their side to take the programme of the last autumn meeting as a basis, and to exchange one race for half-breds against three mixed races, dividing these four events equally between Chinese and Japanese ponies. Surely this is even less than equity suggests, always provided, as we have before remarked, that there is any real wish for permanency of coalition.

One other point occurs to us. It is the old and much mooted question of subscription. There is too much difference in this respect between the Yokohama and Tokiyo Clubs. Owners of crack ponies and half-breds will not perhaps cavil at an annual payment of twenty dollars, but three yen a month is a serious consideration to an ordinary Japanese gentleman, especially when he can have quite as much amusement at a smaller cost and with less trouble elsewhere. All past experience justifies a prediction that this payment will eventually prove prohibitive. This, however, is altogether a question of expediency. It ought not to be difficult to cast a balance between the contingent results of a slightly reduced subscription, and a secession of all the Japanese members *en masse*. Not perhaps that the latter contingency is immediately imminent. It will probably be deferred for a time by influences having no direct connection with the Club's career, but that it is ultimately inevitable, in default of the modifications we have indicated, something more than surmise induces us to assert.

ADVERTISING.

IT is very true but how is it to be done? If newspapers could exercise an efficient censorship in the matter of their advertisements, or, still better, if they were altogether responsible for them, the sum of human sins would no doubt be appreciably diminished. All this has occurred to us many a time before the keyless watches of the Rodanow Company made us the object of our contemporary's criticism. Possibly in future ages when the earth's orbit shall have receded from its limit of maximum eccentricity, and the northern hemisphere's glacial epoch shall consequently have begun to pass away, antiquarians discussing the polity of this century by the aid of our fossilized relics will point with amusement to this strange anomaly, that with a phalanx of enactments to prohibit fraud, the expenditure of a few shillings enabled any rascally adventurer to place a specious description of his spurious wares side by side with the announcements of a legitimate commerce. The evil is patent, but for the moment irremediable. It is one of those trade immoralities against which no individual may struggle except at the peril of his solvent existence. The unconscientiousness is general and its remedy must be general too, but as to the probable period of cure, he would be a marvellously prescient man who ventured to utter a prediction. Twenty centuries have seen no change. From the advertisement on the statue of Neptune at Plinnum, offering a reward to anyone who should find and take care of Ulysses' lost horses, down to the puff of the Anglo-Bengalee Disinterested Loan and Life Insurance Company, the same old story has been repeated time after time; skillful cozenage and com-

ical credulity. Probably too in every age there have been Pecksniffs to cry "shame" on such proceedings. That most inimitable of Tartuffes, leaning back in his easy chair at the Blue Dragon, and lisping "fie fie!" as he listened to Mr. Tigg Montague's suggestions about constructing our fortunes on the weaknesses of our fellows, finds a humble imitator in the person of the critic who upbraids his comrades for the insertion of a dishonest advertisement which he had himself consigned to the waste-paper basket because—it did not seem likely to pay. Nevertheless we congratulate our contemporary on his good luck or good guiding, whichever it be. We have been deceived and suffered in consequence, but even if it should have unfortunately happened that any of our fellow-citizens have been cajoled by the Rodanow rascal's announcements, we are very sure that it has never occurred to them to accuse our columns of complicity. Reading now—for the first time ourselves—the covering letter that accompanied this Rodanow advertisement, it certainly does seem a suspicious document, but possibly this is the wisdom that succeeds the event. Here at any rate is the letter, minus its illustrated heading. Our readers can judge for themselves.

Boston, 5 and 7 Portland Street.
September 15th, 1880.

DEAR SIR:—In order to extend the sale of our manufactures in your country we intend to make a trial with advertising our price-list in your paper and give you herewith order to insert the enclosed advert. and notice 15 times, (in the 15 next numbers of your paper).

Please send us marked copies of same and your bill, after receipt, of which we shall remit you the amount less usual discount, per bankers order on your place.

Should our firm be unknown to you, you can easily make inquiries at any first-class watch-maker there to satisfy yourself.

We hope you will charge us your lowest possible price for this order and will, if we find this trial productive of satisfactory results, continue then our advertising in your paper.

Yours most respectfully,

RODANOW MANUFACTURING CO.,
Manager Boston Branch,
per A. RODANOW.

A most villainous epistle it looks at present to our enlightened eyes, but it was no more our business to investigate the reality of the keyless watches than it is the duty of a contemporary magazine to determine whether the curies advertised on its cover are actually obtained "direct from the Japanese nobility," or whether the Chinese have any genuine affinity with the lost tribes of Israel. Conceiv e for a moment what this principle would lead to, if rigidly observed. The telegraph first would have to be placed under supervision. Messages in cipher would be inadmissible unless accompanied by their key as well as an exact rendering of their contents, and moreover, since every unimportant position is not occupied by a person of such perspicuity as our critical contemporary, it would be necessary to appoint at each station a censor with discretionary powers; a censor competent to determine at a glance the bearing of every communication, social, diplomatic, commercial or theological, proposed for transmission. Such men might be difficult to find in ordinary communities, though there need be no embarrassment here, where we have gentlemen sufficiently versatile to pass, or propose to pass, at once from the position of retail dealers to that of parliamentary advisers. Then again the penny post would have to be revolutionized. An institution which is immediately under state control could not possibly run the risk of constituting itself a medium of communication between rebels and highwaymen. Letters would have to be opened

and read before despatch, and in a moment land leagues, nihilist associations and burglars' assignments would become impossible. Such a state of things might be possible in a nation where half the population were employed as policemen, but the prospect is not very tolerable in a society constituted as ours is. The public criers and doormen employed by mediæval shopkeepers were perhaps personally responsible for the fictions they promulgated, and in this respect they were slightly better than the advertising media of our own days, but on the whole we should be sorry to see Yokohama reduced to such a condition as that described in the ballad of "London Lyckpenny," when to stand at their doors and outbawl each other constituted tradesmen's best expedient for gaining custom. Even this, however, were preferable to the system of espionage which would be the only logical sequence of a course such as that we are now upbraided for neglecting to pursue.

Meanwhile, we have no desire to evade our just responsibilities as journalists. The contents of advertising and editorial columns require to be treated very differently, neither can it be denied that anything published in the latter with reference to the former shifts the venue completely from the shoulders of the advertiser to those of the editor. An honest conviction of the benefit to be derived by the public from the use of the article announced, is the only contingency which, in our opinion, fairly warrants a newspaper in lending its editorial columns to be a vehicle for the ventilation of tradesmen's notifications. Our community is very competent to judge whether this contingency existed in the case at issue. For the rest any exercise of discretion would be obviously impossible, seeing that the leading journals in England publish advertisements some of which are unintelligible without a key while others are palpable frauds. As cases in point we may adduce an announcement in the *Weekly Times*, headed "Wonders of the Horoscope," by which a correct likeness of one's future wife or husband, as well as the date of marriage, were promised for thirteen postage stamps; and another guaranteeing to reveal the events of the next seven years for six Queen's heads and to provide millennial prophecies gratis. An auction card, lately circulated among ourselves, informing the public that a certain individual had become possessed of sundry objects of virtue once the property of divers princes and nobles, but that he was driven to dispose of the same by sale, without reserve, in order to escape from the "limbo of debt," forcibly recalled to our minds the case of that charmingly simple hearted Stiggins, who some years ago addressed to the charitable world this advertisement:—*TO THE LORD'S PEOPLE. A dear Christian tradesman, who about four months ago drew from the Savings Bank £60, his all therein, to give to a fellow Christian who earnestly required that sum, "thus lending and hoping for nothing again" but from a bountiful "God whose name is Love," is now in want of forty pounds to pay all demands upon him ere he accepts a call to the ministry of the Everlasting Gospel which he believes his Heavenly Father is about to make known to him. A lady, his friend in Christ the Lord as revealed in the power of God the Holy Ghost, thus ventures in simple faith to try the floor of providence in his behalf; and would leave the issue in the hands of him who has heart, hand, breath and purse of men at sovereign command. The smallest help will be gratefully acknowledged by the Advertiser. Address to—*

Does not the perusal of this precious announcement make one long for a vigorous Mr. Weller, Senior, to thrust the "christian tradesman's" head into a horse-trough and discharge one "complicated kiok" upon his blasphemous person? Some of our community may be excused if they invoke a similar fate for the "highly respectable" members of the "old established" Rodanow Company, but if we have suffered, there is no reason why we should make ourselves ridiculous, and we recommend to the attention of our unnecessarily choleric contemporaries the febrifuge described in the following advertisement:—

"If ever your spirits are damp, low,
"And bilious; you should I opine,
"Just quaff a deep bumper of Lamplough—
"Of Lamplough's Pyretic Saline.
"The title is quaint and eccentric—
"Is probably so by design—
"But they say for disturbances ventric
"There's nought like Pyretic Saline.
"Don't bid me become exegetic,
"Or tell me I'm only a scamp low,
"If I tell you no more of Pyretic
"Saline manufactured by Lamplough."

KANTAN.

(A Specimen of the Ancient "Nô.")

Persons Represented.—Rosei, a pilgrim.

A Performer who takes the part of
Landlord of the Inn.

CHORUS.

Imperial Court Messenger.

Palace noble, bearing to Rosei the "Elixir of Life."

Scene.—The So Country—Eastern China.

Rosei sings by the way.—

Thro' this fleeting, changeful world
Restless wandering I go
Like a dreamer sore perplexed,
To and fro
When shall I my dream-way know?

The same speaking.—My name is Rosei, and I come from a district in the Shiōku country. Though born of the race of man, I cannot yet accept the teachings of Buddha. I am only stupified and bewildered by them and know not what doctrine to choose. I have heard, however, that in the country of So, is a far-famed mountain called Yohizau, where dwells a learned and reverend sage, and it is now my intention to journey thither.

Sings.—The place where I am wont to dwell, I can only see in the dim distance like a cloud-path, and before me rise mountains piled on mountains; but which may be my destined place, I know not. I have but this one traveller's robe. Sometimes the sunset hath found me wandering on wild moors, on lonely mountains, or I have slept in wayside hamlet; but, at length, my journeyings draw near their close, for I have now wellnigh reached the village of Kantan of which I know but the name

I have arrived at the hamlet, Kantan, seeking shelter.

Host of the village Inn.—Rest you, here, on this magic pillow, bestowed by Genii in the olden time, and while your meal of boiled millet is preparing, beguile the time with pleasant dreams.

Rosei.—This, then, is the far-famed, magic pillow of Kantan of which I have heard. This, then, is the gate-way to realms of knowledge, and I shall receive in a dream from Heaven a vision of my whole life.

Chorus.—A gentle shower of rain falls lightly shimmering in the sunlight, and shelter seems welcome, although the evening crimson hath not yet vanished; and so the traveller nothing loth, reposes on the Genii's pillow, to view in transient sleep, some golden vision.

Imperial Messenger.—Rosei, awake, Rosei, awake,—I have an important matter to communicate.

Rosei, (apparently waking).—What can it be?

Messenger.—The reigning Emperor of the So country is about to abdicate his throne in your favor.

Rosei.—Oh! This is indeed something far beyond all my thoughts and expectations—a marvellous thing! Why should I be called to ascend the Imperial Throne.

Messenger.—I know not why you are thus destined to become Emperor, but such being the case, receive my profound congratulations. Rise, I entreat, and enter your chariot.

Rosei.—What can be the meaning of this? This chariot is beautiful beyond compare; its splendor is like the dews at night-fall, distilled in sparkling gems. But, alas! I am unaccustomed to riding in a chariot and know not how to do so with propriety.

Messenger.—Verily, you, doubtless, never thought to reach Imperial state and to ride in this chariot fair as precious gems.

Rosei.—It is even as though I had ascended to Heaven!

Chorus.—He enters the jewel-like, shining chariot, while in his heart hath bloomed the Flower of Buddha's teachings; but he knows not that its full-blown loveliness hath opened in his dream for one, brief hour. He marvels that he hath thus become a dweller above the high, white clouds of Heaven and deems his estate most blessed, and his habitation fair as the lustre of the clear-orbed moon and like in its splendor to the lofty Cloud-dragon-palace, radiant, indeed, as the palace¹ of Abo. Its glory fills the air with light and, verily, no power of voice or speech can shadow forth its wondrous beauty. Through lofty gates agleam with precious stones, multitudes in brave apparel, pass glittering to and fro, and tread the gold and silver sands that strew the palace grounds.

How like the scene to the glories of Paradise in its fair Capital built high upon Mt. Shumisen, and how like to joys of Paradise, the sweetness of my delights! Thus *Rosei* thinks amid the splendor of his present bliss. Mark how they come and go—the multitudes—bearing thousand thousand treasures high-piled as tribute-offerings; while thousand thousand banners float from palace heights and seem to touch the skies, yet with their wind-awayed folds, sound on the earth like voice of mighty thunderings.

Rosei.—To the Eastward I rear a silver mountain with shining summit lifted three hundred feet and more.

Chorus responds.—He causes to the eastward a golden sun to glitter.

Rosei.—To the westward, I rear a mountain gleaming golden, with summit lifted three hundred feet and more.

Chorus.—He causes to the westward, a silver moon's appearing. His palace may fitly be likened to the Eternal Palace of the Celestial Country. Spring and Autumn rich in blessings, multiply, and youth's glad hours are lengthened. The Gates of Eternal Youth once entered, days and months flit past in long delight. He hath fashioned the sacred precincts of his palace into the semblance of Paradise and golden eastern sun and white-orbed western moon are symbols of his endless life in palace-walls.

Enter a palace-noble.—This communication is reverently submitted. As Imperial Ruler, your august reign has endured for the space of fifty years; but I bring hither the Elixir of Life, the gift of immortal Genii. Quaff, I beseech you, this magic draught and thus live and reign a thousand years. Behold! Here is Heaven's blest gift, Kondzu, and here the jewel-cup, Kogai, that holds the cordial rare.

Rosei.—What is Heaven's "Kondzu?"

Noble.—The name of its ambrosial wine.

Rosei.—And what is the wine-cup, "Kogai?"

Noble.—The jewel wine-cup of the Celestial land.

(1) To those readers who do not read Japanese, the translator wishes to say that this expression, which sounds like an exaggerated poetic fancy, is merely the literal translation of a common figure, used to designate the high estate of royalty.

(2) The great Chinese Emperor, known in Japan as "Shin-no-shiko" was the builder of this palace of Abo; but the other palace to which *Rosei*'s is compared, however famous, is not identified by the translator.

(3) For "Mt. Shumisen," see Hepburn. Jakko or (Jakkoo) the Capital of Paradise, rises on this famous mountain of fable.

(4) A mode of showing royal magnificence, borrowed doubtless, by the dreamer, from some similar but more probable achievement of the famous Emperor referred to before, "Shin no Shiko."

(5) An allusion to the "furōmon" which formed the Entrance into *Rosei*'s dream-palace. The palace-gates borrowed their high-sounding appellation from those true "Gates of Eternal Youth" which anciently led to the Genii's palace.

Rosei.—This, then, is Life's Elixir,* draught from the dewy wine of Chrysanthemum flowers!

Noble.—If you will deign to drink the potent draught, the zenith of your splendor shall endure ten thousand years.

Rosei.—Oh! This is joy-inspiring. Then shall my people live in peace and plenty, crowned with bliss.

Chorus.—Yea, verily, yea verily—Great Peace shall compass all the land. Forever and forevermore, its glory shall increase; for, seed and source of growing joys, is the cup a-brim with Chrysanthemum wine!

Rosei dances and sings.—Circle round O wine-cup rare! As swiftly glides thy current, my flower-like sleeve that pendant falls from Chrysanthemum-gilded robe, clasped first in hand, waving, turning, ebbing, flowing, glides and glows in rhythmic motion.

Dances to music—then sings again.—Ah! The white dewy wine of Chrysanthemum flowers in my dwelling!

Chorus.—Day by day, increasing more and more, these flowery dews shall thus become a Pool of depth profound. This potent gift shall never cease; but is like some ever-gushing spring; for again and again we may dip from the waters ambrosial, and they but flow the more. He who drinks the Chrysanthemum wine finds it in sweetness like Kanro, the balmy dew which Heavens rains, and his heart grows light within him. He leaps for very joy, and, night and day, delights attend him. His life is passed in luxury and rapturous bliss beyond which there can be no higher joy.

Rosei sings responsively.—Forevermore, forevermore, from everlasting to everlasting, bubbling brims the Spring of pure delight!

Chorus.—Through lengthening cycles, shall the Moon appear to illumine the Heavens.

Rosei.—Me-thinks, I seem like a dweller in the fair Moon-palace, whose feathery cloud-like sleeves wave to the joyous rhythm of his night-long dance and song.

Chorus.—With sound of dance and music glides the night away, and now hath the Sun arisen clear and fair. While yet we deemed it night, the shining dawn appears.

Rosei.—Yes, verily, the dawn hath come.

Chorus.—We deemed it only day, but lo! The radiant Moon appears and night is come.

Rosei.—Yea, verily, the night is come.

Chorus.—Behold, the flowers have burst in bloom!

Rosei.—And now behold! Crimson tints the autumn leaf.

Chorus.—We dreamed the summer sun was shining.

Rosei.—But lo! But lo! The snow-flake falls.

Chorus.—Spring, Summer, Autumn, Winter flash before our eyes in quick succession. A thousand trees, a thousand plants appear and blossom in a day. Marvel of marvels! Delight of delights! And thus the time speeds on till fifty years have flown. Verily, a glorious vision, but suddenly its splendors dissolve like fleeting drops of dew. Its glory hath flashed upon the magic pillow, then vanished and fled forevermore.

Rosei, awaking.—Lo! The dream hath passed away.

Chorus.—Suddenly have they disappeared—the varying delights of the four seasons circling through these fifty years—and *Rosei* late absorbed in dream, bewildered rises from his pillow.

Rosei.—Ah! Many were the marvels of my vision; but the sweet voices heard within my palace-walls, were only the low tones of the wind-stirred Pine-boughs, floating through my dreams.

Chorus.—The Palace with its lofty corridors, was but the poor village inn of Kantan.

Rosei.—Only a poor and transient resting-place!

Chorus.—How long seemed the glory of the vision?

Rosei.—Fifty years seemed its duration.

Chorus.—How long was the vision in its passage and its flights?

Rosei.—While one meal of millet was boiling, it came and vanished away.

Chorus.—Wonderful is this beyond all measure!

Rosei.—Let us carefully ponder man's estate!

(6) A wandering Emperor once came upon the Genii in some secluded nook and discovered that from the luxurious growth of Chrysanthemums around them, they drank the wine of immortal life.

Chorus.—Were his life even a century of matchless bliss, yet would it seem but the passing of a transient dream, and how much more the passing splendor of but fifty years!

It is well! It is well! Man's hope of bliss, his life through fifty years of joy, the majesty of regal splendor, all pass as doth a fleeting vision, verily all things are like Rosei's dream which came and went while his meal of millet was boiling.

Rosei worships.—"Na-mu Sam-bo! Na-mu Sam-bo!" The eyes of my understanding have been opened!

Chorus.—If man but rightly consider, to leave the world and seek for Paradise is his best wisdom, and verily in teaching this, the magic pillow of Kantan hath proved a sage and noble Teacher.

Blessed be the Pillow of Kantan!

Rosei hath learned that the world and all within it, are naught but the swift flight of a passing dream. The desire of his heart is attained, and he will return seeking no further.

Rosei after thrice worshipping before the Genii's pillow, departs upon his homeward way.

CORRESPONDENCE.

(Our readers must distinctly understand that we are in no sense responsible for the sentiments or opinions of our Correspondents, for the accuracy of their assertions, or for the deductions they may choose to draw therefrom.)

TO THE EDITOR OF THE "JAPAN MAIL."

SIR:—In common with many of my friends I feel that, in your criticism of Prof. Dixon's book, you have used him rather harshly. It is hardly fair to judge of his book without considering all the attending circumstances: therefore it would have been juster if you had stated that he as well as the Japanese students is acquiring the English language.

Then, too, would it not have been on the whole better to have spared him, rather than have blighted his as yet only partially developed genius?

The poet says:

"Shoe the old horse, and shoe the old mare,
But let the little colt go bare."

I remain,
&c., &c.

C.

REUTERS'S TELEGRAMS.

LONDON, 7th March, 1881.

The Coercive Measures Bill has been finally passed by the House of Lords, the Royal assent has been given, and the bill has been proclaimed in Ireland.

[SUPPLIED TO THE "HONGKONG DAILY PRESS"]

London, February 26th.—The Archbishop of Dublin has severely condemned the alliance between Parnell and Rochefort.

Mr. Gladstone has been thrown out of his carriage. He fell on his head and was severely wounded, but is in no danger.

The *Daily News* publishes a telegram from Russia stating that the treaty with China has been signed.

The negotiations with the Basutos [Query, the Boers] have failed.

The Boers have defeated six companies of British Troops. General Sir George Colley and many officers killed; only a hundred British escaped.

London, February 24th.—At an enthusiastic meeting held at Clara, Mr. Parnell was exhorted to adhere to the Land League.

The Committee on the Coercive Measures [Ireland] Bill has closed.

The Ashantees are within three days' march of Elmina, on the Gold Coast.

The Greek Army Reserves have been called out.

The Conference of the Ambassadors of the Great Powers has commenced sitting at Stamboul.

(7) A proper rendering of this Invocation of the Buddhist's three treasures, Buddha, Bible, Bonze, does not suggest itself to the translator, hence Rosei is allowed to pray "in the Original."

In the House of Commons, the Premier, in reply to a question, said the Government have taken steps to effect a satisfactory settlement of the Transvaal difficulty, but declined to give any further information.

MISCELLANEOUS NEWS.

There was a prolonged and severe shock of earthquake last Tuesday at twenty minutes after noon. The vibrations appeared to have a decidedly rotatory motion.

We are informed that the O. & O. Co.'s steamer *Gaelic* left Hongkong for Yokohama on the afternoon of the 7th instant.

We have been informed that the P. & O. *Sunda* left Hongkong at noon on Tuesday, the 8th inst., for Yokohama via Nagasaki.

The British man-of-war *Comus* will not visit Yokohama as was originally intended. She is now in Kobe, and will proceed thence to Hongkong.

The Japanese barque *Toyo Maru* has been lost near Hakodate. Our contemporary the *Gazette* is in error when stating that the vessel was the property of the Fuhansen-Kaisha; she belonged to Yama Kamé.

The Russian cruiser *Africa* left Yokohama at nine o'clock this morning, firing a farewell salute as she steamed out. Her destination is said to be Nagasaki.

The Yokohama Amateur Rowing Club must congratulate itself on approaching the new season under very different auspices from those of twelve months ago. Then the Club could barely be said to exist; it had a name, but no "local habitation," and this disadvantage seriously threatened its existence. Thanks, however, to the energy of the Committee, the good feeling of the Ken Rei, and the kind assistance of the Board of Consuls, all difficulties have been overcome, and we think all will agree with us in saying that both the site and style of the new boathouse are infinitely superior to those of the former building.

There have been, as there always will be, grumblers, but when it is considered how the Committee were restricted to an inch in the height, length, and breadth of the building, too much praise can hardly be afforded them for what they have accomplished. The new erection is handsomely and substantially built, the lower story being of stone and the upper of clambboards, while a corrugated iron roof with a very slight elevation, owing to the exigencies of dimension aforesaid, covers it in. The measurements are: length 62 feet; breadth 50 feet; and height about 22 feet. On the ground floor nine supports in rows of three each help to maintain the upper story, and there will be just sufficient room to stow away the four-oars, with their bows facing the doors that open to the sea. On either side of the four-oars, pair-oars, canoes, etc. will find a resting place. It will be a tight fit, but no doubt things will soon arrange themselves. Some bathing rooms take up the remaining space. There are two small staircases which lead to the upper part of the building from the interior, while a broader one outside takes us up to a verandah ten feet wide, which faces the sea, and which we trust the fairer portion of our community will not fail to adorn on the occasion of the next regatta. The upper story has a committee room, dressing rooms and a bar, round the walls, leaving a large space in the centre in which will be placed chairs and tables with newspapers &c., making it a comfortable lounging room.

The central position of the clubhouse does away with the argument used sometimes against the old one, that it was so far away that all one's time was wasted in going and coming back, and we hope therefore to see it well filled during the forthcoming season.

A meeting of the Club was held, as per advertisement, in the Grand Hotel on Tuesday last at 5 p.m. Present:—Messrs. Boag, F. A. Copo, Churchill, Duer, Gordon, Haselwood, Hepburn, G. J. L. Hodges, Litchfield (captain), Playfair, Rickett, Thomson, Walter, and G. C. Wood (Hon. Sec.)

The captain submitted to the meeting three designs he had received in reply to the advertisement requesting tenders for

the construction of a floating bath-house. The first, by Mr. Green, was a proposal to lash two Japanese boats together and erect a house upon them. Boats of 12 feet beam and about 40 tons capacity could be hired, with mooring gear and sendoes, for 175 yen, or say \$100 for the season. They would of course be at the risk of the lenders. On the platform obtained by lashing these boats together a house could be erected containing six dressing rooms 8 ft. 6 in. by 5 ft., store room, sendoes quarters, fresh water bath, etc. He (Mr. Green) considered that in very rough weather the house would probably go but the boats would be safe, and there was the additional advantage of not having to look after them during the off season. Mr. Litchfield concluded by saying that this plan seemed feasible, but that if a suitable permanent structure could be obtained, it would be better.

The next proposal was from Mr. Whitfield, and was to use last season's boat, with the addition of rolling chocks and a patent outrigger which would not pull her to pieces like an ordinary outrigger would. The well-known Cingalese catamaran outrigger had been suggested, but Mr. Whitfield said that in a heavy sea it would break up the boat. She is not at present in a good condition but could soon be repaired, painted and so on: the price asked for her, with the proposed additions to check the rolling, is \$250.

The third proposal came from Mr. Blaikie, a man of considerable experience in the construction of floating ships &c. His idea was to construct a floating house, built punt fashion, with a building as light as possible on it for the accommodation of bathers. His estimate was \$750. The plan he had submitted to the Committee could be modified by the addition of rolling chocks &c., and he would guarantee that the house should be thoroughly stable and last through almost any gale. Those were the only three tenders received and he (Mr. Litchfield) would be glad to hear any suggestions.

A desultory conversation then ensued in which the relative merits and demerits of the schemes were discussed, none being actually what was required. On its termination Mr. W. B. Walter said there seemed to be no doubt that all were agreed that, in order to keep the bathing members together, better accommodation must be afforded. He suggested that Mr. Blaikie's scheme might be modified by making the boat longer and the permanent house smaller, which would offer less resistance to the wind, while the open ends could be screened in with canvas, which could be removed every night. He proposed the following resolution:—That the committee be empowered to raise a sum of \$1,000 by debentures similar to those already secured on the property the Club, but ranking after those already issued, to be spent in building a floating bath-house after Mr. Blaikie's plan, with such modifications as the committee deem desirable, especially by reducing the fixed house in the centre of the barge and utilizing iron stanchions and canvas coverings for the ends, and that outriggers, if practicable, be affixed to the hull of the barge.

The motion was seconded by Mr. Haselwood and carried unanimously.

Mr. Litchfield said that before the meeting broke up he would like to say that the new boat house was so far completed that he contemplated moving the boats in as soon as the weather moderated, and that he meant to try and arrange by the middle of the month for a row, which he hoped they would all enjoy as much as he expected to do himself.

The proceedings then terminated.

If the extract we published on Monday from the *Mainichi Shinbun* be correct, it would seem that the native apostles of direct trade have yet a great deal to learn before they can attempt to compete with the tricks of trade that they may encounter abroad. An agent of a direct trading company sold forty-three bales of silk, taking in payment a bill at four month's sight and this, it appears, is all he is ever likely to see of his money. Taking a fair average price, and calculating the bales at one picul each, as they probably would be for a native firm, the total loss, when freight, brokerage &c. are all included, cannot

have been less than \$20,000 or \$30,000, probably nearer the latter amount.

In response to an invitation His Majesty King Kalakaua paid a visit to the Union Church on Thursday last, when the ninth anniversary of the organization of the Native Church of Christ in Japan was celebrated. His Majesty, who was expected at 2 p.m., unfortunately missed his train at Tokio, and so did not arrive until nearly four o'clock. The Church, which was filled to overflowing by natives, with a fair sprinkling of foreigners, was tastily decorated. The Hawaiian and Japanese flags hung on either side of the platform, on the wall behind which was the word "Aloha" in large green letters, which was subsequently explained to be the Hawaiian greeting "Love to thee." On the wall at the other end of the sacred edifice were the words "Hawaii to Japan, 1853," and "Japan to Hawaii, 1881." On the arrival of His Majesty, accompanied by Dr. Gulick Colonels Judd and Armstrong, the services at once commenced with an invocation, followed by the doxology, remarkably well sung, both in Japanese. Next the Rev. J. H. Bellagh read a short lesson from the Old Testament in English. A native pastor then recited a prayer, which was followed by the singing in Japanese of hymn No. 15 of the hymnbook used in the Church.

Dr. Gulick next addressed the meeting. He said that having been born in the Sandwich Islands, and living in Japan now, though not being himself a missionary, but yet closely associated and interested in missionary work, he had been called upon to explain the objects of their meeting to the foreigners present. He explained the rise and progress of the church, its great indebtedness to the Christians of Hawaii, and how it had now been used by the native Christians for worship upwards of four years. It was thought a very fitting opportunity now that his Majesty was in Japan that they should on this, the occasion of their ninth anniversary, return to the people of Hawaii, through His Majesty, their sincere thanks for the gift which they had made twenty-eight years ago. It was interesting that His Majesty should have attended the dedication of a Chinese Church just before leaving his empire. He could not conclude better than by wishing His Majesty, in his native tongue "Aloha," (love to thee.)

The Rev. Okuno Masakuni then read the following address in Japanese, and presented a copy of the Japanese New Testament to His Majesty.

"Your Majesty the King of Hawaii.—On behalf of the members of the first church of Christ in Japan, whose ninth anniversary we celebrate to-day, I extend to Your Majesty a most cordial welcome. We feel greatly honoured by Your Majesty's presence on such an occasion, and consider it as a mark of the liberal principles that characterize your Majesty's government and people. History records that Columbus in setting out on his famed voyage of discovery had Cipango and the East Indies in view. He knew not that a great continent of America and Your Majesty's beautiful island empire needed first to feel the life-giving touch of Christian civilization, before they in turn could extend it to our country. We rejoice in the integrity and independence of your empire, your liberal constitutional government, and in your great progress in educational matters. May the thrones of Kamehameha and of Jimmu never be held by others than their lawful descendants. A special duty which rests upon us to-day is this: this house of God in which we meet owes its erection to the generous donation of a large sum of money from the Hawaiian Christians to build the first native church in Japan. This money was intrusted to the mission of the Reformed church in America for our use. By the generous gifts of others which were added to this, and the exertions of our first teachers, this church was erected and was dedicated to the worship of God July 10th, 1875, from which time it has been freely used by us. We well know the source of that love which was seen in this gift on the part of Your Majesty's people. It is no other than the love of God which led him to send his only begotten son that whosoever believeth in him should not perish but have everlasting life. And we are glad to avail ourselves of the opportunity afforded by Your Majesty's visit to this Em-

pire to offer, through the august person of Your Majesty, to the Christians of Hawaii, our sincere thanks. We have heard of the great success which has attended the preaching of the gospel in your dominion, but the cause of Christianity as yet with us is in its infancy. Yet are we happy to tell Your Majesty of more than seventy churches and 4,000 Christian believers. We hope also the day is not far distant when we in turn shall send our missionaries to other islands and countries to proclaim the glorious gospel of the blessed God. As a trifling token of our high respect for Your Majesty we humbly present Your Majesty a copy of the New Testament in our language and pray that the high degree of liberty and advanced national prosperity which has been the blessing of those nations where this book has had its widest influence be more and more fully enjoyed both by Your Majesty's people and ours."

His Majesty, speaking in excellent English, said in reply:—It is a source of great pleasure to me, on this occasion, to thank you for the very valuable gift that you have made me this afternoon. I feel very much gratified for this exchange of love, not only between Hawaii and Japan as nations, but also as between the Christians of our country and yours. I shall consider this estimable gift of the church of Japan—of the Christians of Japan—a pleasing memento of my visit, and I have no doubt it will be very gratifying to the Christians of my kingdom on my return, for me to be able to show them the valuable present you have made me to-day. The Christian religion is the prevailing religion of my Kingdom, and I hope that the liberal spirit of the Imperial sovereign of Japan, and your labors—the labors of the mission as well as those of the communicants—will conduce to the progress of your work. With these few remarks let me thank the Christians of Japan for their kindness. I only regret that my stay in Japan is not long enough to visit the church more often.

Hymn No. 727 was next sung, in English, and the service terminated with the benediction pronounced by the Rev. Uemura Masahisa.

His Majesty then adjourned to an ante-room where many presentations to him were made, some of those presented being old Hawaiians. His Majesty left shortly after five, and visited the Yokohama Chapter later in the evening, returning to the capital by the 10 p.m. train.

The fire bell rang out its unwelcome alarm once more, on Friday morning, shortly after two o'clock. The scene of the conflagration was the well known hotel kept by Mr. Peter Clausen, at No. 133, Swamp. It was some time before the engines arrived and when they did the flames had gained complete mastery over the building, while the water was so muddy owing to the recent snow, thaw and rains, as almost to choke the hose. A small tenement standing between Clausen's and the Europe Hotel next caught fire, and the latter place seemed for a long time to be also doomed; the windows of the upper story and the wooden gutter were on fire, were put out, re-ignited and again extinguished some half-dozen times. Eventually a foreigner succeeded in tearing off and throwing down all this woodwork and actually saved the house. On the same side of the road, but divided by a narrow street, stood a large Chinese dispensary, the whole of which was destroyed. The flames were fortunately mastered before spreading further.

We regret to say that among the smouldering embers of what remained of Clausen's Hotel, was the corpse of a foreigner named Gustave Langwist, formerly a quartermaster in the employ of the Mitsu Bishi Mail Steamship Company, who was apparently burnt to death while in bed.

His Majesty Kalakaua, King of Hawaii, who is the grand master of freemasonry in his own kingdom, will meet the Masonic Fraternity of Yokohama and Tokio on Monday evening, when a ball will be given in his honour at the Masonic hall. The ball, however, will have nothing of an official character, and will be strictly limited to the subscribers and their friends. For the information of non-resident as well as resident masons we would inform them that they may add their names to the subscription list, which is now being circulated, by sending a note to any one of the leading members of the craft.

The Annual Meeting of the Yokohama Fire Brigade was held yesterday (10th instant) at the Yokohama United Club.

Present: Messrs. Macpherson, Kilby, Rickett, Dodds, Playfair, Allen, Shand, and J. H. Brooke (chairman).

The honorary secretary read the minutes of the last annual meeting of 9th February 1880, which were approved. He then read the following report:—

ANNUAL REPORT OF THE YOKOHAMA FIRE BRIGADE, 1880.

The Committee have now the pleasure to submit their report for the year 1880, as also the Hon. Treasurer's Accounts.

The subscriptions amount to exactly the same sum as last year, viz. \$2,665. There is a falling off of contributions from firms and private individuals, but the amounts are made up by donations from fire offices who had not hitherto subscribed. The Chinese guild failed to contribute.

The Engines have attended at 6 fires, two only being settlement, and the rest in the native town. The two former were at No. 66 on the 1st December, and at the Honmura Road on the 20th of same month, both being of unusual extent.

The Kencho have been applied to by your committee to try and arrange that the water pipes in the native town be carried on through Main-street with side supplies for Water-street and the swamp. The Kencho takes a favourable view of the scheme and has submitted the same to the Machigashiro officials. They hope shortly, to let your committee know what can be done.

It was proposed at first to lay pipes from the bund wall, extending to a distance such as would include the lowest tide, but for various reasons the scheme was considered impracticable.

The American engine is to be removed shortly to the fire brigade compound on account of disposal of the lot where it stands by the proprietor for other purposes. This will occasion the erection of a new building on 238.

The committee take this opportunity of thanking the other fire brigades, both Japanese and Foreign, and the officers and crews of the various men-of-war in port for their prompt assistance whenever required.

The present members of committee—viz. Messrs. Dodds, Dunlop, Allen, Fraser and Shand, now beg respectfully to tender their resignations.

For the Committee,

W. J. S. SHAND,
Hon. Sec. and Treasurer.

Yokohama, 31st December, 1880.

LIST OF FIRES IN 1880.

1880.
January 22.—No. 156, Bluff.
May 4.—Isesaki-cho.
June 16.—Part of native town known as "Karafuto."
December 1.—No. 66, Main-street.
" 11.—Benten-dori.
" 20.—No. 123 and Honmura-road.
" 28.—Isesaki-cho.

YOKOHAMA FIRE BRIGADE ACCOUNT CURRENT FOR THE YEAR 1880.

THE YOKOHAMA FIRE BRIGADE IN ACCOUNT CURRENT WITH THE UNDERSIGNED.

Dr.	
1880.	
Mar. 1,	To Dr. Eldridge, Medical attendance.....
Apr. 1,	" Ground rent, Brigade Lot No. 238
" 6,	" Advertising meeting <i>Herald</i> and reports
" 6,	" " " <i>Gazette</i>
" 6,	" " " <i>Mail</i>
" 9,	" Schreff collecting subscriptions
Dec. 16,	" Paid Mr. H. A. Towse working expenses
" 31,	" " Mr. R. Gabaretta salary to 31st December, 1880
" 31,	" " account repairs and new buildings on Fire Brigade compound.....
" 31,	" Balance in H. & S. Bank
	in Treasurer's hands
	\$3,859.61

Cr.

1880.

Jan. 1,	By balance in H. & S. Bank as per account current 31st December, 1879
Apr. 9,	" Subscriptions by Fire offices.....
" 9,	" " by Firms
" 9,	" " Chinese guild.....
Dec. 31,	" Interest to date

\$3,859.61

Jan. 1, By Balance as above

DEPENDENCY.—Due for work repairing fire brigade compound

E. & O. E.

W. J. S. SHAND,
Hon. Treasurer and Sec.

Yokohama, 31st December, 1880.

Mr. Macpherson called attention to the falling off of private subscriptions, and urged that efforts should be made to increase them, and to obtain a contribution from the Chinese guild.

Mr. Kilby asked what had been done about the proposed water supplies, and produced a plan of the settlement shewing where water could be obtained and where it was wanting.

Mr. Brooks suggested inquiries might be made into how the Japanese were assessed for the water supply, as a guide to what the settlement would have to pay.

The committee having resigned, the following gentlemen were elected, Messrs. Allen, Dodds, Playfair, Walter and Shand.

Mr. Allen said that the engines were in good order and that the buildings in the fire brigade compound were being repaired.

A discussion then took place on the subject of the unsafe class of buildings now being erected on the scene of the late fire in Honmura road, and the existence of kerosine godowns in the new swamp concession.

Mr. Macpherson proposed and Mr. Kilby seconded, that the Committee be asked to address a letter to the Board of Consuls requesting that the storage of kerosine oil be limited, if possible, to the government godowns; pointing out that the buildings erected and in process of erection on the site of the late fire in Honmura Road are believed to be in contravention of the building convention entered into by the Ministers, after the great fire of the 29th December, 1866.

The motion was carried and the meeting then separated with a vote of thanks to the chair, and to the committee for the past year, for their services.

PARIS LETTER.

The circular of the French Foreign Minister to the Greeks, is only viewed by them as a paper pellet of the brain, that will not turn them from the career of their humor; whether the Berlin Congress did, or did not, accord them *ipso facto* the new frontiers claimed, the Greeks are called upon, in the interests of general peace, not to set the spark to the train of powder. They are bent on war, for it is no secret now, when the ball is opened that the Danubian *roitelets* will join in, to complete their independence, and escape the indemnities and annuities due to the Sultan. Then if Austria advances, so must Russia, and next England. The French nation do not understand the gravity of the coming complications: it is concluded that France can keep aloof, and that her interests in the East will take care of themselves. Now Orientals understand no other form of government but that of force: might with them is right. It is a day dream for the French to conclude, that when Europe shall be in flames, they can fiddle. Happily the ministers, M. Gambetta above all, is aware of the contrary and of the necessity of making for his country friends of the mammon of unrighteousness. France has not only to keep an eye on Germany and Alsace, but on German intentions in Syria; Italy and Tunis give her cause to be vigilant, and if the moment be coming when the Turks are to be ejected from Europe, their co-religionists in Algeria will show they too feel the blow.

The funny journals give a cartoon of the marriage of Mdlle. Louise Michel—the hallucinated leader of the Communists, and M. Gambetta, whom she is ready to poignard for the welfare of her country. Although as Mrs. Malaprop says, for a lasting liking it is best to commence with a little aversion, that political marriage is as impossible as “the carp and the rabbit.” It means that that strong-minded damsel ought to no longer speak of things she does not understand. She and Rochefort, after bellowing like lions, and breathing threatenings and slaughters since three months, now “roar as gently as any sucking dove, as it were any nightingale,” since the municipal elections inflicted on them the cruel but seasonable lesson, that new France has no sympathy with their ravings. The country has satisfied the opportunism of Gambetta, which is perhaps but the idea expressed by Thiers—the Republic will be conservative, or not at all. The monarchists protest, but they cannot replace what exists, and the intransigents have nothing to fall back upon but a cheap supply of gas and a better admini-

stration of trainways—matters belonging to no special political school. The French too have felt that the farce of old maids, who have taken to the tribune like an endemic, has continued sufficiently long, and that they ought to look after household matters.

The Bonapartists have had another fearful quarrel: like Mr. Punch and his wife, they lead a terrible life; Prince Napoleon, the successor and heir to all the bankrupt rights of imperialism, concluded that the annual mass for the repose of the soul of Napoleon III. was a political mistake: the republicans are of opinion he is long since past praying for: Paul de Cassagnac disagrees with the Prince, whom he regards as the last of men: indeed these masses of late were becoming simply omissions for de Cassagnac, while registering the rapid descent of the party of imperialism, to below zero even. Prince Napoleon understood the importance of this point. He, the legal testamentary chief of a dynasty as extinct as that of the Shepherd Kings of Egypt, believes the mortuary masses prejudicial: de Cassagnac will have his all the same. The affair rests with St. Peter.

M. de Molinari is a gentleman who last autumn visited Ireland to study the condition of that country: he returned with something like the conviction that the landlords were as badly off as the tenants, that the latter should cease to be cultivators and become comfortable farm servants, or emigrate; that even if they had the land for nothing they could not compete with scientific agriculturists, wanting as they do, capital; they had a weakness for whiskey and tea, had no frugal habits, and the country had no industries to employ an excessive population depending for subsistence on a poor soil, fitted more for pasture land than high farming: as for separation from England, that would be the most frightful of calamities for Erin. M. Molinari judges the Irish question at its present stage. Boycotting is only a new name for an old arm: in the Middle Ages, when the Church employed the weapon, it was called excommunication: the Trade's Union named it the Black List. Legislation cannot remedy the savagery, nor can the landlords retaliate by a lock-out, as in the case of manufacturers, and they have no power to expel a tenant, the consequence of M. Gladstone's philanthropic act of 1870, which shook the rights of property and suggested the charge of land-robbers against proprietors. M. de Molinari attributes then the chaos of Ireland, not to the excitations of the Land League, etc., but to the imprudent philanthropy of the English parliament. The article has created a stir here.

France continues to be, politically, as calm as a summer's sea; the Republic being consolidated attention is fixed upon material reforms: the nation having clearly separated religion from clericalism, the leaders of the latter seemed to have vanished: the letter of Leon XIII did good work in laying the boisterous party of political religionists. France, too, is making money and saving, and prosperous, with not the slightest intention to imitate Jeshurun, who when he waxed fat, kicked. No: all the paths of France are peace: all her home measures are for making her sons freemen and enlightened, leaving her liberalism to do its propaganda work in old Europe. In the new Code of instructions drawn up for the government of the primary or national schools of France, corporal punishment is formally forbidden to be inflicted.

The fortifications round Paris, have, at stated intervals, splendid barracks, capable of accommodating 500 soldiers each; these not being all occupied, and being situated in the most healthy confines of the capital will be turned into auxiliary hospitals. Another medical reform: in the lunatic asylums the doctors have been so satisfied with the good result flowing from the out-door treatment of patients, that they intend extending the practice; however, caution ought to be observed, as one of these patients, a house porter, has just shot four of the tenants, in a new fit, and cut his throat with a razor, when the police came to arrest him.

In the vast hall of the St. Lazare railway terminus, a lady was waiting the arrival of the train that was bringing her two children from school; a smoker threw a blazing match away after lighting his cigar: the lace of the lady's robe came in contact with it; soon she was in flames and ran screaming along the

hall: people flew away to avoid her when a railway clerk threw his top coat over her; she was fearfully injured.

The weather has set in wickedly frosty, and skates are the order of the day: sleighs are advertised, and seem to be as plentiful as cabs: the Danes cut the best figure with their sledges, next the Americans; but the Russian *traineau* impresses one as being meant for business; when two immense black Orloff horses are yoked to the vehicle, it has positively an imposing appearance; the Official balls commence after the 25th, when President Grévy inaugurates the season; 6,000 invitations have been issued for his first soirée.

A doctor was sympathised with on account of his anxiety touching a patient: he explained, the operation he intended performing was very delicate, not one per cent succeeded, and he was naturally uneasy about his reputation—the life of the patient counted, it seems, for nothing.

Two friends: "I find the times very hard, having a wife and two children, while you have no children"—"But you forget I have two wives."

A prisoner condemned to be guillotined claimed the right to be interred at Charenton—the graveyard for lunatics: "Why?" asked the Judge: "Because, I shall be qualified having lost my head."

A pupil complained he could not understand how the touching of a telegraph line at one end caused it to be understood at the other. Professor: "If you pinch the end of a dog's tail, will he not open his mouth?"

JAPANESE ITEMS.

[The following Notes on various Japanese matters are chiefly derived from the native papers, occasionally supplemented from original sources of information, and are carefully collated and edited, so as to make them readable and intelligible.]

COURT, POLITICAL AND OFFICIAL.

A vernacular paper writes as follows:—We learn from a Chinaman, who frequents the Chinese Legation, that Li-Hung-Chang is reported to have sent a letter to the Chinese Minister at Tokio, with instructions to return home, but that this recall has not actually been made public by the Peking Government. We wonder if this can be true?

The *Hochi Shinbun* states that the number of courts to be established throughout the Empire is said to have been decided as follows:—90 Primary courts, 18 Districts courts, 90 Independent Districts courts, and 7 Courts of appeal, these last being situated in Tokio, Osaka, Nagoya, Hiroshima, Nagasaki, Miyagi and Hakodate.

According to a native contemporary the Imperial Household Department has issued orders that the names of such nobles as are acquainted with gunnery shall be forwarded to the Department as soon as possible. The paper asks, what can this be in consequence of?

The *Mainichi Shinbun* says a telegram has been received that the *Kongo* left Nagasaki for Yokohama on the morning of the 5th instant, and that therefore she may be expected here shortly.

It is stated in a native paper that about 70 of the officials below the rank of Sonin in the Imperial Household Department are shortly to be discharged.

The same paper says there is a rumour that Mr. Nomura, Governor of Kanagawa prefecture, will shortly be promoted to the Senate.

We learn from the same source that the prison in the Hokkaido is nearly completed, and that criminals will be sent there shortly. In connection with this some officials from the Police Department and the Prison Bureau will shortly be despatched to the locality.

The *Hochi Shinbun* informs us that on the evening of the 5th inst the princess of the blood, the *Daijin*, *Sangi*, and other officials went to the residence of His Majesty the King of Hawaii, where an entertainment, including an exhibition of conjuring, was given. Several Japanese airs were also performed. On the 6th inst., His Royal Highness was to visit the National Exhibition.

The *Hochi Shinbun* contains the following:—His Majesty the King of Hawaii visited the National Exhibition on the morning of the 6th inst., accompanied by His Imperial Highness Higashi-Fushimi-no-Miya, and inspected all the sections. He seems to have been greatly astonished at the prosperous and advanced state the exhibits tended to prove. He paid special attention to the exhibits in the Fine Art Gallery and the Machinery Building, and asked the Japanese officials many questions about the methods of manufacturing &c. The visit over, he took dinner at the *Seiyoken* restaurant and returned to his residence at 3 p.m. On the same evening he invited the *Daijin* and *Sangi* to an entertainment. The paper also states that at first he contemplated leaving for China on the 9th inst., but has postponed his departure for a week, in spite of his feeling the cold intensely, after such a warm climate as that of his own country.

The *Mainichi Shinbun* writes as follows:—His Majesty the Emperor, accompanied by Mr. Yoneda, one of the Imperial chamberlains, left the Palace at 9.30 a.m. on the 8th instant and arrived at the Hibiya parade ground at 10 o'clock. His Majesty the King of Hawaii, with a Minister of his Household Department, arrived there from the Yenrickwan at a little past 10, and had an interview with the Emperor in a tent, during which the military band played. After a short interval Their Majesties the Emperor and the King went out on horseback, followed by Their Imperial Highnesses Arisugawa-no-Miya, Higashi-Fushimi-no-Miya, Fushimi-no-Miya, Kita-Shirakawa-no-Miya, Their Excellencies Sanjo the Prime Minister; Okuma, Oki, Terashima, Yamagata, Ito, Kuroda, Yamada, Privy Counsellors; Tokudaiji, Minister of the Imperial Household Department, and many high Military officers, and His Excellency the Hawaiian Minister of the Royal Household Department. They rode round the parade ground, after which they witnessed the review from a tent. The King left at about 11.10, bidding adieu to the Emperor in the tent, and the Emperor shortly afterwards left for the Palace. On the 7th instant the Emperor presented some *Yamato-nishiki* (valuable Japanese brocade) and several other gifts to the King of Hawaii. The King, accompanied by His Imperial Highness Higashi Fushimi-no-Miya, visited the Government Printing Office on the morning of the 7th inst. It is said that the royal guest will leave for China by an English steamer on the 16th inst.

The *Mainichi Shinbun* says that His Majesty the King of Hawaii visited the Shintomiza theatre on the 9th instant. The programme was the same as that which was prepared when General Grant visited the theatre. Four acts were performed. Tickets were issued by the authorities to many of the officials, private gentlemen, and the editors of the native papers. The Royal visitor arrived at about 7.30 p.m.; on his entry all the native visitors stood up, and applauded by clapping their hands. Their Imperial Highnesses Higashi Fushimi-no-Miya, Kita Shirakawa-no-Miya, Shirakawa-no-Miya, and their wives, and Their Excellencies Ito, and Yamagata, privy councillors; Matsukata, Home Minister; Enomoto, Minister of the Navy, Matsuura, Ueno, Vice-Minister of Foreign Affairs; Matsuda, governor of Tokio, and many other high officials and naval and military officers were present. His Majesty seemed to have been highly pleased with the performance.

The *Hochi Shinbun* says that His Majesty the King of Hawaii will go to the Oji paper factory to-day, and afterwards take tiffin at the country residence of Mr. Shibusawa Yei-ichi. His Majesty visited the *Shikuan Gakko* (Military College) on the 10th instant.

NAVAL AND MILITARY.

The *Choya Shinbun* says:—At present the total number of men-of-war under the control of the Navy Department is twenty-seven, of which 8 are undergoing repairs at Yokosuka; 3 are at the Naval depot; 1 at the branch school at Uruga; 1 at the Engineering school at Yokosuka; 1 at the Naval College as a training ship; 2 abroad; and the remaining 11 at the Eastern Admiralty Office, as forming the regular fleet.

The same paper says that several officers from the Russian men-of-war now in Yokohama, visited the Naval College on afternoon of the 4th inst. and inspected the methods of teaching the cadets, and also witnessed drill on board the *Kenko*.

A native paper writes:—It is said that in the War Department affairs connected with the recent difficulty between Japan and China are kept very secret, and that lately the opinions expressed by the foreign papers with reference to the affair are carefully studied.

The *Nichi Nichi Shinbun* says that in January last, the horses available by the War Department were 1,558; this being 189 less than proper number the balance will be purchased as soon as possible.

INDUSTRIES, TRADE AND FINANCE.

The same journal contains the following:—Mr. Mayeda, a noble and ex-Daimio of Kashi, hearing that many of his former vassals at Kanazawa have been reduced to great poverty, has given instructions to them that they should mutually stimulate one another to undertake some public work in order to ensure gaining their livelihood, and he has offered to advance a sum of money as a subsidiary fund. He sent two of his servants to Kanazawa last year to inquire what work was viewed favourably. All the *shizoku* had elected a number of representatives, opened meetings under the title of *Kogyo-kwai* (Industrial Meetings) with a view to deliberate on the proposals put forward by each of them. Many questions were proposed, such as the establishment of a company for encouraging products, development of marine transport, mining industries, reclamation of waste land, construction of canals, cattle breeding, emigration to Hokkaido, etc., etc. The propositions were more than forty in number, but amongst them there was one that the railway at Tsuruga should be continued to Kanazawa, which attracted many adherents. The editor of the *Ishikawa Shinbun* wrote several consecutive articles on the advantages the scheme would confer. The distance between the two places being about 35 *ri*, however, it was said by some that the work would be difficult and the expenses heavy; and that a railway, in that locality, at present would be just as useful as a goldleaf covered screen would be to a pauper. The question was not decided, but the *shizoku* asked their former chieftain to determine it. He replied that deputies should come to the capital, and accordingly Messrs. Sugimura, and Yamakishi have recently arrived. We think the enterprise will be started at no remote date.

One of the native papers states that an agent of one of the Japanese direct Trading Companies (the *Boyeiki Shokukai*) who went recently to New York with a quantity of silk, sold forty three bales to a dealer in that city, who took delivery on presenting a bill payable at four months sight and then decamped with the goods. Owing to the nature of the bill no legal proceedings can be taken until it has matured, and the seller is naturally in a great state of mind at his loss.

We take the following from the same source:—The *Kogyo Shokukai*, (an industrial company) borrowed, some years ago, the sum of 300,000 yen in specie from the Treasury, without interest, in order to apply it to the purchase of Chinese taels. The term of the loan expired in July or August of last year, and therefore, in accordance with a petition made by Mr. Hasahara Kichigoro, at present director of the Company, the Treasury applied several times to the *Daijokwan* that the loan might be renewed, but answer was received that it must be re-paid before June next.

The *Nichi Nichi Shinbun* informs us that the auxiliary line between Tokio and Yokohama has been completed, and that goods trains will be run on it four times daily on and after the 15th instant.

A native paper writes as follows:—As the railway at Tsuruga, in the province of Echizen, is to be completed shortly the Mitsu Bishi S. S. Co. contemplate opening a regular line between this port and those of Kamaishi, Fushiki, and Niigata, and the necessary preparations are now being made. The sea between these ports being well known to be dangerous, it is said that two of their strongest steamers will be put on the line.

The *Hochi Shinbun's* market report says:—In Yokohama daily purchases of silk are reported. No changes have occurred in price. Owing to the recent rise in silver, holders seem to be slightly inclined to sell, but as one or two foreign firms are purchasing continually, none of them have reduced rates at

present. Both sellers and buyers are holding back for a good chance. From the 1st to the 4th instant 956 bales of stock were sold, and 137 arrived from producing provinces. Tea seems to be comparatively inactive and demands are insignificant. There is a slight enquiry for superior grades, but stocks are very small. About 9,000 bags of sugar have been imported, but nothing is doing. Inferior grades of shirtings, being rather scarce, are saleable, but superior and medium are dull. Black cotton velvet is also unsaleable; prices range from \$7.00 or \$7.50 @ \$8.25 for superior quality.

We learn from the *Mainichi Shinbun* that Mr. Hayakawa, a resident in Yanata-gori, in the prefecture of Tochigi, intends constructing a dock at the 4th battery off Shinagawa. He has lately come to the capital and applied to the Tokio *Fucho* for the loan of the battery (sic). The application was received, and answer given that a definite reply would be forwarded after enquiries had been made into the scheme.

It is stated in a Tokio native paper that for the purpose of loading a considerable quantity of silk on board the French Mail steamer *Menzaleh*, which left on the morning of the 5th inst, the Yokohama Custom House was specially kept open till 11 o'clock the previous night. Also that the silk purchased by Messrs. Bavier & Co., from the *Boyeiki Shokukai*, averages about \$500,000 worth daily.

A local native paper states:—In Yokohama no appreciable change has occurred in silver, it being comparatively quiet but firm. On the 7th instant the market opened at 175.1, and rose to 175.5. At noon it was 175.38. No change worthy of mention has occurred in other specie. Silk being constantly purchased in Europe, is in fair demand, although prices have not gone up. The scarcity of stocks contributes to its activity. A telegram received by the *Boyeiki Shokukai* from London, dated 5.28 p.m. on the 6th instant, quoted as follows:—

Shinshiu 17/6 (\$528); Mayebashi 17/—(\$510); Hachioji 15/6 (\$468); Filature 19/6 (\$588). Market fair.

A native paper writes as follows:—The *Kaikosha* (a steam ship company) of Sakaicho, Kobe, originally established by some men of the Okayama prefecture, started at first in a humble way, but owing to the diligence of its members, it has attracted public attention and has become very prosperous. It now possesses over twenty steamers, large and small. Besides this, it has lately sent an order to England for the construction of two large steamers, and has applied to the Navy Department for permission to employ Mr. Matsuda Kinjiro, a ship constructor of that Department, who graduated in a British Arsenal.

We quote the following from a vernacular journal:—“It is reported by a traveller lately returned from the Okinawa prefecture that on making enquiries as to the mineral products in that group of islands the authorities have found that in the main island there are small quantities of sulphur, coal, and iron, and in other adjacent islands, *Sudsurishi* and coal. In Oshima there is copper and sulphur. On this island typhoons occur towards the end of Spring and the beginning of Summer, every year, and the destruction caused by them is always considerable. Whenever a typhoon is about to come on a small cluster of black clouds appear in the sky.

The *Choya Shinbun* states that the native merchants at Yokohama are exporting the old one rin copper coins in great quantities to China; and that up to date about 2,500,000 yen of these coins must have been sent away.

The same paper states:—On the 5th inst. 380,000 yen in gold was sent to Yokohama from the Treasury, being the interest for the foreign loan. Hitherto the interest has been paid in silver, but this time payment was made in gold.

The *Mainichi Shinbun* states that a boiler of 30 horse-power, which was being manufactured in the Government Printing Office, has been completed; and that it will shortly be sent to the straw-paper factory at Utsunomiya, Tochigi prefecture, for which purpose it was constructed.

We notice in one of the native papers that, as formerly advertised, the *Nogyokunshin Kikai* (Agricultural friendly meeting) was held in the Hongwanji temple at Asakusa, Tokio, on the afternoon of the 8th instant. Notwithstanding the fact that

there was a slight fall of snow, and that the cold was intense, more than one hundred members were present. Mr. Yasui, the president, gave an explanation of the objects of opening the meeting, and Mr. Tsuda Sen delivered an address congratulating the members on the occasion, and explained the intentions of the society to the public. The officials in charge of the Mita nursery garden attended the meeting, and gave details of several agricultural experiments they had made. After the business of the meeting was concluded an entertainment was given, and the members left at about 5 o'clock.

The *Hochi Shinbun* announces that, as formerly stated, sales of the exhibits in the National Exhibition are numerous. During the first week they amounted in all to 17,234,962 yen. The total visitors were on the 1st inst. 9,511; on the 2nd, 3,754; on the 3rd 4,736; on the 4th 2,072; and on the 5th (Saturday) 5,302; total, during the five days, 25,375.

The same paper writes as follows:—In 1874 Messrs. Takashima Kayemon and Takeda Kozo, private gentlemen, projected the construction of a tramway in the capital, and in sixteen of the important highways throughout the Empire, and applied to the government for a permission, which it appears was not granted. Last year, however, the *Basha Tetsudo Kwaisha* (Tramway Company) obtained permission to construct a tramway in the Capital, and therefore believing that permission will doubtless be granted for similar constructions in other localities, several men of enterprise held a private meeting a few days ago to deliberate upon laying down a tramway in the prefecture of Shizuoka.

A native paper writes:—In Yokohama no change has occurred in silk for some days. Deliveries are daily taken by foreign firms. By the *Malacca*, which left on the 7th instant, 135 bales were taken. At present the total stock is about 2,300 bales, most of which are hanks. In tea little is doing although stocks are small; no appreciable changes in prices are reported; the market is firm. As supplies of new tea are expected daily buyers are waiting for them to arrive. The stock is now about 400,000 catties. Superior sugar is comparatively firm, but medium has declined slightly in price. Shirtings are unsaleable. White cotton yarn, owing, it is supposed, to the weakness of holders, is inactive, buyers quoting it at extraordinary low prices. Mushrooms are scarce, and the new season's supplies are anxiously awaited.

The *Nichi Nichi Shinbun* publishes the following:—The former vassals of the Soma Han, living at the post town of Harano, Namekata-gori, Fushima prefecture, recently, with a view to earn a living, contemplated reclaiming waste lands in the neighbourhood, but owing to the want of funds they could not undertake the work. It is said they intend shortly to send a representation to the capital to apply to the government for a loan. The land in question is, it is said, about 3 ri in length, and over 1 ri 20 cho in width.

MISCELLANEOUS.

It is stated in a native paper that in the church at Tomijima, Osaka, meetings are shortly to be held with a view to deliberate upon various religious matters. The missionaries now in Shikoku, and more than 300 native christians, will be invited to attend.

The *Mainichi Shinbun* says that the departure of His Excellency General Oyama, Minister of the Military Department, to France as the new Minister to that country, will be postponed till after the attitude of China is ascertained, as till this is known, his absence would cause much inconvenience in the Department.

Is it too much to suggest that the day may come when, by the march of progress, "Boycotting" will be as familiar a term in Japan, as it is now at home? Stranger things have happened; strikes are already well known and, if the extract we give below from the *Hochi Shinbun* is to be believed, threatening letters are to be added to the list. There is, however, in the one we publish, a tone of well-meant politeness which we should look for in vain in the communications of "Rory of the Hills":—

"An anonymous letter was recently received by the Head of a certain Bureau in the Home Department, as follows:—'Owing

to the steady advance in the price of all commodities since last year, those whose monthly salaries are less than eight yen are no longer able to support themselves, and are in a state of abject distress. We request, therefore, that you will look upon us with merciful consideration, and give orders that our salaries be increased. Should you, however, not grant our request, we shall have no alternative but to shoot you, and afterwards burn down the Bureau. We therefore beg to call your attention to what we contemplate (previously.)'"

The *Nichi Nichi Shinbun* publishes the following:—"On the 6th inst. at about 2 a.m. two armed robbers entered into the residence of Mr. Takahashi Tameyuki, a *shisoku* of Shizuoka prefecture, and a third-class official in the General Post Office, at No. 66, Kinsukecho, Hongo, Tokio. They entered his bedroom, where they tied up Okiku his wife, aged 44 years; Omasa, his daughter, aged 17 years, and Kwanjiro, his son aged 12 years, with obis which they found there, and took Tameyuki, himself, aged 47 years, to the next room, in which they also tied him up. After having repeatedly ordered him to produce all of his money, one of the scoundrels suddenly pushed him down and thrust a sharp sword into his throat. They next seized the daughter Omasa and bending her head back cut her throat also, and finished their butchery by taking the lives of the wife and her son. Having thus murdered all whom they could find they made their escape with as much money, clothes, etc. as they could lay their hands upon. The only survivors were a maid servant, and a little girl seven years of age, whom the former took and hid, with herself, in a cupboard, previous to these murders. After the robbers left, the servant went to the nearest police station and gave information as to what had been done, and strict search was made to discover the scoundrels. On the same day a bloody sword, the handle of which was wrapped in a written paper, was found in the drain in front of a neighbouring bathhouse. The paper proved to be a receipt from the Tokiwaya, a teahouse, at Nedsu, and served indeed as a clue to the whereabouts of the two villains, who were arrested in the middle of a meal there. They proved to be the jinrickisha coolies, who took the official to his place of business every morning. The girl Omasa was about to be married and the necessary preparations were being made. It is presumed that the new clothes for the approaching ceremony tempted the scoundrels to commit their crime. The eldest son of the murdered man is, we believe, in Yokohama. How sad is his lot to lose at once his father, mother, brother and sister!"

The subject of incendiarism is not a fit one for joking, but the cool impudence of the anonymous placard quoted in the following extract from the *Nichi Nichi Shinbun* is worth a moment's notice:—

"In the vicinity of Yotsuya ku, Tokio, where the recent great fire occurred, anonymous notices have been posted up lately everywhere to the effect that such and such streets are shortly to be burned down. A few days ago, however, another notice has appeared as follows:—'Owing to the extreme inclemency of the weather, all incendiarisms will be postponed for a few days.'"

A vernacular journal announces that the *Sei Dan* was suspended by order on the 7th inst.

The same paper writes as follows:—The trains on the railway between Sapporo and Otaru are prevented from running by snow drifts. In such places as the snow accumulates most, straw mats, etc., are used as a preventive. Traffic is only maintained by sending an engine ahead of the train to clear the way with a snow plough; even with this only one train per day can be run.

A native journal contains the following:—We recently gave an account of the disturbed state of the farmers in eighty-two villages round Nishi-gumba-gori, in the prefecture of Gumba. A despatch of the 9th instant informs us that riotous meetings have become very prevalent of late. About 2,800 farmers, arming themselves with various implements, threatened to break into actual revolt and, therefore, since the night of the 6th inst. 48 police inspectors and policemen were dispatched thither by the local Government. They did their best to quell the rioters, but have actually only

made matters worse. Using the *Kongo* temple in the village of Fukushima as their headquarters the farmers are, according to the report, in an actual state of rebellion, striking the bells and blowing bamboo trumpets. On the night of the 7th inst., arming themselves with bamboo spears, etc., they surrounded the residence of Awoki, which is used as a branch office by the local authorities, and evinced a determination to kill anyone who came out. As it seemed that peaceful measures were unavailing, one of the police-inspectors was sent off by the local government to the Barracks at Takasaki, on the morning of the 8th inst., to request the dispatch of troops. On the 10th inst., however, a telegram was received by the Home Department from the local authorities stating that the mob had been dispersed, and a secretary who was dispatched to the scene had withdrawn to Takasaki. We therefore believe the disturbance has already been quelled.

We learn that from the *Choya Shinbun* that at Kitamura-kamigori, and the neighbourhood, in the prefecture of Yamagata, it is by no means unusual, every year, for the snow to accumulate 20 or 30 feet deep. This year however the snowfall has been extraordinary; during the 69 days from the 2nd December last to the 8th Feb. it fell for 44 days and reached to 45 feet in depth. In Hanasawa-mura alone, a small village of about 400 houses, the coolies employed to clear away the snow were 10,000 in number, and their wages amounted to about 3,500 yen. In the mountain villages in the prefecture of Shimaue many wild animals have been caught owing to the deep snow. In Sugiyama-mura, and other eleven villages in the province of Sekishiu 35 wild boar, 667 deer, 2 foxes, 80 badgers, 12 apes, 5 bears, and 178 hares have thus been obtained.

IMPERIAL GOVERNMENT RAILWAYS.

TOKIO AND YOKOHAMA SECTION.

Statement of traffic receipts for the week ending Sunday, 6th March, 1881.

Passengers, parcels, &c.	Yen 8,744.32
Merchandise, &c.	" 1,153.07

Total.....Yen 9,897.39

Miles open 18.

Corresponding week last year.

Passengers, parcels, &c.	Yen 8,245.95
Merchandise, &c.	" 997.20

Total.....Yen 9,243.15
Miles open 18.

TELEGRAPHIC SUMMARY.

(From Indian papers.)

London, 3rd Feb., 7-10 p.m.—Michael Davitt, one of the principal Land Leaguers, has been arrested under a ticket of leave.

London, 3rd Feb.—The Turkish Government decline to state beforehand the maximum concession they will make in rectification of the Greek frontier.

On the introduction of Mr. Gladstone's motion regarding the majority of three fourths of the House an unexampled and tumultuous scene followed. Mr. Dillon was suspended and forcibly expelled and the disorder in the House continued. Mr. Parnell and all the Home Rulers are successively obstructing the business of the House and each in turn were expelled.

Calcutta, 6th February.—A special London telegram states that Lord Harrington proposes to limit the area occupied by our troops in Southern Afghanistan, and to form a Government in Kandahar and districts immediately around it. This proposal will be left to the consideration of the Government of India.

London, 5th Feb.—The House of Commons have adopted Mr. Gladstone's resolution in a modified form, after which the House voted a motion of urgency for coercive measures in Ireland. Mr. Parnell has issued a manifesto advising the people of Ireland to be calm and says that the fight on their behalf in Parliament will be renewed.

The Under Secretary of State for Foreign Affairs replying to a question said that it was not true that Russia had undertaken not to advance on Merv on condition that the British evacuated Kandahar. The Government has reason to believe that the Russians are not advancing on Merv.

The Daily News publishes a telegram stating that there is prospect of another war with Ashantees; 250 of the 1st West India Regiment has been forwarded from Sierra Leone.

The debate in the House of Commons on Friday evening on coercive measures passed off in an orderly manner and was adjourned.

The 97th Regiment from Gibraltar has arrived at Durban.

The sick and wounded have returned to Newcastle.

Land Leaguer outrages have ceased.

Michael Davitt has been sentenced to complete his term of penal servitude.

London, 5th February.—The beleaguered garrison at Fort Pretoria are all well up the 23rd January.

Sir G. Pomeroy Colley has received a telegram of sympathy from the Queen.

London, 7th February.—The *Times* states that General Roberts succeeds Sir Donald Stewart in the Council.

The tone of Greece is moderating.

The Government has laid papers concerning South Africa on the table in the House of Commons. Conciliatory messages have passed between the Governor of the Cape and Mr. Brand, President of the Orange Free State, on the subject of Lord Kimberley's promise that if the Boers desisted from armed opposition a satisfactory arrangement would be made.

The Secretary of State for the Colonies, in reply to a question, said that the Governor who goes to the coast is prepared to resist the Ashantees and remain on the defensive. One thousand troops were at present available and reinforcements were being sent from the West Indies.

The Secretary of State for India replying to a question said that it was impossible to fix the date of the evacuation of Kandahar.

The Russian Government informed Lord Granville that Russia had no intention of further prosecuting conquests in the direction of Merv.

London, 7th Feb.—Latest reports of the beleaguered garrisons in the Transvaal are cheering.

Advices from the West Coast of Africa state that the Ashantees have demanded of the British the surrender of the fugitive Chief now in British territory. The demand has been refused.

Madrid, 8th Feb.—The Spanish Ministry has resigned, and a new one been formed by Senor Sagasta, with Martinez Campos as War Minister.

London, 8th Feb.—Lord Granville, in reply to a question, said that there was no objection to the publication of papers discovered by General Roberts in Cabul.

Lord Lytton gave notice of a resolution condemning the evacuation of Kandahar.

In the House of Commons the debate on the Bill for coercive measures was resumed on Tuesday night and again adjourned.

The Army estimates for the year 1881-82, amount to £16,125,000, being an increase of £125,000.

The Spanish Ministry has resigned and a new one is forming.

Latest news from the Transvaal state that the Boers are strongly entrenched at Langenek and that they threaten to invade Natal after the next victory. They have also stopped the mail service between Sir G. P. Colley's camp and Newcastle. All transports with reinforcements have arrived at Durban.

H. M. Corvette *Champion*, 14 guns, has been ordered to the Gold-coast; she will collect gunboats on the stations and organise a naval brigade for service against the Ashantees should hostilities break out.

London, 9th Feb.—The latest advices from the Transvaal state that communications with Sir G. Colley's camp, which were totally interrupted, are now partially restored.

Sir G. Colley has sent the 60th Rifles out to disperse the Boers who are threatening his communications.

The *Standard* publishes a paragraph stating that the Commander-in-Chief has forcibly advocated the retention of Kandahar.

London, 9th February.—The House of Commons have read Mr. Foster's Coercion Bill a second time; it has been passed by 359 votes against 56.

Sir G. Pomeroy Colley attacked the Boers on Tuesday the 8th instant before Newcastle and Ingogo and defeated

them. The British loss in killed and wounded was 150; the loss of Boers was heavy. The following officers were killed, Macgregor, Royal Engineers, Captain Green, Artillery; Lients Garrete, and O'Connell, 60th Rifles.

Sir G. Pomeroy Colley's account of the action of the 8th instant states, that his communications being threatened, he advanced to clear the roads and seized a plateau on this side of Ingogo. Boers being strongly reinforced attacked the British on all sides for six hours.

London, 10th Feb.—The *Daily Telegraph* states that a report is current that the House of Commons issued a warrant on Wednesday night to apprehend Mr. Parnell.

The Turkish Government has decreed an internal loan in the shape of a Poll Tax, of 300 piastres.

Lord Hartington in reply to a question said that the secret Russian correspondence discovered in Kabul made no difference as to the decision of Government in respect to the evacuation of Kandahar. It was true, he said, that the Duke of Cambridge had drawn up a minute favouring retention of Kandahar.

The Premier replying to a question said that Lord Kimberley had sent instructions to Sir G. Pomeroy Colley on the 8th instant to ask Mr. Brand, President of the Orange Free State, to inform the Boers that England will give all reasonable guarantees if they will lay down a scheme for a permanent amicable settlement.

A special London telegram states that the publication of the Russian correspondence created the greatest excitement both in and out of Parliament and aroused a general feeling of indignation against Russia.

Sir George Pomeroy Colley's success in the late action is generally considered questionable at home.

THE JAPANESE PRESS.

JAPAN MUST ASSUME THE OFFENSIVE AGAINST CHINA.

(Translated from the *Sei Dan*.)

THE recent difficulty between China and Japan is greatly occupying public attention, and various rumours about it are current. As the matter is kept a diplomatic secret, however, it is impossible to say which of them, if any, is true. One report states that Mr. Shishido, our Envoy Extraordinary and Minister Plenipotentiary at Peking, being disgusted with the procrastinating and evasive attitude of the Chinese Government on the subject of the Rinku negotiations, has left Peking for Shanghai overland, and that all the officials of the Legation have withdrawn with the exception of Mr. Tanabe, one of chief secretaries of the Foreign Department, he alone remaining with a few subordinates in order to make final negotiations with the Peking Government; and that should the same policy of procrastination be pursued, he also will withdraw. Another rumour states that China, finding herself well prepared, owing to her expected rupture with Russia, has determined now to employ her preparations in declaring war against us, and that Mr. Inouye, one of the First Secretaries of the Daijokwan, has become convinced that the feelings of friendship between Japan and China can no longer be sustained, in consequence of which he returned to Tokio on the 3rd instant, with the Secretaries of the Legation. Other rumours go further and announce that a rupture has actually taken place. Although it is impossible to say whether these reports are true or not, the recent aspect of relations between the two countries leads us to believe that we are standing on the brink of a precipice.

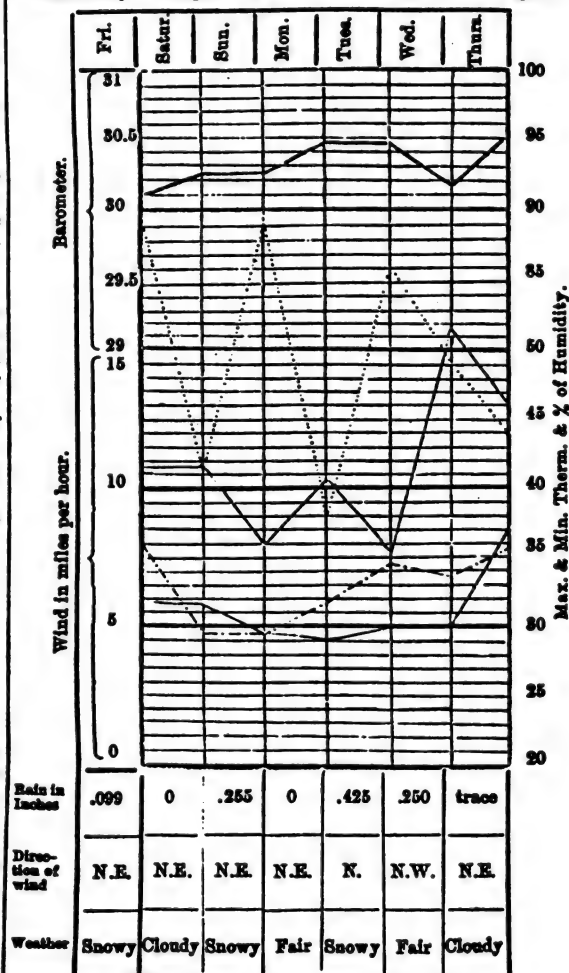
If this be actually the case, and relations between Japan and China are strained to their utmost point of tension, we must at once seek the best method to resist the action of the latter. As far as matters stand at present we have the advantage, as we already hold Rinku, and therefore unless China, reckless of consequences, attempts to take it, we need not take up arms against her. But if she appear determined to press the question upon us, we must not wait for her approach, but actually attack her at home. Some may urge that we should hold back and wait for her; that as she is the plaintiff, so to speak, we, the defendants, have no need to take up arms until assailed. Although there may be some reasoning in this, if the anticipated rupture actually takes place we must hasten, and taking advantage

of her not being thoroughly prepared, enter the capital after a single battle, and hoist the banner of the Rising Sun over the walls of Peking!

METEOROLOGICAL REPORT

FOR WEEK BEGINNING FRIDAY, MARCH 4TH, 1881.

Observatory of Daigaku, Moto-Fujicho, Hongō, Tokio, Japan.



REMARKS.

Heavy line represents barometer.

Light continuous line—max. & min. thermometers.

.....represents velocity of wind.

.....percentage of humidity.

Max. velocity of wind 18 miles per hour on Friday at noon.

The barometer is reduced to the freezing point and to the level of the sea.

The highest reading of the barometer for the week was 30.569 inches on Tuesday at 10 a.m. and the lowest was 30.063 inches on Friday at 2 p.m. A glance at the diagram shows that an unusually high barometer has prevailed throughout the week. The highest temperature for the week was 51°.8 on Wednesday and the lowest was 29° on Monday. The maximum and minimum for the corresponding week of last year were 51°.8 and 27° respectively.

The total amount of rain and snow for the week was 1.030 inches, against 1.531 inches for the corresponding week of last year. Snow fell on Friday, Sunday and Tuesday.

CHURCH SERVICES.

CHRIST CHURCH.

Sunday Morning 11 A.M.
" Evening 5.30 P.M.

E. CHAMPNEYS IRWIN, M.A.,
The Parsonage, 101.

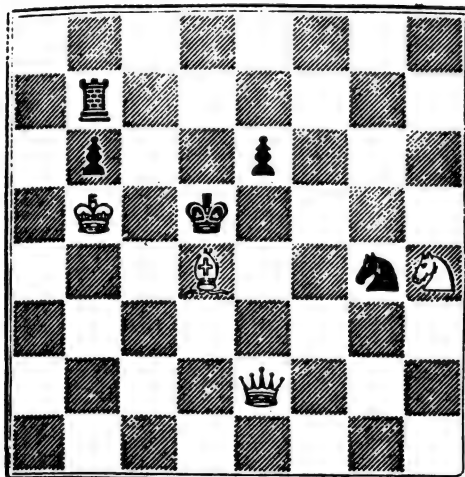
UNION CHURCH, No. 167.

Sunday Morning 11 A.M.
" Evening 8 P.M.

REV. LUTHER H. GULICK, M.D.,
Pastor

CHESS PROBLEM,
By W. H. TAYLOR.

BLACK.



WHITE.

White to play and mate in 3 moves.

SOLUTION OF CHESS PROBLEM OF MARCH 5TH, BY B. G. DAWES.

White.
1.—Q. to Q. 4.
2.—Q. to R. 4, ch.
3.—Q. to Kt. 3.

Black.
1.—K. takes Kt. B. 7.
2.—K. to Kt. 8.

2.—Q. to K. Kt. 4, ch.
3.—Q. to Kt. 2.

if 1.—K. takes Kt. K. 7.
2.—K. moves.

2.—Kt. to B. sq.
3.—Q. mates at Kt. or R. sq.

if 1.—P. takes Kt. B. 7.
2.—K. moves.

2.—Kt. to K. sq.
3.—Q. mates at Kt. or R. sq.

if 1.—P. takes Kt. K. 7.
2.—K. moves.

Last week's problem should have had a White Bishop on K's B's 6th; with this correction, answers from Q. and Omega are correct.

SHIPPING INTELLIGENCE.

I N W A R D S .

March 5, German 3-masted schooner *Amoy*, J. E. Schade, 314, from Takao, Sagar, to Chinese.
Mar. 7, Japanese steamer *Wakanoura Maru*, Christiansen, 1,343, from Kobe, Mails and General, to M. B. Co.
Mar. 7, British steamer *Benedi*, Ross, 1,315, from London via Hongkong, General, to Mourilyan, Heimann & Co.
Mar. 9, Japanese steamer *Tokio Maru*, Swain, 1,145, from Shanghai and ports, Mails and General, to M. B. Co.
March 9, Japanese steamer *Toyoshima Maru*, Hubbard, 946, from Kobe, Mails and General, to M. B. Co.
Mar. 10, Japanese steamer *Tamamura Maru*, Carrow, 559, from Hakodate, Mails and General, to M. B. Co.
March 11, French steamer *Volga*, Guiraud, 1,502, from Hongkong, Mails and General, to M. M. Co.
March 11, German barque *Anna Sieben*, Paulsen, 604, from Antwerp, General, Order.
Mar. 12, British steamer *Keelung*, Vincent, 919, from Antwerp via Hongkong, General, to Butterfield & Swire.

PASSENGERS.

Per Japanese steamer *Wakanoura Maru* from Kobe:—150 Japanese in the steerage.
Per Japanese steamer *Tokio Maru*, from Shanghai and ports:—Mr. and Mrs. Hafter and infant, and 10 Japanese in cabin; 1 European, 3 Chinese and 204 Japanese in the steerage.
Per Japanese steamer *Toyoshima Maru*, from Kobe:—Messrs. J. W. Taylor and F. E. A. Lawton in cabin.
Per French steamer *Volga* from Hongkong:—Mrs. Sameshima and child, Mr. Sameshima, Miss Lehmert, Messrs. Koyura, Langridge, Katouu, Esuebuchi, Kochiro, Kakimoto, and Blum.

O U T W A R D S .

Mar. 5, British steamer *Larch*, Colledge, 916, for Kobe, General, despatched by Wilkin & Robison.
Mar. 5, Japanese steamer *Meiji Maru*, Peters, 1,010, for Kobe, General, despatched by Lighthouse Department.
Mar. 6, British brig *Minatillan*, Edwards, 224, for Takao, Ballast, despatched by Chinese.
Mar. 6, British steamer *Oceanic*, Metcalfe, 2,440, for Hongkong, Mails and General, despatched by O. & O. Co.
Mar. 6, Russian corvette *Crayser*, Captain Nazinoff, 1,500, for Nagasaki.

Mar. 7, Russian Ironclad *Kniaz Poyarsky*, Captain Tirtoff, 4,291, 12 guns, for Nagasaki.
Mar. 7, German schooner *Balthazar*, Fulda, 298, for Chefoo, General, despatched by H. Grauert.
Mar. 7, Japanese steamer *Suminoye Maru*, Frahm, for Hakodate, Mails and General, despatched by M. B. Co.
Mar. 7, Japanese steamer *Kokonoye Maru*, Dithlefsen, 1,133, for Hongkong via Kobe, Mails and General, despatched by M. B. Co.
Mar. 8, Japanese steamer *Shinagawa Maru*, Walker, 908, for Kobe, Mails and General, despatched by M. B. Co.
March 9, British steamer *Oxfordshire*, Jones, 991, for Kobe, General, despatched by Smith, Baker & Co.
March 9, Japanese steamer *Wakamatsu Maru*, Christensen, 1,300, for Kobe, Mails and General, despatched by M. B. Co.
March 9, Japanese steamer *Hiroshima Maru*, Haswell, 1,870, for Shanghai and ports, Mails and General, despatched by M. B. Co.
March 10, British steamer *Malacca*, Weighell, 1,709, for Hongkong, Mails and General, despatched by P. & O. Co.
Mar. 11, British sloop, *Albatross*, Captain Errington, 894 tons, 120 H.P., 4-guns, for a cruise.
March 12, Russian cruiser *Africa*, Captain Aleksoff, 2,800 tons, 13 guns, for Nagasaki.

PASSENGERS.

Per British steamer *Oceanic*, for Hongkong:—Messrs. E. C. Ray, Geo. Austin, J. L. Anderson, C. P. Hubble, Geo. B. Emory and Edward Fischer.
Per Japanese steamer *Kokonoye Maru* for Hongkong via Kobe:—Miss Talcott, Messrs. H. H. Leavitt, G. R. Leavitt, A. Evers and 3 Japanese in cabin.
Per Japanese steamer *Hiroshima Maru* for Shanghai and ports:—Mr. and Mrs. C. Edale, Mr. and Mrs. Pialikoff, Mrs. Wood and daughter, Messrs. Ray, Rogers, Pelikan, J. Andrew, Mototikoff, and 21 Japanese in cabin.
Per British steamer *Malacca*, for Hongkong:—Mr. and Mrs. Crane, 4 children and 2 servants, Messrs. E. J. Wheeler, R.N., and A. W. Glennie in cabin; 5 Chinese in steerage.

CARGOES.

Per British steamer *Malacca* for Hongkong:—
Silk for France 121 bales.
" Italy 13 "
Total 134 bales.
Per French steamer *Volga* from Hongkong:—
General for Yokohama 2,637 pkgs.
" Hiogo 59 "
Total 2,696 pkgs.

REPORTS.

The Japanese steamer *Wakanoura Maru* reports:—Left Kobe 6 a.m. 5th instant. Experienced strong N.E. and E. winds entire passage. Anchored in Kaneda Bay on the 6th instant at 6 p.m. owing to thick weather; got under weigh at daylight of 6th inst. and arrived at Yokohama at 9 a.m. 7th instant.
The Japanese steamer *Toyoshima Maru* reports:—Left Kobe at 6.30 p.m. on the 6th inst. Fine weather to Omisaki, thence to port, hard N.E. gale with thick snow storm. Anchored off Yokosuka at 7.30 p.m. on the 8th. Got under weigh at 5.30 a.m. on the 9th. Arrived at Yokohama at 6.30 a.m.

NATIVE CURRENCY QUOTATIONS.
(For Week Ending 12th March, 1881.)

	Discount on Yen Sats.			Gold Yen.	Nibus.	Silver Subsidiary (New.)	Silver Subsidiary (Old.)
	A. M.	Noon.	Closing.				
1881							
Saturday Mar.	5 74 $\frac{1}{2}$	75	75	—	—	—	—
Monday	7 74 $\frac{1}{2}$	75 $\frac{1}{2}$	75 $\frac{1}{2}$	—	—	—	—
Tuesday	8 75 $\frac{1}{2}$	75 $\frac{1}{2}$	75 $\frac{1}{2}$	—	—	—	—
Wednesday	9 75 $\frac{1}{2}$	75 $\frac{1}{2}$	75 $\frac{1}{2}$	—	—	—	—
Thursday	10 75 $\frac{1}{2}$	75 $\frac{1}{2}$	75 $\frac{1}{2}$	—	—	—	—
Friday	11 75 $\frac{1}{2}$	74 $\frac{1}{2}$	74 $\frac{1}{2}$	—	—	—	—
Saturday	12 74 $\frac{1}{2}$	74 $\frac{1}{2}$	74 $\frac{1}{2}$	—	—	—	—

LIGHTSHIP SIGNALS.

The following are the signals made from the lightship to denote the approach of vessels:—
Merchant steamer:—A black ball, with the national flag of the vessel below, at the yard arm.
Mail steamer:—A black diamond, with the company's flag below, at the peak.
Man-of-war:—National flag of the vessel at the peak.
Sailing vessels:—For a ship: flag B. (red): barque, flag C. (red ball on white ground): brig, flag D. (white ball on blue ground): schooner, flag E. (white ball on red ground) all commercial code, with the vessel's national flag below as soon as it can be made out.

SHIPPING INTELLIGENCE.

VESSELS IN HARBOUR.

NAME.	CAPTAIN.	FLAG AND RIO.	TONN.	FROM.	ARRIVED.	CONSIGNEES.
STEAMERS.						
Benledi	Ross	British steamer	1,315	London via Hongkong	Mar. 7	Mourilyan, Heilmann & Co.
Tanais	Reynier	French steamer	1,735	Hongkong	Feb. 22	M. M. Co.
Tokio Maru	Swain	Japanese steamer	1,845	Shanghai & ports	Mar. 9	M. B. Co.
Volga	Guirand	French steamer	1,302	Hongkong	Mar. 11	M. M. Co.
SAILING SHIPS.						
Alexander	Carson	Americanschooner	52	Nagasaki	Nov. 3	J. E. Collyer
Amoy	J. E. Schade	Am. 3-mast schr.	314	Takao	Mar. 5th	M. B. Co.
Anna Sieben	Paulsen	German barque	604	Antwerp	Mar. 11	Order
Cilurnum	Beadle	British ship	1,850	Hongkong	Nov. 8	Edward Fischer & Co.
Hedvig	Frabm	British barque	375	Takao	Mar. 4	Soo Hoo
Helena	Ewalt	German schooner	60	Kurile Islands	Oct. 31	Captain
Lottie	Hilts	German schooner	26	Kurile Islands	Sept. 4	Hohnholz & Co.
Mary C. Bohm	Petersen	German schooner	55	Kurile Islands	Oct. 24	P. Bohm
North Star	Johnson	Russian schooner	42	Kurile Islands	Nov. 16	H. W. Hohnholz & Co.
Otome	Hardy	Americanschooner	72	Kurile Islands	Dec. 13	H. Snow
Otago	Isaacson	Russian schooner	46	Kurile Islands	Nov. 3	H. Cook
Pioneer	Maies	Russian schooner	72	Homo, via Hakodate	Jan. 17	Walsh, Hall & Co.
Stella	Werner	Americanschooner	30	Kurile Islands	Oct. 11	Captain

VESSELS OF WAR IN PORT.

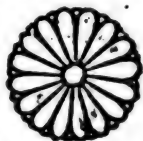
NAME.	GUNS.	TONN.	H. P.	DESCRIPTION.	WHERE FROM.	COMMANDER.
FRENCH—Champlain	10	2,000	—	Corvette	Kobe	Captain Dubrot
RUSSIAN—Minia	16	5,300	6,300	Ironclad	Nagasaki	Captain Nazimoff

VESSELS ON THE BERTH.

DESTINATION.	NAME.	AGENTS.	TO BE DESPATCHED.
San Francisco	Gaelic	O. & O. Co.	March 18th
Hongkong via Kobe	Niigata Maru	M. B. Co.	March 19th, at 4 P.M.
Shanghai and way-ports	Tokio Maru	M. B. Co.	March 16th, at 4 P.M.
San Francisco	Cilurnum	Edward Fischer & Co.	Unsettled
San Francisco	Oceanic	O. & O. Co.	April 2nd
London via Japan and China ports	Gordon Castle	Adamson, Bell & Co.	Quick despatch
Hongkong	Tanais	M. M. Co.	March 19th, at 9 a.m.

MISCELLANEOUS.

[TRANSLATION]



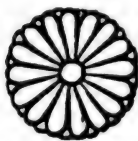
NOTIFICATION

No. 13 of Daijokwan.

IT IS HEREBY NOTIFIED that any Master, Mate or Engineer, holding a Certificate of Competency from any Foreign Government shall, provided the qualifications and requirements under which any such Certificate was issued are deemed to be in no ways inferior to the qualifications and requirements for a Certificate of a corresponding grade under Notification No. 82 of the 9th Year of Meiji, be entitled to a Certificate of Competency of a similar grade without undergoing any examination.

It is also further Notified that the regular examination of applicants for Masters, Mates or Engineers Certificates shall here-after only be held during the 3rd, 6th, 9th and 12th Months of each Year, on such day and hour as shall hereafter be Notified by Yekitei Kioku.

(Signed) SANJO SANEYOSHI,
Daijō-Daijin.



NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that in accordance with Notification of Daijōkwan No. 13, the regular examination of Applicants for Masters, Mates or Engineers Certificates will, till further notice, be conducted at Tokio on the third Tuesday in every 3rd, 6th, 9th and 12th Month of each year, commencing at 9.00 a.m.

H. MAYESHIMA
Chief Superintendent.

Yekitei Kioku, Feb. 24th, 1880.

NOTICE TO MARINERS.

No. 129.

CHINA SEA.

SHANGHAI DISTRICT.

WRECK NEAR THE AMHERST ROCKS.

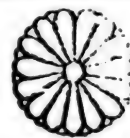
NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that the British Bark *CHINAMAN* lies sunk in 5 fathoms of water 7 miles to the S. 37° W. of the Amherst Rocks. The iron masts are at present visible.

By order of the Inspector General of Customs.

DAVID M. HENDERSON,
Engineer-in-Chief.

Imperial Maritime Customs,
Engineer's Office,
Shanghai, 24th January, 1881.

MISCELLANEOUS.



NOTICE TO MARINERS.

No. 1 of the 14th Year of Meiji, (1881)

KAGENO SIMA LIGHTHOUSE.

ENTRANCE TO NAGASAKI HARBOUR.

THE GOVERNMENT OF JAPAN hereby gives notice that, on the night of the 1st day of the 3rd Month of the 14th Year of Meiji (1st March, 1881), and every night thereafter, from Sunset to Sunrise, a Fixed Red Light of the 6th Order will be exhibited from the tower built on the Northern point of Kageno Sima, at the Entrance to the harbour of Nagasaki, in the province of Hizen.

According to the Japanese Admiralty Chart No. 108, and the British Admiralty Chart No. 2415, the Lighthouse is situated in latitude 32 degrees 42 minutes 42 seconds North, and in longitude 129 degrees 49 minutes 37 seconds East of Greenwich.

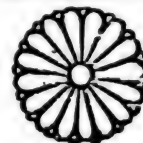
The Tower is built of stone, and is 15 feet 8 inches high from the base to the center of the lantern.

The Light will have an arc of visibility of 206 degrees, the cut off bearings being N. 81° 30' W. and S. 55° 30' E. Bearings true.

The total elevation of the Light above the sea will be 40 feet, and its range of visibility, in clear weather, about 8 Nautical miles.

YAMAO YOZO,
Minister of Public Works.

Tokai, February 3rd, 1881.



NOTICE TO MARINERS.

No. 2 of the 14th Year of Meiji, (1881)

BLACK BUOY OFF HANEDA LIGHTHOUSE

BAY OF YEDO.

THE GOVERNMENT OF JAPAN hereby gives notice that the Black Buoy, which was moored off Haneda shoal, Bay of Yedo, before the erection of the Pile-Lighthouse in the 8th Year of Meiji (1875) on said shoal, and which has remained in same position ever since, will be removed on the First day of the Seventh month of the Fourteenth year of Meiji (1st July 1881), experience having proved that navigation is now safe without the Buoy.

YAMAO YOZO,
Minister of Public Works.

Tokai, February 22nd, 1881.

MISCELLANEOUS.

**SEVENTH DRAWING.
CHINESE
IMPERIAL GOVERNMENT
LOAN OF 1877.**

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN, that in conformity with the stipulation contained in the Bonds of this Loan, 1146 Bonds of £100 sterling each—£114,600, to be paid off at par, on the 28th of February next, when the Interest thereon will cease, were this day Drawn at the Offices of the HONGKONG AND SHANGHAI BANKING CORPORATION, 81, Lombard Street, London, E.C., in the presence of GEORGE HENRY BURNETT, Esq., Accountant of the said Corporation, and of the undersigned Notary Public.

FOR THE HONGKONG AND SHANGHAI
BANKING CORPORATION,

(Signed) GEO. H. BURNETT,
Accountant.

Countersigned,

W. W. VENN, Jun.,
Notary Public,

2, Pope's Head Alley, Cornhill, E.C.

London, 13th December, 1880.

The Numbers of Bonds Drawn can be ascertained on application at this Office.

For the HONGKONG AND SHANGHAI
BANKING CORPORATION,

JOHN WALTER,
Manager.

Yokohama, February 5th, 1881.

"HIGHEST AWARD & PRIZE MEDAL PHILADELPHIA
EXHIBITION, 1876."

**Oakey's
WELLINGTON KNIFE POLISH**
PREPARED EXPRESSLY FOR THE PATENT KNIFE-
CLEANING MACHINES, INDIA RUBBER AND BUFF
LEATHER KNIFE BOARDS. KNIVES CONSTANTLY
CLEANED WITH IT HAVE A BRILLIANT POLISH EQUAL
TO NEW CUTLERY. PACKETS 3D. EACH; AND TINS,
6D., 1/-, 2/6 AND 4/- EACH.

**Oakey's
INDIA RUBBER KNIFE BOARDS**
PREVENT FRICTION IN CLEANING AND INJURY TO
THE KNIFE. Oakey's Wellington Knife Polish
SHOULD BE USED WITH HIS BOARDS.

**Oakey's
SILVERSMITHS SOAP**
[NON-MERCURIAL],
FOR CLEANING AND POLISHING SILVER, ELECTRO-
PLATE, PLATE GLASS, &c. TABLETS 6D. EACH.

**Oakey's
WELLINGTON BLACK LEAD**
IN SOLID BLOCKS—1D., 2D. & 4D. EACH, & 1S. BOXES.

JOHN OAKEY & SONS
MANUFACTURERS OF
EMERY CLOTH, BLACK LEAD, CABINET
GLASS-PAPER, &c.
WELLINGTON EMERY & BLACK LEAD MILLS
WESTMINSTER BRIDGE ROAD, LONDON, ENGLAND.
July, 1879.

MISCELLANEOUS.

THE GREATEST
**WONDER OF MODERN TIMES
HOLLOWAY'S PILLS.**

Persons suffering from weak or debilitated constitutions will discover that by the use of this wonderful medicine there is "Health for all." The blood is the fountain of life, and its purity can be maintained by the use of these Pills.

SIR SAMUEL BAKER,
in his work entitled "The Nile Tributaries in Abyssinia," says, "I ordered the druggist Mahomet to inform the Fakay that I was a Doctor, and that I had the best medicines at the service of the sick, with advice gratis. In a short time I had many applicants, to whom I served out a quantity of Holloway's Pills. These are most useful to an explorer, as possessing unmistakable purgative properties they create an undeniable effect upon the patient, which satisfies him of their value."

**SIMPLE, SAFE AND CERTAIN!
HOLLOWAY'S OINTMENT.**

Is a certain remedy for bad legs, bad breasts, and ulcerations of all kinds. It acts miraculously in healing ulcerations, curing skin diseases, and in arresting and subduing all inflammations.

MR. J. T. COOPER,
in his account of his extraordinary travels in China, published in 1871, says—"I had with me a quantity of Holloway's Ointment. I gave some to the people, and nothing could exceed their gratitude; and, in consequence, milk, fowls, butter, and horse-feed poured in upon us, until at last a tea-spoonful of Ointment was worth a fowl and any quantity of peas, and the demand became so great that I was obliged to lock up the small remaining stock." Sold by all Chemists and Medicine Vendors throughout the World May 17th, 1873.

**SAVORY & MOORE'S
ASTHMA,
FOR DIFFICULT
BREATHING
&c
DATURA
TATULA**
Cigars, Cigarettes or Tobacco, also Pastilles and Powder for Inhalation.
SAVORY & MOORE, NEW BOND STREET, LONDON,
And of all Chemists and Storekeepers throughout the world.
December 1880.

H. MacARTHUR,
**SHIP-BROKER AND CUSTOMS
AGENT,**
NO. 70, Yokohama,
(Opposite the Old British Post Office).
Yokohama, 4th May, 1880.

MISCELLANEOUS.

ANDW. H. HANDYSIDE & CO.

Limited.

32, Walbrook. London.

BRITANNIA IRON WORKS, DERRY.

Manufacture all kinds of

IRONWORK,

Structural & Ornamental.

BRIDGES of every description. Girder Bridges. Arch Bridges. Suspension Bridges.

A. H. & Co. make every year for Foreign Countries some thousands of Tons of Bridges.

LANDING-PIERS AND JETTIES.

ROOFS AND BUILDINGS. MARKETS

Illustrated Catalogue (A) free on Application.

ORNAMENTAL IRONWORK, ETC.

See Large New Illustrated Catalogues (B. & C.) with 1,300 designs.

Railings. Balcony Panels.
Gates. Street Posts.
Lamp-pillars. Lamp-brackets.
Balusters. Newels.
Crestings. Terminals.

Columns. Column Capitals.
Brackets. Gratings.
Windows. Casements.
Fountains. Drinking Fountains.
Vases. Pedestals.

Conservatories. Band-Stands.

SMITH'S HEARTHES & PORTABLE FORGES

12 Shapes and Sizes.

Catalogue (D) free on Application.

Andw. Handyside & Co., Limited.
LONDON.

26 ins.



JOSEPH GILLOTT'S STEEL PENS.	Gold.
JOSEPH GILLOTT'S STEEL PENS.	Medal.
JOSEPH GILLOTT'S STEEL PENS.	Paris.
JOSEPH GILLOTT'S STEEL PENS.	1878.

April, 1880.

MISCELLANEOUS.

SAVORY PANCREATIC EMULSION
MOORE'S MEDICINAL FOOD

FOR INFANTS

SAVORY DATTULA
FOR ASTHMA

ASTHMA & DIFFICULT BREATHING
promptly relieved and paroxysms averted by
Datura Tatula Inhalations
Testimonials accompanying each box of Datura Tatula Inhalations. Price 1s. 6d. in the chemical form of tobacco, and also in powder form for burning, from 5s. 6d. to 21s.

ROYAL NURSERIES.
THE MOST DIGESTIBLE,
CONTAINS
THE HIGHEST AMOUNT OF
NOURISHMENT in the
MOST CONVENIENT FORM.
In Tins 1s., 2s., 5s., and 10s.

IN CONSUMPTION AND WASTING DISEASES
IMPROVES THE APPETITE
Increases Strength and Weight.
Bottles 3s., 6s., 4s., 6d. and 1s.

143, NEW BOND ST., LONDON, and of Chemists, &c., everywhere.

August 2, 1879.

26780

TRADE MARK.



ELLWOOD'S
PATENT AIR CHAMBER
HATS AND HELMETS
THE ONLY EFFECTUAL PROTECTION
AGAINST SUN STROKE.

To be obtained of all respectable Hatters and Outfitters
and Wholesale only of

J. ELLWOOD & SONS,
LONDON.

Beware of Useless Imitations.

DINNEFORD'S THE SAFEST MILD
APERIENT FOR DELICATE
CONSTITUTIONS, LADIES,
CHILDREN AND INFANTS,
AND FOR REGULAR USE
IN WARM CLIMATES.



DINNEFORD & Co., Chemists
London,

N.B. ASK FOR DINNEFORD'S MAGNESIA.

FLUID MAGNESIA.

And of Druggists and Storekeepers throughout
the World.

April 10, 1880

1y.

MISCELLANEOUS.

**CROSSE & BLACKWELL'S
CELEBRATED OILMEN'S STORES.**

Five Prize Medals, Paris, Vienna and Philadelphia.

PICKLES AND SAUCES,
JAMS AND JELLIES,
ORANGE MARMALADE,
TART FRUITS, DESSERT FRUITS,
PURE SALAD OIL,
MUSTARD, VINEGAR,
POTTED MEATS AND FISH,
FRESH SALMON AND HERRINGS,
HERRINGS A LA SARDINE,
YARMOUTH BLOATERS,
BLACKWALL WHITEBAIT,
PREPARED SOUPS, IN TINS,
PRESERVED VEGETABLES,
HAMS AND BACON, IN TINS,
PRESERVED CHEESE,
OXFORD AND CAMBRIDGE SAUSAGES,
BOLOGNA SAUSAGES,
YORKSHIRE GAME AND PORK PIES,
TONGUES, GAME, POULTRY,
PLUM PUDDINGS,
LEA AND PERRINS' WORCESTERSHIRE
SAUCE.

*Fresh supplies of the above, and numerous other table
delicacies, may be had from most Storekeepers.*

CAUTION.

To prevent the fraud of refilling the bottles or jars
they should invariably be destroyed when empty.
Goods should always be examined upon delivery, to
detect any attempt at substitution of articles of inferior
brands.

*All genuine goods bear the names of Crosse & Blackwell
on the Labels, Corks and Capsules of the Bottles,
Jars and Tins.*

CROSSE & BLACKWELL,
PURVEYORS TO THE QUEEN,
SOHO SQUARE, LONDON.

July, 1878.

ADOLPHUS SINGTON & CO.,

5, ST. PETER'S SQUARE,
MANCHESTER,
ENGLAND.

**CONTRACTORS, CIVIL ENGINEERS, AND
EXPORTERS**

OF ALL DESCRIPTIONS OF
MACHINERY.

May 4, 1878.

MISCELLANEOUS.

**J. & E. ATKINSON'S
PERFUMERY,**

celebrated for nearly a century past, is of the very best English
manufacture. For its purity and great excellence it has
obtained the following

EXHIBITION PRIZE MEDALS,
LONDON, 1862. PARIS, 1875. CORDOVA, 1872. LIMA, 1871.
VIENNA, 1874. PHILADELPHIA, 1876.
GOLD MEDAL PARIS, 1878.

**ATKINSON'S CHOICE PERFUMES FOR
THE HANDKERCHIEF.**

White Rose, Frangipanne, Ylang-ylang, Stephanotis,
Opopanax, Jeckey Club, Eau Bouquet, Trevel,
Magnolia, Jasmin, Wood Violet, Gold Medal Bouquet,
and all other odours, of the finest quality only.

ATKINSON'S FLORIDA WATER,

a most fragrant Perfume distilled from the choicest Essences

ATKINSON'S QUININE HAIR LOTION,
a very refreshing Wash which stimulates the skin to a healthy
action and promotes the growth of the hair.

**ATKINSON'S
ETHEREAL ESSENCE OF LAVENDER,**

a powerful Perfume distilled from the finest Sowers.

ATKINSON'S WHITE ROSE TOILET VINEGAR,
a new and indispensable Toilet accompaniment, and most
refreshing Perfume for the Handkerchief.

ATKINSON'S WHITE ROSE TOOTH PASTE,
and other Specialties and general articles of Perfumery may
be obtained of all dealers throughout the World, and of the
Manufacturers.

J. & E. ATKINSON,
24, OLD BOND STREET, LONDON, W.

PRICE LIST FREE ON APPLICATION.

CAUTION.—Beware. J. & E. ATKINSON manufacture
their articles of use and the best quality only. Purchasers are
entitled to avoid counterfeits by observing that each article
is labelled with the firm's Trade Mark, a "White Rose" on a
"Golden Lyre."

ESTABLISHED 1790.

NOTICE.

No. 31, } **COMMERCIAL DINING ROOMS.** { No. 31,
Water Street. } Water Street

ON and after this date, the following prices will be
charged:—

BOARDper month \$25.00

Very comfortable bed-rooms,

With European fire-places, and every comfort guaranteed

WM. CURTIS.

Yokohama, November 9th, 1880.

THE BEST REMEDY FOR INDIGESTION.

TRADE



MARK.

CAMOMILE PILLS are confidently recommended as a simple Remedy for Indigestion, which is
the cause of nearly all the diseases to which we are subject, being a medicine so uniformly grateful
and beneficial, that it is with justice called the "Natural Strengthener of the Human Stomach."
"Norton's Pills" act as a powerful tonic and gentle aperient; are mild in their operation, safe
under any circumstances, and thousands of persons can now bear testimony to the benefits to be
derived from their use, as they have been a never-failing Family Friend for upwards of 45 years.
Sold in Bottles at 1s. 1½d., 2s. 6d., and 11s. each, by all Medicine Vendors throughout the World.

CAUTION.

Be sure and ask for "NORTON'S PILLS," and do not be persuaded to purchase an imitation.

November 11th, 1878.

MISCELLANEOUS.

BUGS, FLEAS, MOTHS, BEETLES,

and all other insects are destroyed by

KEATING'S INSECT POWDER,

which is quite harmless to Domestic Animals.

In exterminating Beetles the success of this Powder is extraordinary, and no one need be troubled by those pests. It is perfectly clean in application.

Ask for and be sure to obtain "KEATING'S POWDER," as Imitations are Noxious, and fail in giving satisfaction.

SOLD BY ALL CHEMISTS IN BOTTLES, 1/- & 2/6 each.

KEATING'S WORM TABLETS,

A PURELY VEGETABLE SWEETMEAT, both in appearance and taste, furnishing a most agreeable method of administering the only certain remedy for **INTESTINAL** or **THREAD WORMS**. It is a perfectly safe and mild preparation, and is especially adapted for Children.

TESTIMONIAL.

Medical Hall, Gildersome, Nov. 28th, 1876.

MR. KEATING,

Dear Sir,—I think it nothing but my duty to inform you of the immediate sale I have for your Worm Tablets, which I may justly say is enormous, and in every case gives the greatest satisfaction. I have now in stock two bottles containing the Round Worms brought me during the last few days by customers, one Worm 40 yards long. I dare not be without the remedy.—Yours respectfully,

M. A. WALKER.

SOLD IN BOTTLES, BY ALL CHEMISTS AND DRUGGISTS.

Proprietor—**THOMAS KEATING, London.**

REWARD AND CAUTION.—Whereas fraudulent imitations of this unsurpassed remedy have been sold, I hereby request anyone knowing of the vendor of the same to communicate with me, on conviction of the offender a liberal reward will be paid.

April, 1880.

E. P & W. BALDWIN,

WILDEN WORKS.

STOURPORT ENGLAND.

SHEET IRON,

BRANDED

"BALDWIN—WILDEN," AND "SEVERN."

TIN PLATES,

BRANDED "EP & WB" "WILDEN," "UNICORN," "ARLEY," "STOUR."

Stamping Sheets, Button Iron, Sheet Iron, Pickled, Cold Rolled, and Close Annealed.

Export Agents—

Brooker, Dore & Co., 2, Ropd Lane. London, E.C.

April, 1880.

THE "HIOGO NEWS."

PUBLISHED AT HIOGO EVERY MORNING,
(Sundays excepted).

SUBSCRIPTION \$24 per Annum, payable half-yearly in advance.

Terms for Advertising can be obtained at

"JAPAN MAIL" OFFICE.

Yokohama, February 12, 1874.

tt.

MISCELLANEOUS.

HONGKONG AND SHANGHAI BANKING CORPORATION.

PAID-UP CAPITAL \$5,000,000.
RESERVE FUND... .. \$1,800,000.

Head Office: **HONGKONG.**

COURT OF DIRECTORS.

Chairman—**ALEX. McIVER, Esq.**

Deputy Chairman—**H. L. DALRYMPLE Esq.,**

**Adolf André, Esq., E. R. Bellios, Esq., H. de C. Forbes, Esq.,
H. Hoppins, Esq., Hon. W. Keswick F. D. Sassoon, Esq.,
W. S. Young, Esq.,**

Chief Manager—**THOS JACKSON, Esq.**

LONDON COMMITTEE.

A. H. Phillips, Esq.,

E. F. Duncan, Esq.,

Albert Deacon, Esq.,

Manager—**DAVID McLEAN, Esq.**

Bankers—**LONDON AND COUNTY BANK.**

SHANGHAI.

Manager—**EWAN CAMERON, Esq.**

BRANCHES AND AGENCIES.

**New York, London, Bombay, Calcutta, Foochow, Shanghai, Hiogo
Hankow, Saigon, Amoy, San Francisco, Manila, Singapore.**

YOKOHAMA BRANCH.

Interest allowed on Current Accounts at 2 o/o on Daily balances.

On Fixed Deposits, for 12 months, at 5 o/o

" " " " 6 " " 4 "

" " " " 3 " " 3 "

LOCAL BILLS DISCOUNTED.

Credits granted on approved Securities, and every description of Banking and Exchange business transacted.

Drafts granted on the Chief Commercial places in Europe, India, Australia, America, China and Japan, and Circular Notes issued for the use of Travellers.

JOHN WALTER, Manager.

Yokohama, 26th February, 1881.

The "Japan Mail,"

A Daily, Weekly, and Fortnightly Journal,

ESTABLISHED, 1865.

TERMS OF SUBSCRIPTION.

WEEKLY EDITION. The "Japan Weekly Mail," a Weekly Review of Japanese Commerce, Politics, Literature and Art:—Per annum, \$24; Six months, \$13; Three months, \$7.

FORTNIGHTLY EDITION, being a Summary of the foregoing, is published for transmission by the American Mail Steamers via San Francisco. Per annum, \$12; Six months, \$7; Three months, \$4.

THE JAPAN DAILY MAIL is published every morning (Sundays excepted) and contains the Arrivals and Departures of all Shipping, Passenger lists, Cargoes, Vessels on the Berth and in Harbour &c. &c. Also the latest Telegrams, Japanese news, Reports of Trials in the Courts of Law, Meetings of public bodies, and all matters of interest to the Community. Special attention is called to this Journal as a medium for circulating local advertisements. It has a large and constantly increasing circulation, its low price bringing it within the means of all classes of the community. It therefore affords exceptional advertising advantages, and secures to all announcements the utmost publicity, the object aimed at by advertisers.

SUBSCRIPTION PER MONTH—ONE DOLLAR.**AGENTS OF THE PAPER.**

LONDON..... G. Street, 30, Cornhill.
" " " " Bates, Hendy, & Co., 4, Old Jewry.
NEW YORK..... A. Wind, 133, Nassau Street.
SAN FRANCISCO..... White & Bauer, 413, Washington Street.
HONGKONG..... Kelly & Co.
SHANGHAI..... China and Japan Trading Co.
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Printed and published for the Proprietor, by the Manager
**A. HERBERT BLACKWELL, at the "Japan Mail" Office, 16
Bund, Yokohama.**

THE Japan Weekly Mail,

A WEEKLY REVIEW OF
JAPANESE COMMERCE, POLITICS, LITERATURE, AND ART.

VOL. V. No. 11.]

Yokohama, March 19th, 1881.

[\$24 PER ANNUM.]

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The Japan Weekly Mail.

'FAIS CE QUE DOIS; ADVIENNE QUE POURRA.'

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And that literary contributions of every description be addressed to the EDITOR.

YOKOHAMA: SATURDAY, MARCH 19TH, 1881.

JAPANESE ERA 2541, MEIJI 14TH YEAR, 3RD MONTH, 19TH DAY.

This then is the latest tableau in the history of humanity: an old man of sixty, hunted, tracked, shot at, stabbed at, set upon again and again with devilish ferocity, and now at last shattered, annihilated in the open day and before the eyes of his own guards. Truly the 13th of March, 1881, has bequeathed to us a memory of horror at which the whole civilized world will shudder for many a year to come. Such deeds are indelible land marks that can never completely sink beneath the horizon of the past. They tell us plainly how slow has been our vaunted progress and by what an immense interval we are still separated from the goal. Yet as rational men we cannot feel angry with the perpetrators of this crime. They have forfeited their right to inspire any of the sentiments that move us in our intercourse with our fellows. Only that loathing hatred which compels every human being to strike down and trample under foot the venomous reptile that rears itself in his path, only that feeling befits the occasion, and with that feeling the Nihilists are to-day regarded by every community that has ceased to herd with the beasts. That God is the first and greatest of lies, the lie which has defiled the lips of man through all ages; that Right is a falsehood, a fiction, the tool of subtle oppression; and that science, civilization, property, marriage, morality and justice are the chains which hold men back from the enjoyment of real happiness: these are the fundamental doctrines of Nihilism as formulated by its

father, Bakunin, and this is the creed which the world is asked to endorse in the nineteenth cycle of christianity. Was it because the faith in which he walked and the fashion of his daily life were notably opposed to these tenets, that the Emperor of Russia has been foully assassinated? If so indeed his memory deserves to be held sacred, and history will speak of him rather as a martyr to the cause of right and reason, than as a liberal-minded monarch who gave his subjects more than they could receive with sobriety. Neither verdict would be inconsistent with the truth. Russia was not prepared for the reforms introduced by the late Emperor. The abolition of serfdom, the institution of provincial, district, and municipal assemblies, liberty of the press, trial by jury and a system of judicial procedure after the English model; all these things came too suddenly upon a country which up to that moment had been without any regular organization of classes, and in everything absolutely subject to the will and pleasure of an unscrupulous autocrat. A force hitherto dormant was suddenly called into active existence, and those that had presided at its genesis found themselves totally unable to control to action. There is something inexpressibly melancholy and disheartening in a retrospect of Russia's recent history. One is almost disposed to doubt whether the darkness which so long hid the truth from a great nation's eyes, had not better have been left undisputed, since the first rays of revivifying light have awakened such agents of horror. And yet after all, it is the process of purification that brings the dross to the surface. Centuries of popular ignorance and misguided state-craft could not fail to sow the seeds of some poison, but only when the rye begins to grow does the presence of the ergot become perceptible. A disease more invidious and less loathsome than Nihilism might have been difficult to eradicate. As it is, every instinct of humanity must ultimately struggle to effect a cure. No sane man can sympathize with an insanity whose beau-ideals of the human species are a woman that laughs at the marriage tie, and a fanatic that spends his life developing muscles destined to make murder easy. Indeed that hundreds of educated men and women should have been found ready to follow the examples of Vera and Rakhmetoff, is the most inexplicable social anomaly history has ever been called on to record. Whatever form rationalism and radicalism have elsewhere assumed looks winsome and lovely beside this grim and hideous spectre of Nihilism. Its object is the repeal of every social and every moral obligation, the establishment of an anarchy in which none shall acknowledge any guiding motive save the consummation of individual happiness. Its propagandists have now accomplished an act which they will regard themselves no doubt as their most signal victory, but which in reality will have the effect of causing the civilized world to shrink from them with greater loathing than ever. They have done to death Alexander the Second, an Emperor whose epitaph embodies the noblest, most enduring triumph ever achieved by Russian absolutism.

The deed was not inspired by any sentiment of personal hatred or revenge, unless in truth—a contingency of which there seems little likelihood—it was perpetrated by miscreants other than those who have so long and so ruthlessly plotted the Czar's destruction. It was the outcome of that madness which justifies regicide and incendiarism by the necessity of eradicating from men's minds all sentiments of respect and veneration for constitutional authority. The person of Alexander the Third, let him be ever so loved or revered, will not be held more sacred by the disciples of Solowjew, than that of the unfortunate monarch whose awful fate makes all nations one to-day in a common sentiment of profound and deferential compassion. Other atrocities may follow before this gangrene is eradicated from the strong growth of Russian progress, but in our present mood we cannot possibly picture anything more terrible than the catastrophe we have just been called on to contemplate. Retribution will no doubt soon overtake the murderers; retribution of such feeble form as modern codes permit, but it will be well to remember in these moments of almost uncontrollable indignation, that this appalling development of lawlessness and ferocity is the index of a deep-seated disease, and that an error will have been committed even more fatal in its results than the iniquity, if the feelings now excited are suffered to exhaust themselves in resentment and revenge, and if they do not perceive in the catastrophe an inevitable necessity for earnest study and appropriate remedy.

A Masonic Ball in honor of His Majesty the King of Hawaii was given at the Masonic Hall, Yokohama, on Monday, 14th inst. The news of the Emperor of Russia's death, received the same afternoon, of course prevented the King's attendance, and owing to the same cause the members of the diplomatic body were also unable to be present. In all other respects, however, the affair was a great success. The decorations especially excited universal admiration, their effect being not a little enhanced by the brilliancy of the masonic jewels and the handsome regalia of the District Grand Lodge and Chapter. A throne for the King had been prepared on the dais, the original design being that he should have been conducted there on his arrival while the Hawaiian national anthem was played by the band. This part of the programme, as well as the *Quadrille d'honneur*, had necessarily to be omitted. Fully two hundred persons were present, and dancing was kept up with great spirit till about 2 o'clock A.M., for though the Tokiyo guests returned to the Capital by special train a little after midnight, they were too few in number to make any appreciable difference. In every respect the arrangements were unimpeachable and the Masonic Fraternity may be congratulated on having, at a very short notice, provided one of the pleasantest and most perfectly conducted entertainments Yokohama has ever enjoyed. A portion of the Naval Band, kindly lent by the Admiralty for the occasion, performed their part of the work to the satisfaction of everybody.

It would certainly have been a graceful act to postpone the Masonic Ball, seeing that when the guests began to assemble the terrible tidings of the Czar's assassination were but a few hours old. Yet we cannot see how it was possible for the Committee to adopt any such course. Probably the first reliable information they had of the event was H. M. the King of Hawaii's letter of excuse, and it was certainly then too late to take any effective action. We feel that we shall only be echoing the sentiments of the whole community when we say that every one of us, above all our friends the Masons, would have been more than glad to offer some

unequivocal evidence of heartfelt sympathy with the representatives of a great nation in the presence of a calamity which is not Russian but universal. We do not for a moment believe that the honesty of a sentiment such as that which inspires us can possibly be impugned by any paltry accident of this sort, and therefore, even while regretting, as we do sincerely, that the postponement of the Ball was not feasible, we refuse to censure the action of men whose sincerity is beyond all question.

In spite of the rumoured death and burial of the Yokohama Amateur Dramatic Association, that society shewed itself very much alive last Tuesday night. It seems that the long inaction has been merely a trance of some five months duration, in great measure atoned for by the excellence of Tuesday's representation.

The piece was of course Craven's well-known drama in multiple life intitled *Chimney Corner*, and in this the Association was favored with the inestimable coöperation of two well-known lady residents, who took the parts of *Mrs. Patty Probity*, the Chandler's wife, and *Grace Emery*, his ward. The knowledge of this fact drew a crowded house, and we are sure the Ladies Benevolent Association will be much benefited by the result. Indeed the whole community are much indebted to the lady performers for their self-denying generosity in coming forward on the occasion, as well as for the most admirable manner in which the parts were sustained. The Chandler's wife was simply perfect in every detail, and all the varied emotions were faithfully portrayed. Proud of her poor but respected husband; heart-broken at the suspected guilt of their only son when the money has disappeared so mysteriously; chiding the "old man" because in his great woe-begone state he had served a customer with "size" instead of "treacle;" her triumphant joy when at last things are all set right—the money recovered, the son released, the copper mine shares become valuable—all these things were delineated with coloring and fidelity worthy of all praise. The part of Grace has far less in it, but all that could be done was achieved by the talented lady who undertook the rôle. The points claiming most attention are those where she declares that the stolen money has been invested with her consent, the defiance hurled at the young lawyer when she releases him from the engagement and dares him to again intimidate her honest old friends; and the genuine sympathy and love bestowed on the unhappy old chandler in the midst of his grief.

The chief rôle (*Peter Probity*) was filled by Mr. Mitchell, and it is not too much to say that we have never seen finer acting on our local stage. The exquisite drollery of the lighter parts was even far exceeded by the intense pathos and passion exhibited in the old man's extreme distress at the suspicious disappearance of the money, and in spite of the unmeaning laughter from part of the audience (who seem to look upon the actor's appearance as the signal for a grin) his heart-broken voice and heart-rending words caused genuine feeling in the house. To recapitulate all the good things in the part would require the reproduction of every word uttered, and what would it all avail? Are not Mr. Mitchell's excellencies "familiar in our mouths as household words"? The cunning wisdom of age was finely displayed by Mr. Herbert in the trying character of old *Sol Probity*, father of the chandler, who brought out all the minutiae of the part with scrupulous care. Perhaps the most trying part of an actor's rôle is the time when he must hold the stage alone for several minutes, and Mr. Herbert came out of the test with flying colors. The business with the cashbox and its secretion in the chimney

was so admirably performed that not even the careless popping of soda-water corks in the greenroom could break the breathless interest of the audience in the scene before them. (This is a point the stage-manager should look to. It is intolerable that the fine artistic acting should be interfered with by such thoughtless proceedings behind the scenes.) The minor parts were fairly sustained by Messrs. Shand, Churchill and Brower, and we look for great things from the two first-named gentlemen when, in course of time, they gain experience in the histrionic art.

The farce which preceded the play ran merrily through, Messrs. Eyton, Samuels and Morse doing their very best in the piece. We should especially mention the acting of Mr. Samuels (we believe his first appearance here) for certainly on this occasion he proved himself *primus inter pares*. Mr. Eyton's excellencies are well known: Mr. Morse made a famous man-of-all-work, and we shall be glad to see "Tanning a Tiger" at some future time.

A word of thanks is due to Mr. Douglas, under whose able management both pieces were presented without a hitch. Music was provided by Messrs. Keil and D'Almeida, who played three overtures by Herold and Suppé with great fire and spirit.

The next theatrical performance will be the Choral Society's rendering of the nautical operetta of H. M. S. *Pinafore*, already announced for the 29th instant. This popular and world-renowned work has never yet been given here, and looking to the well-known excellence of our singers, we expect a fine performance.

If the lack of reliable information and of time to take effective steps are valid excuses in the case of the Masonic Ball, the action of the Amateur Dramatic Association would seem to be more open to criticism. Here, however, another and not less potent consideration presents itself. The object of last Tuesday's meeting was to procure funds for the support of a charitable institution, and in our opinion this fact furnishes an ample reply to censure which would otherwise be entirely justified.

Already—ten days before the date fixed for the performance of H. M. S. *Pinafore*—every seat at the theatre has, we understand, been engaged. Our friends the amateurs may make up their minds at once to a repetition, and indeed if they escape with one encore they may count themselves very fortunate.

The difference between deference and defiance is—a copper. Men will dance happily to the worst possible music so long as they are not required to "pay the piper," but the passage of a solitary penny is sufficient to convert them into exacting tyrants: nothing will then content them but unimpeachable harmony. Individually we are all cognizant of this; collectively we act as though we ignored it. Do not the railway authorities, for example, understand that they are responsible for a passenger's comfort from the moment he has purchased his ticket, and that by no possible principle are they permitted to play practical jokes upon him from year's end to year's end? If their covered platforms are only built for honor and glory, why not dispense with the farce of roofed carriages as well and carry us to Tokio at once in open trucks? To stop the trains just beyond the limit of shelter and compel the passengers to walk through rain and storm, may be intended to check the growth of effeminacy, but regarded as humour it is decidedly third-rate. We remonstrate, however, without hope. Official insouciance—insolence rather let us say, since we have paid our copper—is not to be moved

by newspaper representations. It is of much less consequence than ten or twelve thousand persons should imperil their immortal welfare by developing habits of imprecation, than that an engine and tender should be obliged to traverse a few half a dozen yards of line twice over, but until our moral eyesight has adapted itself to this view, we mean to go on perpetually grumbling.

An Italian Journal, *Il Giornale delle Colonie*, contains the following paragraph:—"It is telegraphed from Yokohama that the Emperor of Japan took tiffin on board the Corvette commanded by the Duke of Genoa. This unprecedented fact, totally subversive as it is of all Japan's traditions of etiquette, produced a deep impression and will greatly tend to augment the prestige of Italy, which has already so much sympathy in that country." We are quite ready to join in tossing our caps into the air on this auspicious occasion, but we were not aware that the demise of Japan's traditions of etiquette dates from such a recent period.

The information Mr. Shishido brings with him from Pekin has had the effect of allaying public anxiety considerably. The plenipotentiary's account of the progress of the negotiations and their ultimate miscarriage is in every respect the same as that which has already been published in the columns of this journal. Two facts have now been placed beyond the reach of dispute; first that Japan has made every possible concession in the cause of peace and friendship; second, that the responsibility of frustrating an amicable settlement rests entirely with China. Until the situation is capable of some other rendering all apprehension of a rupture is consequently allayed, for China has proved herself too rational to draw the sword even in cases where she had some right on her side, and we may be very sure that she will hesitate long before she does so when she knows that the voice of the world must be unanimous against her. When the Government at Pekin, disregarding the Tsungli-yamen's formal consent to the proposed terms, took upon itself to withhold ratification, it must have been very plain to Mr. Shishido that all hope of an immediate understanding was futile. Nevertheless, to emphasize the unaltered amity of his country's purpose, he made several attempts, before leaving Pekin, to afford the Tsungli-yamen a means of recovering the position Imperial vagary or court intrigue had obliged them to abandon. He was of course unsuccessful, but it is at any rate pleasant to find that though the Chinese could not reconcile themselves to be wise at once, they were at least careful to be courteous, and that throughout the whole course of his long overland journey Mr. Shishido was furnished with guards of honor, and treated everywhere with even more than the consideration his rank and the importance of his mission demanded.

It is in contemplation, we understand, to admit foreigners as members of the new club now in process of construction in the grounds of the Hakubutsu-kwan (Museum of Antiquities) at Yamashita, Tokijo. This will no doubt prove a great boon to the inhabitants of the Capital, for the plans of the club show that it will be a building of the most comfortable and commodious description, furnished in European style of course, and well provided with billiard-tables, etc. That portion of the present museum which is not required for the grounds of the club will, from next year, be employed as a show-room for agricultural produce.

The Chinese, whether from economical or epicurean proclivities, stand foremost among nations as fungi consumers. If we remember rightly, their catalogue of edible fungi contains over two hundred different species, each more unpalatable

than the other to European taste. Whether some particular variety of these abominations has become scarce, or whether the *shitake* and *kikurage* of Japan have been discovered to contain a more concentrated essence of nastiness, we cannot positively assert, but at any rate the greengrocers of Kobe find themselves unable, it appears, to supply the constantly increasing demands of their Chinese customers, who have suddenly commenced to export large quantities of Japan's toadstools to Shanghai and Hongkong. *Gratu diverso, una via.* To the celestial every path however slow and any means however humble are acceptable, provided gain forms a feature in the vista. It is difficult to believe that a people so shrewd and so sedulous is destined for ever to remain in the supernumerary rank of the files of time; but pending their advancement one cannot help speculating on the delirium to which they ought to be excited by English mushrooms or French truffles, if they esteem the sickly-scented leathern growths of this country worthy of a thousand miles' voyage.

The Industrial Society of Shimamura in Oshiu are greatly perturbed by the discovery that their silkworm-egg cards have been largely and successfully imitated. The Society's agent, on his visit to Milan last year, came across one batch of no less than thirteen thousand cards, all of which were forgeries. Application for patent rights has accordingly been made to the Home Office, but the authorities have seen fit to withhold their consent, and Tajima Yahei, president of the society, has come to Tokiyo to lay his case before the Chamber of Commerce and solicit the members' good offices with the Government. The Chamber, however, does not seem disposed to take any very active steps in the matter, perhaps because it believes that the Shimamura producers will suffer less in the issue than the Italian graineurs, so the Industrial Society is not unlikely to remain without protection. We cannot honestly say that we feel much sympathy for Mr. Tajima Yahei and his comrades. Their traffic is not after our mind, and for the rest it is just as well that the Japanese should acquire some practical experience of the pleasures of forged trade-marks.

The police at Wladiwostock seem to have very liberal ideas about the performance of their duties. They have discovered a double device for improving their income, the sale of indulgences to thieves and the levying of black-mail on honest citizens, who prefer the loss of a yen to spending a night in the cells, pending examination, with the thermometer at twelve or fourteen below zero. We have heard a good deal about official corruption in the Russian Empire—of Ovsianikow, who embezzled two million roubles of Government money and employs it now to purchase luxuries in his exile at Irkutsk; of the chamberlain Tuchenow, who relieved the Credit Foncier of a million, and subsequently travelled to the Ural Mountains in a carriage and four with his mistress, and of many another splendid swindler, but this expedient of mistaking marauders for their victims is ingenious enough to be happy. The Japanese, however, seem to lack the faculty of appreciating first-class humour, for several of them have made themselves ridiculous by applying to their consul for protection against the police! The military on the other hand lead a very hard to mouth sort of existence. To supplement their pay, which does not at all suffice to furnish the necessities of life, they are obliged to perform all sorts of menial offices, hiring themselves out even to the Japanese merchants as "hewers of wood and drawers of water," while the treatment they receive at their officers' hands is described as the reverse of benevolent. It will be well perhaps to discount all this pretty liberally before we

attach much value to it, but it tallies marvellously with current stories from other quarters.

A great deal of dissatisfaction has apparently been caused in England and Germany by Russia's recent action in doubling her import duties. *Apropos* of this, too, we observe that the Spanish Government has been making at Manila sundry changes in the Import, Export and Shipping dues. The revised tariff came into force at the beginning of last September, and the increased dues are ostensibly justified by the necessity for certain extensive harbour works presently to be undertaken. The principal additions are as follows:—

1st.—Two per cent. on the value of all merchandise imported into Manila under any flag. This increase is estimated as equivalent to an addition of 20 per cent on the duties previously levied.

2nd.—One per cent. on the value of all produce exported from Manila under any flag. This is equivalent to an increase of 50 per cent on the duties previously levied.

3rd.—Twenty cents per ton, Spanish register, on all vessels entering Manila from the high seas. This is equivalent to an increase of 250 per cent. on previous Tonnage dues.

The nations principally affected by the change in Import duties are England and China, and by the Export duties, England and the United States. Siam has also negotiated a treaty with England, which provides for a considerable increase of import duties on merchandise imported into Siamese territory.

Our Japanese mercantile friends seem very sanguine about the prospects of Korean commerce; so sanguine indeed that by way of a rider on their favorite simile between Japan and England, they do not hesitate now to speak of Chosen as the "India of Nippon." Beans and gold dust appear to be the proximate causes of exultation. A secret trade in the former staple is vigorously carried on, and a *Koku* of beans purchased at Fusan for fifteen or sixteen cash sells at Kago-shima for ten times that sum. The immense capabilities of this commerce may be estimated from the fact that one, or even two, hundred *Koku* can be procured without much difficulty! As for the gold dust, one *momme* is obtainable at Gensan for about 3½ yen and fetches in a rising market at Tokiyo, about five yen.

All this is very rosy, but we recommend to those concerned the fable of the crow who made so much noise over his repast that his comrades came and devoured it before he was half satisfied.

His Excellency Hsü, the new Chinese Minister to Japan, was to have had Imperial audience in the middle of last month, and in accordance with the strict etiquette which governs official procedure at the Chinese Court, he will have to leave the Capital immediately after audience and may therefore be expected here very shortly. He will doubtless receive his final instructions at Tientsin from Li Hung Chang, with whom he is distantly connected by marriage and of whom he has always been a *protégé*.

His Excellency will not visit Japan for the first time. About the time of the Formosan affair he travelled about this country in a private capacity and was apparently much interested in the railways and other public undertakings of the Japanese. Hsü is about 35 years of age and a native of Chekiang province. He speaks a little English and is besides well informed in foreign affairs. He ranks high as a scholar in his own country and is altogether a pleasant and sociable Chinese gentleman of charming unaffected manners, which it is to be hoped, for his own sake as well as ours, will not be spoiled

by his present elevation, though rumour says that some indications of such a contingency were apparent when, on his first promotion, he was nominated by Li to the post of joint Envoy with Kwo, the first Chinese Minister to the Court of St. James.

We are authorized to state that, in consequence of the assassination of the Czar of Russia, the ball at the German Legation, in honor of the birthday of the Emperor of Germany—for which invitations for the 22nd instant have been issued—will not take place.

The railway between Tsuruga and Michi-no-Kuchi in Yechizen, is now completed, but not yet fully provided with rolling-stock. It will not therefore be officially opened for some time, but a certain amount of passenger and goods traffic is already carried on.

We understand that the construction of the railway between Tokiyo and Mayebashi has at last become a certainty. Official permission, though not yet publicly announced, has been definitely promised, and the Prefects of Gumma and Saitama are busily preparing for the practical inception of the scheme. The finances will be in part furnished by the 15th National Bank, which undertakes to provide seven hundred and fifty thousand yen per annum.

Since the 14th instant the time for closing the doors of the Exhibition at Uyeno has been changed from 5.30 to 6 p.m. We observe also that Mr. Shinagawa, Assistant Vice Minister of the Home Department, has addressed a circular to the executive officers of the Exhibition, calling attention to complaints made by visitors of incivility and sometimes even insolence displayed by persons entrusted with the care and sale of exhibits. The fact is that exhibitors seem to regard themselves rather as Government officials than retail traders, and Mr. Shinagawa does well to remove an impression which is not much calculated to court public favour.

It appears that the chief projector of the proposed wharf at Kobe is Mr. Takahashi Shinkichi, Director of Customs at that port. This gentleman formerly occupied a similar post at Nagasaki, and there too he is accredited with an attempt to increase the facilities for landing goods by the construction of a jetty and other works. His design was, however, frustrated on the eve of practical inception by the Satsuma war, and afterwards by the loss of his coadjutor, Mr. Kitajima, Governor, of Nagasaki, who was one of the victims to the cholera epidemic three years ago. The Director of Customs does not seem to have been disheartened by his first failure, and has moreover been fortunate enough to find a zealous partian at the scene of his new scheme in the person of the Governor, Mr. Morioka. Considering the quarter from which its conception emanated, one might have expected that the construction of the wharf would have been made a plea for Government assistance, as usual, but wiser counsels have fortunately prevailed. Mr. Tanimoto, president of the Tokiyo Metropolitan Tramway Company, has been persuaded to associate himself with the work, and has, we understand, undertaken to provide the necessary funds in conjunction with Mr. Taneda, Manager of the forty-third National Bank. The projectors of the wharf confidently predict a tenfold increase of prosperity for the port of Kobe as the result of their scheme. We observe, however, that in Japan enterprises the most sensible and the most practically commendable are generally disfigured by this kind of rhodomontade, which has invariably the effect of deterring rather than enlisting the sympathies of rational men.

What has become of coal? Is it possible that nobody, speculator or philanthropist has foreseen the present emergency? If at least this lack of fuel might be made the grounds of a grievance to keep us warm it would be some consolation, but the ventilators of occidental wrongs have forgotten to point out that our new inconvenience has its origin in the Governments' desire to discountenance foreign trade. It seems to us that the querulous section has lost an opportunity which might have been turned to good account. Has the Rinkiu question nothing to do with the complaisance that suffers China and Russia to rob us of an article so essential to our comfort at this inclement season? Or have not the Takashima mine owners been subjected to some official pressure of the same nature as that exercised at the late meeting of the Tokiyo merchants, where the import trade was annihilated by solemn compact? The public has not been sufficiently considered in this matter, and we are decidedly of opinion that in the absence of coal we might at least have been treated to a little gas.

Forty feet of snow is a few inches more than one readily credits, but there seems to be no reasonable doubt that the inhabitants of the northern provinces, Uzen and Ugo, have been invaded this year by an avalanche of that depth. It naturally occurs to one that under these circumstances not the fields and trees alone but the very houses must be buried, and such would certainly be the case, did not the people busy themselves perpetually in clearing away the snow as it lodges on the roofs. This year the district of Kitamura has carried off the palm for the thickness of its winter garment. It is from there that the news reaches us of forty days well-nigh perpetual snow-fall, resulting in an accumulation of almost as many feet, according to the readings on the gauges which are placed on the plains every winter. The maximum hitherto recorded, so far at least as the memory of living man can attest, has been thirty feet, so that we may congratulate ourselves on having passed, without any very undue discomfort, through the most inclement winter Japan has experienced since Yokohama ceased to be a mud flat.

The Home office has directed the Sanitary Bureau to obtain from the various prefectures accurate statistics of the early life and habits of all the nonagenarians in Japan. It is proposed to combine the information thus obtained in the form of a practical treatise on hygiene, which seems to us a much more sensible method of searching for the elixir of life than any of those pursued by Albertus Magnus or Cagliostro.

Fashions have strange origins. When it was announced that a Drawing room would be held for the first time last New Year's day, a certain Japanese lady, who was very anxious to be present, found herself in some perplexity about her hair which was chiefly conspicuous by its absence. Of course it will be surmised that she escaped the dilemma by using a chignon, but the consequences of her action are not so equally conceivable. Her false hair made such a sensation that it has since become a universal fashion thus to supplement nature's endowments, and we shall probably find the enhanced value of wigs quoted presently as a further proof of the currency depreciation.

Female virtue does not seem to be at a premium in Rinkiu. The last returns show that one woman in every sixty is a wanderer from the straight path. According to the same authority the number of islands in the Group is nearer seventy than thirty-six, as has hitherto been supposed, but this point is still somewhat dubious.

JAPAN'S ARMAMENT.

NOT many years ago a German officer of European renown said that he held the verdict of a Woolwich Committee to be more worthy of credence in matters of ordnance than even an Angelic revelation. He was not an impious soldier—quite the contrary, indeed—but he appreciated the immense difficulty of conducting artillery experiments so as to be honestly reliable, and he knew that in no country do these questions receive more impartial and efficient investigation than in England. Japan has neither arrived at that appreciation nor acquired this knowledge. She prefers to be guided by her own experiments, and it need scarcely be remarked that the finger of scorn is pointed at her without stint by those whose hopes of profit have been consequently dashed. In this case too the finger of scorn is not without justification. Men who have any acquaintance with the subject and with Japan's scientific resources, know that she might as well set herself to forge a Durandal as to determine by experiment the relative merits of French, German and English ordnance. In doing so, she arrogates an ability which everyone sees she cannot possibly possess, and under such circumstances it might have been safely predicted that whatever verdict her investigations dictated, would have excited more or less derision. Yet we do not altogether blame her. She has so often fallen into Scylla's grasp by accepting counsel, and been engulfed by Charybdis in rejecting it, that the assured satisfaction of independent action may well seem preferable to the doubtful benefit of interested advice. Plainly too she cannot go very far astray, since the worst choice possible to her is still an excellent one. Whatever example she follows is not likely to lead her to a position very seriously inferior to her title, and this, if not a justification, is at least a redeeming feature of her self sufficiency. It so happens that she has given the preference to Germany. Her forts are about to be armed with Krupp guns,—with the guns of the first military power in the world—and immediately there spring up a host of critics, who declare that she has chosen an arm which “falls far short of that adopted by the British;” that she will be liable to be attacked by Armstrong guns from vessels out of range of her forts, and that several millions of her fast diminishing specie reserve will thus have been fruitlessly squandered.

Now this question is probably one that possesses no very great interest for the general public, but it comes before us at a moment when our own military authorities are beginning to apply themselves in earnest to the solution of a problem too important to permit indifference. Is the artillery of the future to be breech, or muzzle-loading? The old *rezata questio* has again thrust itself unavoidably before the scientific world, and a brief *résumé* of the discussion, so far as it has been carried, will enable us, better than anything else, to form a just judgment on Japan's action.

In 1863, as our readers are probably very well aware, a powerful Committee of Artillery, Engineer and Naval officers was appointed to consider the relative advantages of the two systems. Their investigations extended over a period of two years, and experiments carried on under their directions involved an outlay of thirty-five thousand pounds. In a word talent, time and money were all ungrudgingly employed. The verdict of the Committee was in favour of muzzle-loading. They came to the conclusion that abundant ease and rapidity of fire could be attained with guns of that description, and that steel barrels,

coiled round with iron, satisfied all the conditions of safety. Popular prejudice was of course opposed to this verdict. The advantages of a breech-loader were self-evident: its defects, difficult to comprehend. We were not yet in possession of any effective method of rifling applicable to muzzle-loaders, while the saving of time and labour effected by the breech-loading plan seemed unquestionable. But on the other hand mechanical difficulties apparently insuperable presented themselves. Every one of the systems proposed exhibited a tendency to develop faults which more than counteracted their alleged benefits. Experienced and reliable authorities were of opinion that in prolonged and rapid action and amid all the hurried incidents of service in dark confined turrets or between decks, the simplest plan was beyond question the best. On board ship too another factor was introduced. Loading at the breech meant loading with the gun run out and the port open, while with a muzzle-loader the rammer staff passes through a small hole in the port, which was thus kept closed, giving considerably greater protection against small-arm fire. This, however, as well as the danger apparently inseparable from unreliable mechanism, were of course matters of secondary importance. Increased risks would have been willingly accepted for the sake of increased advantages, but the Committee concluded that no such advantages existed, and so breech-loaders were for the time at least doomed. Nor did subsequent events contradict the opinion then formed. In the Franco-Prussian war of 1870-71, no less than two hundred and ten of the German field-pieces became disabled from weak breech mechanism,* while at Versailles fifteen days firing sufficed to put thirty-six out of seventy breech-loading siege guns *hors de combat*. Then the German Government remodelled the whole of its field and siege artillery. Many improvements were introduced and defects remedied, but scepticism refused to be satisfied until the crucial test of active service had guaranteed the efficiency of the changes. With ourselves on the other hand everything proceeded satisfactorily. We had a cheap, effective and durable artillery, and so far as weight of metal went, our “Woolwich infants” were the giants of their time. Neither were we behind-hand in accuracy and rapidity of fire. At prize-firing one of our ships proved that with a muzzle-loading 12 ton gun she could hit a 12 foot target eight consecutive times in 4½ minutes at ranges varying from 500 to 2,000 yards. Nothing more than this was wanted. The public was satisfied and people came to regard the Krupp guns as enormously costly weapons, liable to burst explosively and possessing only problematical advantages.

Little by little, however, strength of defence increased to such an extent that power of attack could scarcely maintain its superiority. Russia began to put armour of unprecedented thickness on her ships, and the Admiralty, whose pleasant province it was to write requisitions without concerning themselves at all as to the feasibility of carrying them out, applied to the War Office for a piece of ordnance capable of piercing thirty inches of iron. The result was the 80 ton gun. Its appearance created quite a sensation even among the most peaceful citizens, for not only was it an unparalleled monster, but its dimensions seemed to afford a substantial proof of our pre-eminence as artillerymen. To the anti-breech-loading faction also it furnished a new argument. There might indeed have been some possibility of devising a tolerably serviceable breech mechanism for field, or even siege pieces, but when

* It is only just to state that these guns were provided with a breech mechanism of the Walendordf double-wedge system, which differs essentially from that of Krupp now adopted.

"Woolwich infants" were in question, the very idea of such an attempt seemed preposterous. We had learned some useful tactical lessons from Germany no doubt, but our arsenals at any rate were able to hold their own against her still.

In the midst of this exultation news came that Krupp had manufactured a 71 ton gun and that it had proved a complete success. The official trial took place at Meppen in the summer of 1879, and this was the result. The charge being 485 lbs. a projectile weighing 1715 lbs. was discharged with a velocity of 1703 feet per second, thus having a force equivalent to the penetration of a plate 83.5 inches thick. Now the comparative figures for the 80 ton Woolwich gun are; charge 445 lbs., projectile 1728 lbs. and velocity 1658 feet per second, giving a penetration of 82.84 inches of iron. The Krupp gun was therefore a better weapon than the best we had as yet manufactured. To say that this result took our artillerymen by surprise would be unjust. They had anticipated it, for knowing the dimensions of the Krupp gun, they understood that its power must be greater than that of the Woolwich. Why then, it will no doubt be asked, did they not adopt those superior dimensions? Because their system prevented them. The length of a muzzle-loader is limited by many considerations that do not apply in the case of a breech-loader, and this was in the main a question of length, the Krupp gun being 23 calibres long and the Woolwich, only 18. There are of course other capabilities which more or less increase the breech-loader's advantages, as for example, enlargement of chamber, better centering of shot and so forth, but the most important of all is the length.

Naturally this triumph of Krupp strengthened the hands of those—and they were not a few—who opposed muzzle-loading. A new series of experiments was undertaken by order of the Government. Their result is not yet officially announced, but a field battery of breech-loaders and a 40 ton breech-loading gun, 26 calibres long, are now in course of manufacture. Meanwhile the opinions of those most conversant with the question were fully expressed at a meeting of the Royal United Service Institution last November. It was there distinctly declared that breech-loading is in a manner forced upon us, since although guns of greater power are demanded, we are unable to produce them, having reached the extreme limit of the muzzle-loader's capabilities; and further, that although the time has not yet arrived for the wholesale manufacture of steel guns, yet steel is undoubtedly the material of the future, being once and a half or twice as strong as wrought iron. It would be interesting to know how, in the face of these facts, the Krupp gun is declared to be an arm which "falls far short of that adopted by the British."

On the other hand Sir W. Armstrong's results compare more favorably with those of the German maker. Over a year ago the new type Elswick 6 inch gun was fired with a charge of 87.5 lbs. and a projectile of 82 lbs., the initial velocity being 2031 feet and the total energy 2362 feet tons, while Krupp's 5.9 inch gun, fired six months later at Meppen with a shot of 69 lbs. weight and a charge of 37.5 lbs., gave a velocity of 2135.8 feet and an energy of 2183 feet tons. In this comparison the Elswick gun has slightly the advantage in actual effect and in priority, but the difference is very trifling, and we suspect that both Herr Krupp and Sir W. Armstrong would be not a little amused at the sweeping declarations of our contemporaries, and more especially at the statement that *the best Krupp velocity yet recorded is 1750 feet for a small bore*. We do not for a

moment believe that England has achieved less than Germany in the manufacture of ordnance, but in one respect we have been unfortunate. The unequalled quality of our wrought iron has persuaded us to employ it as a substitute for steel in the face of a conviction that the latter must eventually supersede it. Germany, on the contrary, has had no choice. Steel alone was available to her, and from this necessity no less than from her unswerving allegiance to breech-loading, it results that she occupies to-day the first place in the artillery world, inasmuch as she employs the best material and pursues the only method compatible with unlimited power.

Japan professes to have selected the Krupp guns entirely on her own responsibility and on the strength of evidence furnished by independent experiments. If this be so we must congratulate her on her good fortune, for it would be absurd to attribute the issue to anything else. She is not in a position to arrive at just conclusions in such matters without the aid of foreign experts, and if, by any unfortunate chance, she has learned that their advice is not reliable, she will do well to remember that the accurate and unimpeachable results of the experiments constantly carried on in Europe are always at her disposal. There is no doctoring of tables either at Elswick, Shoeburyness or Meppen. Germany and England are engaged in a scientific competition, and neither country would hesitate a moment to adopt the other's improvements even to the prejudice of her own pet hobbies. To-day the laurels are with Germany; to-morrow, they may be with England, but in the meanwhile truth compels us to admit that so far as our present lights are concerned, Japan seems to have "chosen the better part."

THE RECENT TRIAL AT CANTON.

A QUESTION of very great public interest has been raised by the case of *The Queen v. Page*, recently tried at Canton before Chief Justice French and a jury. The question, broadly speaking, is of the liability of a British subject in the service of a Foreign Sovereign for acts done in the course of such service, and by the order, or with the approval of the Government he serves. The circumstances of the case were shortly these. An Englishman named Page, employed, with the Queen's sanction (in accordance with a Convention) in the service of the Emperor of China, as a Customs Revenue Officer, was indicted for the murder, on 26th Oct. 1880, of a Chinaman. It appears that Page, being so employed in the Preventive Service, was engaged in an attempt to capture some smugglers; and firearms were used by himself and others with the result that the deceased, who was one of the smugglers, met his death. The Court was occupied for two days with arguments on a question of pleading, which was decided, no doubt quite rightly, against the defendant; but with that we need not trouble ourselves, because, although the judgment of the Chief Justice on the question of pleading contains very general language, yet we may be excused for passing over as extra-judicial utterances any propositions laid down by his Lordship beyond what was necessary for the decision of the immediate point before him. The question we propose principally to consider here is whether (apart from any forms of pleading) it would in any case be a good answer to such a charge, as, for example, the one here brought, to say, (as was, in effect, said in this case), and to prove that the defendant was lawfully, and with the Queen's sanction, in the service of the Emperor of China, as a

duly appointed Chinese Customs Revenue Officer, and that the act with which he was charged was committed, if at all, in the performance of the duties and in the enjoyment of the rights and immunities of that office: that his act was lawful in accordance with the laws and customs of China, and had in fact been 'adopted, approved and ratified as an Act of State' by and on behalf of His Majesty the Emperor of China.

The case at Canton ended in an acquittal upon the facts of the case without regard to any such technical defence: and, as our present object is, not to review this particular case, but to consider some of the general questions arising under it and the principles it involved, we need not pursue the course of the trial. There is however one observation we shall make at the outset: namely that, in the view we venture to take of the question, it is quite unaffected by any complications arising out of the peculiar jurisdiction exercised under what are known as the 'Extra-territorial clauses' of the Treaties, here and in China. The only effect of that peculiarity, as we view it, is that the prisoner is tried in his own Courts and cannot be tried in those of China, and in his own Courts established on Chinese soil instead of at home in England. The special interest of this class of cases to residents in the Far East is of a different kind, and depends solely on the circumstance that in these countries a great deal of the work of government is done by foreign employés. To bring the matter close home to us, the same question might arise in Yokohama any day between one of ourselves and the foreign constables employed in the Japanese police.

The question then resolves itself into this:—What is the law of England upon this subject? A short exposition of the circumstances and decisions of a few of the principal cases that have arisen in England will make the matter tolerably clear. First, as to the case of an officer carrying out the orders of his own Government. In Lord Canterbury's case the law was laid down very unmistakably. 'At the suit of a stranger, an officer in the service of the Crown will be irresponsible for an act done by him in discharging his ordinary duty or in obeying the orders of the Government.' And in another case, the defendant, Captain Denman, justified carrying off the plaintiff's slaves and destroying his property, on the ground of having done so at the command of the Crown: and the justification was held sufficient, although in point of fact no such command had been given previously, but the act only subsequently ratified. Next, as to the justification afforded by the order of a *foreign* Sovereign. By the comity of nations our courts recognize the act of a Foreign State as well as of our own. Thus, Admiral Napier, being in the service of the Queen of Portugal, was held irresponsible for acts done in her name and with her orders and approval. These were all civil cases. But in the case of the Queen v. Lesley, the same doctrine was successfully invoked to protect the defendant from the consequence of acts which, had they not been done in pursuance of the commands of the Government of Chili, where they were not unlawful, would have subjected him to criminal punishment.

A more recent case than any of them, in which the subject was discussed in the Judicial Committee of the Privy Council, is probably within the recollection of many residents both in China and Japan. We allude to the case of Gumpach v. Hart, commenced at Shanghai in 1870, in which the plaintiff complained of alleged false representations made to the Chinese Government by the defendant, who was charged by the Government with the superin-

tendence of a College in which the plaintiff was a Professor. Among other matters, with which we need not concern ourselves, the defendant pleaded that both himself and the plaintiff were in the service of the Chinese Government, and that the acts complained of were done by the defendant in the ordinary course and lawful exercise of his duty in accordance with that service, and relied upon these circumstances as defeating the plaintiff's right to succeed in his action. The Courts in China did not uphold this plea; and though their decision upon this point did not call for more than a mere expression of opinion in the Privy Council (the case being decided upon other grounds) the principle of the plea was there virtually upheld: and it is upon this point that the views of the Privy Council are specially interesting and relevant. The bearing of the language there used upon the question now under discussion is so close and so important that we cannot do better than let our readers see for themselves the very words of that tribunal which is, for all of us here and in China, the highest Court of Appeal. 'It was argued,' says the judgment, 'that what had been done was an Act of State, and, therefore beyond the cognisance of a Municipal Court. But the wrong complained of is not an executive act of the Chinese Government, nor of the Appellant [the defendant] as its agent. The action is founded, not on the dismissal of the Respondent [the plaintiff] from his post, but on alleged false and wrongful representations which are said to have led to it. If the power to dismiss had been delegated by the Chinese Government to the Appellant, and he had, from whatever motives, discharged the Respondent by virtue of that authority, it may be that his act should be regarded as an act of the Government.' But that not being the case their Lordships say no more upon that point. As will be readily seen, this language applies very closely to the recent case at Canton. 'A further contention on this part of the case was,' say their Lordships, 'that questions of this kind arising between officers in the Service of a Foreign Government ought not to be entertained by an English Court, although the litigants might be English subjects. It was urged that it would be against public policy and the comity of nations to allow of such enquiries.' But the Court considered that the facts stated in the answer were not sufficient to raise the important questions opened by this contention; but after referring to the pleadings in the case and to the law on the subject generally, the judgment proceeds:—"Their Lordships are not prepared to say, that cases may not occur in which effect should be given to these considerations. If it were shown, that by the law and customs of China officers in the service of the Government were absolutely protected in making reports concerning their subordinates, and that it was against the policy of the Empire to allow them to be questioned by any court, it might be proper to hold that it would be contrary to the comity of nations, and therefore against our own public policy, having regard to this comity, to allow a subject of the Queen, who had voluntarily entered into that service, to maintain such an action as the present. But this is not shewn; &c., &c."

A case occurred in Her Majesty's Consular Court at Hiogo, in 1878, raising somewhat the same questions: as the case went off without an actual decision, or even full argument, it seems never to have been reported. We do not of course cite it as an authority, but it is worth referring to as an illustration. It was an action for 'Malicious Prosecution' brought by a subordinate English employé of the Japanese Government Railways against their Agent,

also an Englishman, at Kobe. The plaintiff, in his petition, sued the defendant "As Agent for and acting on behalf of the Imperial Railway Department at Kobe, Hiogo Ken." The Government, naturally, undertook the defence; and, before raising any of the other defences open, determined, under legal advice, first to meet the case on the broad ground of the Agent's non-liability—in reliance upon the principles of law with which the cases already summarized have made the reader familiar. The necessity of taking this stand is sufficiently obvious: for, if such an action as this would lie, the effect would be to bring any or all the branches of the Japanese Government indirectly, through their foreign employes, within the jurisdiction of the Consular Courts. The case, however, as we have said, was never actually decided or even argued; for, upon an intimation of the views of the Court, based upon the pleadings, the plaintiff's representative, after an unavailing amendment of his petition, was allowed to withdraw it altogether—and pay the costs.

In the case at Canton, which we have taken as the text for the present remarks, there seemed some hesitation on the part of the defence in relying to the full upon the authority of the decisions, above referred to, upon the effect of the doctrine of comity in such cases. The contention seemed to be limited to supporting the justificative effect only of the 'reasonable' commands of a Foreign Sovereign—thus making the Court the judge of the very matter which the law, as we understand the decisions, declares to be beyond the cognizance of any Municipal Court. The difficulty is an admitted one in all cases, (besides those with which we are at present concerned), into which the doctrine of comity enters—and prudent advocates as well as judges, we know, shrink from enunciating propositions broader than is required for the decision of the matter before them. But as regards Acts of State, at any rate, the cases already quoted seem to supply a moderately hard-and-fast line. Besides the *dicta* of the Privy Council above quoted, which refer *ex facie* to civil cases only, we find the Court in the Chilean case above referred to, which was a criminal one, saying that the defendant was acting under the authority of the Chilean Government, 'and it must be presumed that the latter had exercised its authority according to law, and that what took place within the limit of Chilean territory was consequently lawful.' And again—the italics throughout are our own—'We assume that in Chili the act of the government towards its subjects was lawful. . . . We assume that the government could justify all that it did within its own territory, and we think it follows that the defendant can justify all that he did there as agent for government and under its authority'—and there are more recent decisions adopting and confirming this principle. It may well be that obedience to the command of some barbarous monarch would afford no justification: but it seems that the authority, duly proven, of the Government of any State to which international comity is extended affords a conclusive answer in our Courts in all cases criminal as well as civil: and that China is no exception to this rule, in the eyes of the Privy Council at any rate, is abundantly clear from their judgement in the case of *Gumpach v. Hart*.

As we stated at the outset, the question of extra-territorial jurisdiction is not, in our view of the matter, involved in the case at Canton. It must not however be supposed that it was not called upon to do duty on the occasion. It seems indeed as impossible to keep it out of a case here or in China, as poor Mr. Dick found it to keep Charles

the First from cropping up in his famous memorial. Now, the English Courts, as we have seen, recognize the orders of a Foreign Sovereign in justification of acts done in obedience to them by British subjects. Nevertheless, it is argued that, inasmuch as the Order in Council declares that the 'law of England' alone is to be administered in Her Majesty's Courts in China, those Courts are precluded from paying any regard whatever to the laws or authority of the Chinese Government. Surely the answer to such an argument is simple and conclusive enough:—'The Courts in China are to administer English law: recognition for certain purposes of the authority of a Foreign Government is part of the English law: therefore the Courts in China must recognize for the same purposes the authority of a Foreign Government.' The contention that the laws or authority of the Chinese Government are to be less respected by the foreign tribunals planted on Chinese soil than by the Courts in England—though quite of a piece with a good deal that we hear and see acted upon in other quarters—is curiously at variance with the way in which the Privy Council regarded the converse of this argument, viz:—that, although actions between British employes of the Chinese Government might be brought in England, yet it was contrary to the spirit of the Treaty that Her Majesty's Courts in China should entertain them. Their Lordships say, it is true, they are 'unable to find in the Treaty sufficient grounds for this contention'; but in holding accordingly that the Courts in China are entitled, in the same way as Courts at home, to take cognizance of such cases, they add, significantly:—'especially when no act of the Chinese Government is impugned, and no law or custom of China is, for anything which appears, violated.'

These observations of the Privy Council, and others of which some have been already cited in another context, render rather astonishing a good deal that was said in the course of the recent trial at Canton, in relation—or at least in close local proximity—to the inevitable 'Extra-territorial question'; and especially as to the laws of China not being on the same footing as those of other nations as regards the doctrine of comity. We do not, as already said, desire here to enter upon any criticism of the position taken by the Chief Justice; but we cannot in justice to our own views omit to point out one of the logical consequences of the opinions which he, *apparently*, holds. If the orders of the Supreme Government of China, or Japan it might be, afford *per se* no justification in an English Court for the acts of their English servants, such orders clearly cannot become justificative simply because the Court happens to think them reasonable, nor by the accident of their possibly coinciding with orders which the English government might give its servants. A policeman, for instance, in the Japanese service could not plead that if he had been in the service of the English government, such an order might lawfully have been given him and would if given have justified his act. If he cannot plead the order of his actual employer he can plead nothing else, and his act, say, in making an arrest, is obviously unjustifiable altogether. We should be slow to believe that the Supreme Court for China and Japan really entertains a theory resting upon such remarkably slender legal premises, but leading logically to such startling and anomalous results. Such ideas, we know, have not seldom been acted upon by some of those who have represented in these countries the executive (sometimes blended with the judicial), arm of Her Majesty's Government. To the Supreme Court we venture to make no such suggestion—but if we had to deal with those others of the Queen's

servants, we should be inclined to recommend them to 'read, mark, learn'—and then *act upon*—the 'Instructions' issued to Her Majesty's Consular Officers in countries where Consuls exercise judicial powers, and the opinions of the Law Officers of the Crown upon these questions, and the judgment of the Privy Council so often alluded to, together with any of the other legal decisions upon kindred topics which opportunity might throw in their way.

The truth is that the simple provision of the Treaties that offenders shall be 'tried and punished' by their own Courts and under their own laws—which is really the sole foundation of all the loose talk about extra-territorial rights, and the rest of it, and of which the supposed results are so often called into requisition and strained to support theories which by no effort of ingenuity can that provision be made to sanction legally—this simple provision should never have been imported into cases of this nature, for it has nothing whatever to do with them. We may make the statement boldly, in spite of its antagonism to what we must continue to regard as only the 'apparent' opinion of Chief Justice French, because, if we are wrong, we err in company with the high authorities above referred to.

'But if this view be correct' (our readers may be inclined to exclaim) 'have we no legal redress for injury at the hands of our own countrymen in the service, say, of China or Japan? Must we rely solely upon what hope there is of obtaining reparation through our own government?' Not quite so bad as that. If we reflect, we shall see that whether a foreign Government, (or our own, for that matter), chooses to exert executive authority through its own subjects or through aliens, the effect is the same. The circumstance that an executive officer is not a subject of the Government on whose behalf he acts, places us in no worse position: wherever we are precluded from suing him if he be a foreigner, we should be equally precluded if he were a native subject of the sovereign he serves: it is not his nationality that gives him immunity in any case, but the fact of being engaged in executing the orders of Government. Furthermore we may extract consolation from this consideration—that, whether an executive officer be a native or a foreigner, *he is only protected so long as he is acting strictly within the limits of his lawful authority*: if he overstep these, the law will give us redress for any injury he may thus unlawfully inflict upon us. So we have our remedy—elsewhere, in the Courts of the country whose officer we sue, and, if he be an alien to that country, then also in his own national Courts—*here*, not in the Courts of the country, but only in those of the offender's own nationality: but we have not in this case to pursue him to his own distant home to find his national tribunal, for it is here brought to our very doors. On the whole, therefore, even upon this pessimist view of the matter, we are as well off as people elsewhere—if not better.

REVIEW.*

SCARCELY any class of records possesses more useful capabilities for historical purposes than Consular Reports. Their writers are highly educated and often exceptionally gifted men, placed in the very most advantageous positions for observing the social phenomena of the people among whom they live, and constrained by the obligations of their office to be honest as well as accurate. The structures and functions of Societies, the institutions, activities,

* Labor in Japan, by Consul-General Van Buren.

sentiments and habits of peoples, everything in short that history now recognizes to be its most important province, comes fairly within the scope of a Consul's report. It is only of late years, however, that this fact seems to have been appreciated. Even to-day the old unfortunate term "Trade Report" too often seems to exercise a restrictive influence, and we find Blue-books occupied entirely by commercial statistics and market quotations, to the exclusion of matter infinitely better calculated to suggest true estimates of a nation's condition. The author of the pages now before us has evidently taken the broadest possible view of his functions in this connection. He concerns himself principally about labor, germ of commerce, but his report is nothing less than an exposition of Japan's whole social structure. It is in fact a historical epitome of the greatest value, written after the clear succinct fashion of an official document and replete with evidence of patient care and scrupulous accuracy.

We are furnished at the outset with certain statistics having reference to the topography, climate, population etc. of the islands, after which the author gives us a concise account of the polity, religion, system of land tenure, education, social ethics, classes and conditions of labor, finances etc. of the country, and concludes with tables shewing the prices of food and the method of taxation now in force. Obviously a work of such extensive scope must necessarily be somewhat brief in its details, yet in almost every section some fact indicative of original research is to be found. Thus in describing the polity of Japan, General Van Buren tells us that a feature of the old absolutism still exists in the form of police surveillance exercised through the registration laws. This point, hitherto little noticed by foreign writers, is one of especial interest. That a mother who fails to register her child within seven days of its birth should be subject to fine or even imprisonment seems an almost tyrannical ordinance, but its justification becomes immediately obvious when we consider it in connection with the peculiarly loose nature of the marriage tie in Japan. A Japanese might as well try to live without food as without his *nimbets*, and if by any chance the detectives should happen to "want" him, his chances of escape are infinitesimally small under this system.

The author justly speaks of the incomes of the shrines and religious institutions as a most oppressive burden to the people. The service of more than seventy thousand temples constitutes a serious drain on the producing population, and however willing men may be to support an immense body of indolent friars, or to lavish money on legions of deities, there can be no doubt that the national habit of mind with regard to religious traditions is a grave obstacle to material progress.

We cannot altogether agree with the author in some of his remarks upon the morals of the Japanese. When he says that the number of unmarried men among the laboring classes is very large, and that much of the workman's earnings is spent in houses of prostitution or in gambling and drinking, he conveys, we believe, an impression stronger than the facts warrant. It is very true that in most of the villages along the main roads one or more brothels constitute a conspicuous feature, but in the more remote parts such is not the case, and there seems little reason to doubt that the frequenters of these institutions are in the main merchants, not laborers. Gambling too has always been accounted the speciality of grooms and of the class known as "Kumosuke," i.e. coolies. That it is much practiced among artisans or farmers seems very problematical. Neither is it strictly correct to say that *bathing together, by both sexes, in public bath-houses, in a state of nudity, is practiced everywhere*. This is an error which has been again and again repeated by writers on Japan, though as a matter of fact, bath-houses in which the men are not separated from the women by a wooden partition are so completely the exception that they can scarcely be said to exist at all.

The defective resources of transport are commented on with well-deserved force. In Japan the laborer is indeed his own beast of burden as well as his own road-maker, and the amelioration of these conditions will certainly be contemporary with a vast improvement in the producing power of the nation.

We have not, however, space to follow General Van Buren through the various items upon which he has evidently brought to bear so much research and astute observation.

His work is an invaluable addition to our recorded knowledge of this country, and apart from its general interest, cannot but prove a most useful book of reference. He has moreover set an example which if followed by his confrères all over the world would largely enhance the worth of Consular Reports, though in truth it must be confessed that treatises so exhaustive as his leave little material for subsequent theses.

HISTORICAL NOTES ON NAGASAKI.

By W. A. WOOLLEY.

[Read January 11th, 1881.]

My apology for the following notes on the introduction of foreign commerce and religion into Nagasaki, and on its early history, must be the special interest attaching to this place by all who study the early relations of Japan with foreign countries.

My information has been chiefly derived from a manuscript in 14 volumes entitled "Nagasaki Kokon Shûran," compiled by one Matsura Tô, of Nagasaki, in 1811, and now preserved in the archives of the Kenchô at Nagasaki. A list of the books referred to in this compilation is appended to this paper.

The obscure village, rarely visited in early times even by the Japanese themselves, from which Nagasaki has sprung, was not called by its present name, but by the following:—

Tamakina Mura,
Fakatsuye,
Fukaye no Ura,
Fukutami no Ura,
Nigitatsu,
Tamana no Ura,
Tama no Ura,

of which Fukaye no Ura, Nigitatsu, and Tama no Ura were the best known. It is not clear, however, at what dates these names were applied to it.

In the reign of the Emperor Keikô (A.D. 71-180) Toyotomake no Okimi received Hi no Kuni as his domain, and passed through Fukaye no Ura.

Hizen and Higo, it may be mentioned, once formed one province, called Hi no Kuni, "the province of fire." The story goes that in the reign of the Emperor Sujin (B.C. 97-30), Tsuchigumo and Uchizaru, two persons of Mashiki no Kôri in Higo, with 180 of their followers, revolted. Take Ogumi speedily overthrew them, and he attributed his victory to divine agency. Having reached Shiraga no Yama, in the district of Yatsushiro, he perceived after sundown, a fire burning in the sky, which gradually descended upon the mountain and hung there like a lamp. He reported this to the Emperor, who at once named this part of the country Hi no Kuni, and that 'Take Ogumi's name might not be forgotten in after-time, he called him Hi no Kimi Take Odzumi and made him lord of this province. Keikô Tenno, when making a progress through Tsukushi, is said to have been guided by this light. The old name of Kiushiu was Tsukushi, "Erected stones," stone forts having been erected, in various parts, to protect the land against foreign invasion. This name at first was synonymous with Chikuzen and Chikugo, but as the government office for the control of the western provinces was at Dazaifu, in Chikuzen, the whole of Kiushiu came to be called Tsukushi. Kiushiu was also called Chinzei, and on the Torii in front of the Suwa temple in Nagasaki were inscribed the words "Chinzei Taisha" (the large shrine of the country subjugated in the west). Tametomo, the brother of Yoshitomo, lived for a long time in Aso, and was known as Chinzei no Hachirô.

Jingô Kôgô, when on her expedition against Korea, is said to have stopped at Fukaye no Ura, and many of the islands, capes and rocks at the entrance to the harbour are supposed to have derived their names from her visit. The stones which the Empress put in her breast to prevent her being delivered until after her return from Korea, are said to have been taken from the village of Hirashiku, about a ri to the north of Nagasaki.

In the fifth year of the reign of the Empress Suiko (598 A.D.), Rinsô, the heir of the King of Kudara (one of the divisions of Korea), visited Fukaye.

In the time of Suga Tennô (810-842), the temple of

Jin-gu-ji, on the site of which is the present Suwa shrine, was built.

In 998 A.D. the Government at Dazaifu reported to Kiôto that Chinese pirates had ravaged the coast of Tsukushi, and in the following year troops were sent out to punish them.

In April, 1019, pirates again ravaged the coast of Tsukushi and the Island of Iki, and killed Fejiwara Masatada, who was in charge of that Island.

In the time of Takakura Tennô (1169-1181), Norimori Chionagon, of the Taira family, received Fukaye for his domain.

Fukaye no Ura formed one of the 48 villages of Omura in the Sonogi district. This name was in existence in 1552, for one of the yema (thank offering picture) in front of the shrine of Tarayama Gongen has inscribed upon it the words, "Presented by Nagasaki Jinzayemon no Jô Yori-dzumi, of Fukaye no Ura, in the 21st year of Tembuu" (1552).

Nagasaki Kotarô is said to have received Fukaye no Ura as his fief from Yoritomo during the period Banji (1185-1190), and to have lived on the hill above Shuu-toku-ji. It is from him and his descendants that Nagasaki is thought to have derived its name. Previous to his coming, boats which touched here were called *Fukage bune*, but afterwards *Nagasaki bune*, and the people who dwelt here Nagasaki men, and this name gradually came to be given to the place. About this time Yoritomo is also said to have rewarded other Samurai by grants of land in the Western Provinces. Among these were Tomachi Tôjirô, Chiwata Tarô, Tokitsu Shirô and Urakami Kodayu, from whom the names of the villages Tomachi, Chiwata, Tokitau, and Urakami may have been derived. These Samurai built *yashiki* for themselves on the fiefs they received, and conducted themselves as independent chieftains, taking the side, in time of war, of one or other of the three notable daimiôs of Kiushiu. When Kotarô came, Fukaye was poor and the land untilled, the only inhabitants being a few fishermen and salt manufacturers in the part now known as Yedo Machi.

Nagasaki Samonetsuke was the 8th in descent from Katarô, and having no heir he adopted Yasunaga, the 3rd son of the chieftain of Arima. His son Jinzayemon married the daughter of Omura Mimbu no Shôyu Sanitada, better known as Omura Risen (Risen being his Buddhist name). Jinzayemon inhabited the castle above Shuu-toku-ji, which had been built by his ancestor Nagasaki Kageyuzayemon no Jô Taira no Tametomo in 1333. He was a man of considerable influence, which was enhanced by his family connection with the houses of Omura and Arima, and was continually engaged in feuds with his neighbours, who envied his prosperity.

During the period Tembuu (1532-1555), Shimadzu Yoshitaka of Satsuma, Otomo of Bungo and Riuzôji Takauobu of Hizen, contended for the supremacy in Kiushiu. Jinzayemon's chief enemy was Fukahori Shigeiye, who fought under Riuzôji's flag. He repeatedly invaded Nagasaki, but without success.

Owing to the frequency of attacks made on Nagasaki, canals were formed for the protection of the town. In 1592 a large canal was made between Shimabara Machi and Moto Hakata Machi, and in 1596 another was made between Sakura Machi and Bungo Machi. In 1600 the Governor ordered the people to make two canals, one passing from Kagawa Machi in a N. W. direction to Funatsu Machi, between the inner and outer towns, and one in a S. E. direction from Kago Machi to Shita Machi.

In 1539, or according to other accounts in 1542, a *karafune* (black ship) with *Nambanjin* (a name applied especially to Portuguese and Spaniards) on board visited Tanegashima in Osumi. Amongst those who landed on this occasion was one of the literati of China, who acted as interpreter between the foreigners and the chief of the island, Hiobun no Jô Tokitada. In reply to questions, this interpreter is represented as having described his friends the foreigners as being ignorant of etiquette and characters, of the use of wine cups and chop-sticks, and as being, in fact, little better than the beasts of the field. The chief of the foreigners taught Tokitada the use of fire-arms, and, upon leaving, presented him with three guns and ammunition, which were forwarded to Shimadzu Yoshitaka, and through him to the Shôgun. Sugiuobô, a priest of Negoro-

ji, is said to have spread the use of fire-arms through the Eastern Provinces.

In 1549, a Namban ship touched at Usuki in Bungo, for the purpose of trading and spreading religion—a combination of God and Mammon worship which characterized all the early visits of foreigners to Japan.

After this, foreigners came from time to time to Funai in Bungo, Kuchinotsu in Shimabara, Fukuda and Yokoseura in Omura, and Akenokouchi in Hirado, until 1569. Owing to the indifferent anchorage in Omura, the Portuguese were compelled to seek for a better harbour, and eventually, in 1570, they discovered Nagasaki (at that time governed by Jinzayemon) and asked permission to trade there. In the following year, for some reason not clearly assigned, Jinzayemon retired from Nagasaki. For the next 21 years, until 1592, it was under the jurisdiction of Omura. He received the foreigners in a cordial manner, and pretended to lean towards their religion, merely for the sake of inducing them to visit his dominions exclusively, and thereby deterring other chieftains from obtaining fire-arms, etc. The priests were deceived by his complaisance, and asked him on behalf of their church for the territory of Nagasaki, with jurisdiction over the same. Omura refused at first to grant their request, whereupon the priests and merchants threatened to withdraw, and to select some other port for their countrymen. Arima happened to be in Nagasaki at the time, and acted as a mediator, the result being that Nagasaki, in 1573, became the territory of the Christian sect.

Nagasaki became a flourishing place after the advent of foreigners, and merchants from neighbouring provinces settled here, hoping to enrich themselves by foreign trade. Omura had the town laid out in six streets—called Shimabara Machi (the present Manzai Machi), Omura Machi, Hokaure Machi, Hirado Machi, Yokose Machi, and Bunchi Machi. These streets formed the commencement of the inner town. No ground rent was levied upon it even after Nagasaki became Imperial territory. As the town grew, paddy and arable land outside this inner town were turned into 40 streets, and a fixed annual ground rent was paid to Government. In 1673 this rent amounted to 3400 *me* of silver; in 1677, to 4700 *me*; in 1678, to 5000 *me* (one *monme* = 58.33 grs. Troy).

In 1672 some of the larger streets were divided into two or three streets, the total number then being 77 in the inner and outer towns, exclusive of Deshima, Yoriai Machi and Maruyama.

For purpose of Government service, by land and sea, these streets were divided as follows:—

Inner town: 11 Sea service.

15 Land do.

Outer town: 20 Sea Service.

34 Land do.

[I may mention that the road over Himi tōge was made on the occasion of Omura's retainer's visit to Nagasaki to lay out the town.]

From 1568 to 1592, the whole of Japan was convulsed with civil war. The feudal lords obeyed neither Emperor nor Shōgun, but each strove only for his own aggrandizement. During such a period, it is not surprising that a place like Nagasaki, far distant from central control, should have been allowed to manage its own affairs, and that the people, whose imaginative feelings were worked upon by miracles, and whose hearts had been won by the self-denying and devotional character of the Jesuits, should have adopted the Christian faith. So strongly did they become imbued with it, that in 1587 there was hardly a person in Nagasaki who was not a Christian. The zeal with which the Fathers carried on their propagandism led them in November of the same year to set fire to the temple of Jin-gu-ji, and to attribute the cause of the fire to the wrath of God. After this, all the branches of this temple, some 80 in number, in and around Nagasaki, were destroyed. The zealotry of the Christian converts was encouraged by the fact of Otomo Sōrin Munechika, Lord of Bungo, who had been converted through the influence of his *Karō*, Tawara Tōgita, having burned all the temples and idols in his dominion and put many of the priests to death. The priests of Iikōsan prayed for his death, upon which Otomo sent out 4300 men and destroyed that large temple on the 6th of May, 1576, the birthday of Shaka.

The overthrow of the Shintō and Buddhist faiths in Nagasaki lasted from 1587 to 1603, during which period

there were eleven Christian churches (called by the Japanese *Ki-kuwan*—strange sight) in the town, with jurisdiction over it and Urakami.

The three largest churches were on the site of Shintō-ji, Hon-reu-ji, and Tuteyama Yashiki. The remaining eight were used by the Fathers as private residences, almshouses and offices.

In 1587, after Shimadzu had gained the supremacy in in Kiushiu, Hideyoshi led an expedition against him. On his return he stopped at Hakozaki, near Hakata. The head men of Nagasaki purposed to pay court to him here, but Hideyoshi declined to receive them in audience, and having heard that two Christian converts were among his retinue, he had them crucified at the Torii of the temple of Hachiman in Hakozaki. He further commanded the Jesuits to leave Japan, and not to return. In the same year he sent Tōdō Sado no Kami to expel them and to prohibit the Christian religion. Tōdō was recalled, but returned to Nagasaki with Terazawa Shima no Kami in 1588. They presented the people of the inner town with a charter signed by Hideyoshi, remitting all taxes. The Government was afterward entrusted to Nabeshima Hida no Kami, as Dai-kwan. He carried it on from 1588 to 1591.

After Tōdō's coming, the head men of Nagasaki were four in number, one of whom went yearly to pay his respects to Hideyoshi. Terazawa, the first Governor (1592), gave them official permission to act under the title of *Machidochi-yori*. Nobunaga having heard, when at Adzuchi in Gōshū, that the Jesuit Father Organtini was living at Nagasaki, invited him to an audience at Ozaka, and thinking that the doctrines of Christianity might as well be tolerated as those of Buddhism, which had also been introduced from abroad, gave him four *chō* of land in Bōmondōri in Kiōto whereon to build a temple, and a yearly stipend, and further told him to invite others of his persuasion. This temple was called Namban-ji. These Fathers gathered together in the temple numbers of sick persons and beggars, and distributed food, clothing and medicine among them. Some of the nobility, and many of the lower classes, believed in the new doctrines, and Christianity spread rapidly over the Gokinai. Nobunaga was astonished at their liberality, and fearing that they had designs on Japan, repeated that he had invited them, and in 1581 intended to destroy the temple and priests, but was prevented, owing to the disturbed state of the country. It was, however, destroyed in 1589 by order of Hideyoshi, and all Japanese Christians were condemned to death.

In 1594, six Bateria (Jesuit Fathers) and 24 of their followers, who were in hiding in Kiōto and Ozaka, were sent to Nagasaki and there put to death.

Hideyoshi recognized the important position Nagasaki was likely to take, and sent five commissioners to inquire into its condition, to order the people to obey the rule of Omura Risen, to return to the faith of their forefathers, and to repair the temples, etc. The Christian churches were reduced to three. To counteract the power of the priests, Hideyoshi appears to have selected some merchants of ability in Hakata, and to have transferred them to Nagasaki. The place where they lived was called, after them, Hakata Machi. Here they traded with the foreigners, and endeavoured to suppress the evil doctrines of Christianity. The Christians were contumacious and refused to obey the officials set over them, and constant quarrels took place. The influence of the priests was again in the ascendant, but the presence of Hideyoshi at this time (1592) at Nagoya on his way to invade Korea, availed them. Terazawa was sent as Governor, with orders to expel the foreigners. To execute these he summoned the head men of Hakata Machi and Gōdō Machi; but they took umbrage at the place assigned them at the meeting, and whilst the altercation was going on, Terazawa was recalled to take part in the command of the van of Hideyoshi's army. It also appears that the Fathers made rich presents to the favourite mistress of Hideyoshi at Fushimi, and thus, in one way and another, this attempt to expel the foreigners was frustrated. The three principal churches once more controlled the people, and issued their orders regardless of the authorities.

The head men of Nagasaki determined to visit Hideyoshi at Nagoya, but on their way they incurred the displeasure of some daimiō by not descending from their palanquins when meeting his train. Their presents, also, were not

equal in value or workmanship to those given by the Fathers to Hideyoshi's mistress, Yodo dono. This, coupled with their rudeness to the daimiō, enraged Hideyoshi, and they fled to Nagasaki for their lives. Then the people of Nagasaki thought it necessary to obtain Hideyoshi's pardon, and looked about for some suitable person to undertake the office of conciliator. A person named Itō Koshichirō, of Nagoya in Bishū, chanced to be living in Nagasaki, whither he had come in the period Tenshō (1573-1592) with the object of advancing his interests by foreign trade. Being an able and eloquent man, of prepossessing mien, as well as a popular favourite, he was chosen to ingratiate himself with Hideyoshi, and obtain pardon on behalf of his fellow townsmen. Terazawa was also a Bishū man, and knowing Itō's parentage, he spoke in his favour to one of Hideyoshi's councillors. Being received in audience, he falsely represented himself as one of the head men of Nagasaki. Hideyoshi was pleased with his address, gave him the name of Tōan Murayama, and appointed him *Daikwan* of the outer town. Tōan's nickname was Antō, short for Antonio, as he was thought to resemble in appearance the figure-head of a Portuguese ship.

He paid 25 *kwamme* of silver yearly to the Government, being allowed to farm the taxes and keep for himself the surplus over the above sum. This occurred in 1592. Tōan held office for over 20 years, and lived in luxury and extravagance, which excited the envy of one Snyetsugu Heizō, and made him plot to compass Tōan's ruin. The case he brought against Tōan was heard in Yedo in 1616. Tōan gained the day. Heizō, however, had another charge to prefer against him, to the effect that Tōan was concealing in Nagasaki his third son, who was a Bateria, and had been exiled; and further, that when Icyasu was besieging Hideyori, this son had conveyed provisions, etc., into the enemy's camp. Tōan was convicted and beheaded in Yedo. Heizō succeeded him in the government of the outer town in 1616, and paid 50 *kwamme* of silver to the government. His family retained this office till 1676, when Snyetsugu Shigesada was banished to Oki for having traded illegally with Taiwan. After this the Machi-doshi-yori conducted the business of Daikwan. In 1699 the names of Inner and Outer town were abolished, and six Machi-doshi-yori managed all municipal affairs.

In 1603 the Christian sect fell into disrepute, and the following year saw the revival of the native religions. Five *Matsuke* (afterwards *Machi-dzukai*) were appointed as spies on the people.

Ogasawara Ichian, who was Governor at the time, heard that one Dōchi, a Buddhist priest who had laboured for many years to bring the people back to the true faith, was living in retirement in Nagasaki, and having sent for him ordered him to build a temple in Kawaguchi. This was called *Sho-gaku-ji*. In 1606 it was removed to the site of a Christian church in Funatsu Mura, the superior of which had been the blind Bateria Tawara Moriechi, the younger brother of Tenguada, the *Karō* of Owano Sōrin.

Moriechi afterwards apostatized, and was appointed by Hidetada one of the inquisitors to search for Christians throughout Japan. *Sho-gaku-ji*, was burnt by the Christians, rebuilt on the site of the present temple of Jō-an-ji, and in 1676 removed to its present site in Koshi Mura.

The five priests who were the most zealous Buddhist revivalists were the Superiors of the temples, *Sho-gaku-ji*, *Dai-on-ji*, *Ko-yei-ji*, *Dai-kō-ji* and *Ko-tai-ji*. They received the special thanks of the Government, and in addition, substantial rewards and presents, which, indeed, they deserved, for they were cruelly persecuted and stoned by the Christian sect.

The population of Nagasaki in 1604 is put down at 24,693.

In 1613, owing to the Buddhist priests having reported that the foreigners intended to seize Japan, Okubo Sngami no Kami was ordered to arrest Christians in the Gokinai, Chingoku and Kiushin, and to give them into the charge of various daimiōs. In July or August, 1614, Yamaguchi Suruga no Kami was sent by Iyeyasu to expel the priests and destroy the churches. In October, over 100 Bateria and others, who had been arrested in various parts of the country, among whom were Takayama Ukon, the Lord of Takatsuki, in Sesshin, and Naito Hida no Kami, were banished to Macao. The daimiōs present at the destruction of the churches were Nabeshima Shinano no Kami, Ter-

zawa Shima no Kami, Arima Sayemon-no-suke, Matsura Iki no Kami and Omura Tango no Kami. The altars, made of bronze and gold, were buried. In 1626, Midzu-no Kawachi no Kami was sent to Nagasaki, and for three years carried on a rigid search for Christians.

In 1629, the practice of *Fumi-ye*, or trampling on the picture of Christ, was instituted. Paper pictures were first used, but as they were soon worn out, wooden slabs (*ye-its*) were substituted; and again, in 1669, twenty bronze plates were cast and engraven with the image of Christ by one Yusa, an engraver who lived in Nagasaki. These plates were made of metal taken from the altars of the Christian churches. They were about five inches by four inches, and one inch in thickness. The ceremony of trampling on them was performed annually from the 4th to the 9th of the 1st month. Recusants were expelled from their homes, and had to take refuge in the fields and woods. When arrested, if still contumacious, they were taken to the hot springs of Shimabara, sprinkled with the boiling water and thrown in.

Takenaka Unome no Kami, who was Governor from 1629 to 1632, brought the Government into disrepute by acting for his own selfish ends. His property was confiscated and he was sentenced to commit *hara-kiri* in Yedo. He established a still more rigid inquisition, and by arrangement with Matsukura Bungo no Kami, sent the Christians to the hot springs of Shimabara, where their backs were slit open and hot water poured over them. Recusants were thrown into one of the springs called Hachiman jigoku. In Nagasaki, at Nishizaka, they were crucified, burnt and subjected to various kinds of refined cruelty.

In 1633 two Governors were appointed in order to prevent the recurrence of the arbitrary conduct displayed by the last named Governor. They reached Nagasaki about the end of July, the usual time of the arrival of foreign vessels, and returned about the end of the year, after the departure of the ships. From 1638 the Governors lived at Nagasaki without returning of Yedo.

During their absence, the inner town was subject to the Machi-doshi-yori, and the outer town to Snyetsugu Heizō, the *Daikwan*. When in doubt how to act, they sent to Yedo for instructions.

Upon the arrival of a foreign ship, a guard-ship, with an official called *Chōji*, was sent out to watch her movements, and no cargo could be discharged before the Governors had come down.

In 1634 two inspectors of merchandize were sent from Yedo.

In 1687 three Governors were appointed, of whom two lived in Nagasaki, each taking his turn to be relieved by the third, who resided in Yedo.

In 1700 there were four Governors, two of whom resided in Nagasaki and two in Yedo.

In 1635, on the occasion of the escape of Kintsuba Jōhei, a Japanese Bateria, and one of the most influential of the Christian sect, guard-houses were erected at all the land approaches of Nagasaki, and persons without passports from the municipal authorities were stopped.

In 1636 the Shōgun's ministers issued an edict to the Governor of Nagasaki, the articles of which were to the following effect:—

Japanese not to go abroad.

Japanese attempting to go abroad to suffer death.

The cargo imported in a foreign vessel not to be purchased by one person.

Persons of military rank not to buy direct from Chinese traders.

Persons returning from abroad to be put to death.

The Prince of Omura to provide a guard-ship from time of a foreign ship's arrival until receipt of instructions from Yedo.

Foreigners propagating their religion to be imprisoned in Omura.

Foreign ships to be inspected.

Half-breeds not to reside in Japan. (In accordance with this article, 287 children were banished to Macao.)

Person adopting half-breeds to be banished, and their relations to be punished.

Nature of merchandize in foreign ship to be reported to Yedo.

Merchandize, excepting silk, to be sold by private arrangement.

Goods not sold cannot be stored in the country.

Agents of merchants to be in Nagasaki before the arrival of a foreign vessel; in event of their being five days late, they were not to share in the business or the proceeds.

Silk to be purchased by merchants of Yedo, Kiôto, Osaka, Sakai and Nagasaki. Value of goods brought to Hirado to be determined in Nagasaki.

In 1636 the Portuguese were prohibited from living in the town of Nagasaki and were removed to Deshima, a tract of land which had been reclaimed by twenty-five Japanese merchants. The object in secluding the Portuguese here was to prevent the spread of Christianity. They lived in Deshima for three years, until the autumn of 1638, when owing to the revolt of the Christians of Shimabara in the preceding year, they were expelled by Ota Bichiu no Kami and ordered never to return. For two years Deshima remained unoccupied.

The Dutch first received official permission to trade in Japan, on September 5th, 1608, when Iyeyasu issued an edict to the Dutch Captain, whereby Dutch ships were allowed to visit any port in Japan, and were in fact invited to come. On the 16th of September, 1617, Hidetada permitted Dutch ships in distress to visit any port in the country. The English received a similar permission.

From 1608 to 1638 the Dutch traded periodically at Hirado, and enjoyed freedom of action. In the latter year Matsudaira Idzu no Kami came on a visit of inspection, and destroyed the Dutch fort in Hirado, thinking from its size and strength it might endanger the peace of the country.

In the winter of 1640, when on the point of starting on their annual visit to Yedo, the Dutch were ordered to move to Nagasaki, and on their return, in 1641, they repaired there and took up their abode in Deshima.

In 1641 nine Dutch vessels entered Nagasaki, after which from seven to ten came annually. The annual value of cargo imported amounted to 7,000 to 10,000 *kwamme* of silver.

From 1641-1671 the trade between the Dutch and Japanese was carried on without the intervention of the Government.

In 1664 the Dutch began to purchase *koban* at the rate of 68 *momme* each, the market price at the time being 56 or 57 *me*. In the course of four years 81,000 *koban* were purchased. The profit was divided between the people in the inner and outer town, but in 1666 it was divided according to the number of houses. Till the end of 1667 trade was carried on in silver currency, but owing to the latter becoming scarce, gold was substituted, one *koban* being reckoned at 56 or 57 *me*.

In 1672, a mode of trade called *Shihô Shôbai* was established. Upon the discharge of goods from a ship, appraisers, appointed by the merchants of Kiôto, Sakai, Osaka, Nagasaki and Yedo, resident in Nagasaki, drew up a price list of the articles of import. This was sent in to the Governor, who, with the Daikwan and Machi-doshi-yori, then forwarded a copy of it to the Dutch Captain, who agreed to sell such of the goods as had prices affixed which came up to his ideas. The merchants then tendered amongst themselves for the goods, the highest tender being taken. When the purchasers had taken delivery of their goods, the captain informed the assembly of merchants, from whom he received the price originally appraised. This practice continued until 1684. In 1685, unrestricted trade was again established, save only that the amount of imports was limited to 50,000 *riyô*, and that raw silk could be purchased only by certain Japanese merchants.

The value of the *riyô* was fixed at 68 *me*, the market price being 60 *me*; thus the Japanese received a profit of eight *me* on each *riyô*.

The chief articles of import were silk, of which about 1,000 *kwamme* of silver worth was imported, and piece goods, etc., about 2,000 *kwamme* worth.

Five per cent commission was levied by Government on each *tan* of piece goods and every *kin* of silk, and 50 *me* on every 1,000 *kwamme* of drugs and miscellaneous goods.

In 1603 the Portuguese imported a quantity of raw silk, but there were no purchasers. After waiting two years they applied to the Governor, who reported the matter to Yedo, whereupon Government ordered certain merchants to buy it in proportion to their means. This occasioned the formation of a sort of silk guild, the members of which

could trade in silk alone. But in 1654, the price of silk being very high, the merchants sustained a heavy loss and began to trade in other articles.

The dimensions of Deshima are:—

S.	118	ken	2	ft.	7	sun	(a ken=nearly 2 yards).
N.	96	"	4	"	9	"	
W.	35	"	4	"	6	"	
E.	35	"	3	"	5	"	

The houses (25 in number), godowns, etc., were built by the 25 Japanese merchants. The wall, gates, and bridge by Government.

The rent paid by the Portuguese to their Japanese landlords amounted to 80 *kwamme* of silver, but the Dutch refused to pay so much, and it was finally settled that they were to pay 55 *kwamme*, at the rate of 268 *me* 3 *sun* for each *ken* in a house.

From 1661 the Dutch left Deshima every year on the 14th of February with presents for the Shôgun, arriving in Yedo in March. Previous to this they had been used to start in January.

In 1662 a bazaar for the sale of Imari porcelain was opened at Deshima by permission of the Government.

From 1654 the temple grounds of Go-shin-ji were used as a place of burial by the Dutch.

The value of presents annually given by the Dutch to the Shôgun was 21,500 *me*; to Nishi no Maru (their apparent), 10,750 *me*; and to the Court Officials, 33,020 *me*. From 1716 only two Dutch vessels were allowed to come yearly, and the value of imports was fixed at 30,000 *kwamme*. The export of copper was fixed at 1,500,000 *kin*. From 1744 the value of imports was reduced to 600 *kwamme*, and export of copper to 650,000 *kin*. From 1746 the value of imports was raised to 1,000 *kwamme*, and 1,100,000 *kin* of copper and 1,000 *riyô* of gold were allowed to be exported. From 1790 only one Dutch vessel was allowed to come.

The value of imports was reduced to 500 *kin* and the export of copper was 600,000 *kin*.

The Dutch Captain was to proceed to Yedo once in every five years, and the value of the presents was reduced by one half.

After the edict of 1638, prohibiting their visits to Japan, the Portuguese and Spaniards made several attempts to renew their intercourse, but without success.

In 1639 the governor was dismissed for having sent a Namban vessel away without having reported her arrival to the Yedo Government. Three other vessels came in this year, and Imaye Chikugo no Kami was commissioned to order their immediate departure, and to state that a second infraction of the laws of Japan would be severely punished.

In 1640, on July 7th, a ship from Luzon arrived. It was seized and the crew were imprisoned in Deshima, 61 of whom were put to death at Nishizaki on August 8th, and the ship with its cargo, consisting of 60 *kwamme* of gold, gold ornaments and piece goods, was sunk off Sudzure in Nishidomari. Thirteen of the crew, who stated that they had come to Japan against their will, were spared and sent home on September 12th in a Chinese junk to inform their countrymen of the fate of their comrades and of the prohibition against the coming of foreigners. In 1663 the sunken cargo was presented to the Machi-doshi-yori, who succeeded in raising over 45 *kwamme* of gold. On September 30th six Bateria and three Japanese were shipwrecked off the coast of Louchoo, conveyed to Satsuma and thence to Nagasaki, where they were imprisoned.

On July 26th, 1647, two Portuguese vessels anchored off Yôwujima, with ambassadors from Goa, and asked permission to trade. On the 28th they entered the harbour and anchored off Minagi. They refused to give up their arms and ammunition, saying that they intended to return after they had presented their petition. On the 30th, Matsudaira Chikuzen no Kami arrived; he was succeeded by the *Karô* and soldiers of most of the daimiôs in Kinshiu. In consultation with the Governor, it was decided that a bridge of boats should be stretched across the harbour from Ogami to Megami to prevent the ships escaping. For the purpose of terrifying the foreigners, Sawada Kunai-ayemon, a retainer of Omura and a skilled horseman, is said to have appeared on this bridge on a powerful chestnut horse in full armour, brandishing a spear. In the course of a month troops from the various daimiates

80,433 strong, and sailors to the number of 19,795 assembled at Nagasaki and took up positions on the islands at the entrance of the harbour, on both shores of the harbour, and at Fukahōri. Never before in Japan had such an array of men gathered together to guard their country against foreigners. All the roads, too, leading to Nagasaki were guarded. On the 28th August Inōye Chikugo no Kami and the Governor arrived from Yedo, and presented Matsudaira with a letter from the Government recommending a lenient policy. The ships were, accordingly, suffered to leave on September 4th, and after a few days the troops dispersed.

The revolt of the farmers and peasants in Amakusa and Shimabara, which broke out in 1637, may be traced far more to the exactions of their tyrannical feudal lords than to the Government edicts prohibiting the exercise of the Christian faith in Japan. An ignorant peasantry, ground down by taxation to the lowest state of poverty and misery, rose rather to take revenge upon their hated masters than to defend the new religion, which they had in fact outwardly abjured. Many doubtless remembered the munificence of their Jesuit teachers in distributing alms in money and kind, their skill in healing the sick and their promises of eternal bliss in a future world. They had heard, too, of the ease in which their neighbours in Nagasaki lived, and of riches to be made by commerce with the foreigners. They longed to throw off their yoke. A pretence for revolt was wanted, and their leaders, a band of reckless *rōnin* anxious for their own aggrandizement, and enemies of Iyeyasu, found it in Christianity. Pretended miraculous manifestations of the Divinity were made use of to incite the people, and they raised the standard of revolt in the name of Christianity and fought and fell beneath banners inscribed with the figure of God. They paid, however, a fearful penalty for their folly, and died most cruel deaths, refusing to the last to recant from a religion, to which the sheer hopelessness of their condition drove them to yield a blind belief.

The following is a brief outline of the rebellion. It is needless to remark that the accounts given by Japanese authors are highly embellished and the figures grossly exaggerated.

The Nanushi of the village of Oyei, in Amakusa, one Oyei Jibei, had concealed in his house a picture of Jesus Christ, which was stolen by Gensatsu, mounted by Akaboshi and secretly hung up before his (Oyei's) private altar. Oyei was at heart a Christian, and being delighted at what he thought to be a divine manifestation, summoned Gensatsu and the neighbours, who all bowed down before the picture. As the news spread, the villagers round about, to the number of 4000 or 5000, assembled. Miake Toyemon, the retainer of Terazawa Hiogo no Kami, in charge of the castle of Tomioka, ordered the people to disperse, and upon their refusal, some of his men tore down the picture and trampled upon it. Their temerity cost them their lives. Oyano, Chijiwa, Ashidzuka and Akaboshi, some of the ringleaders of the plot, then summoned to Oyei's house the Nanushi of the neighbouring villages, and advised immediate revolt and the seizure of Tomioka. Whereupon leaders were chosen, and ten white flags adorned with the picture of God were got ready.

On October 1st, 1637, 8,300 men and 1,000 women with 300 stand of arms assembled at Oyei Mura. Shiro Tokisada, son of the Nanushi of Hara Mura, in Shimabara, was chosen leader in chief.

Various miracles were wrought to please the people.

The plans Shiro laid before them were to seize Nagasaki, subdue Kiushiu, open intercourse with foreign countries, invite the assistance of a foreign army and thereby compel their lords to change the harshness of their rule, and, if they failed, to call on the name of the Lord and perish in the attempt.

On October 9th, Harada Iyo, in charge of Karatsu, landed at Hondo in Amakusa to assist Miake. The villagers falsely represented themselves as Buddhists and led him into a trap, in which Harada's men were set upon at night in the temple of Sai-hō-ji, and it was with difficulty that a few reached the castle. Ashidzuka, who appears to have been the leading spirit in the rebellion, recommended that they should cross over to Shimabara. Shiro, however, attacked the castle, but without success. Ashidzuka and other *rōnin*, with 120 followers, then crossed to Shimabara, leaving Shiro behind with 10,000 men. There they were

joined, at Hara, by Kozoyemon, Shiro's father, and by most of the Nanushi and villagers of the neighbouring districts. The Government rice godown in Kami-Fukaye mura was seized, and 58,000 sacks of rice and 4,000 sacks of *daizu* were conveyed to Hara in one day in boats. Ashidzuka and others broke into the castle of Shimabara in charge of Matsukura Jimbei, and seized arms and ammunition, which were also sent to Hara, whither they all withdrew. Ashidzuka next directed 25,000 sacks of rice and other provisions to be sent over from Amakusa, and on November 7th Shiro, with 10,000 men, arrived at Hara. Including women and children, the rebels now numbered 40,200. In Hara was a castle once inhabited by a member of the house of Nabeshima, but deserted since 1601. It was supposed to be impregnable and capable of holding 40,000 to 50,000 men. The rebels repaired this and prepared for a siege. The Government in Yedo, upon hearing of the extent of the outbreak, were alarmed, and thought that a foreign army had come to attack the country. By the advice of Mito Chinnagon, Itakura Naizen no Kami, one of the ministers, was sent down with plenary powers. He arrived on the 11th December, and on the 31st the siege was commenced. The particulars of the siege are too interesting to any modern reader. Attack after attack was made on all sides, resulting merely in the worsening of the Government troops. Itakura applied to Yedo for instructions. All the daimiōs in Kiushiu sent out men, bringing the force up to 160,000. Itakura's attempts having utterly failed, Matsudaira Idzu no Kami and Toda Samon were sent to command the troops, and arrived at Shimabara on January 18th, 1638. Itakura, hearing that he was to be superseded in the command, made a final attempt, which ended in the rout of his men and himself being shot.

Matsudaira made but little progress, although it was evident that the besieged were short of provisions. On 10th April, Hojo Awa no Kami came down from Yedo to consult with Idzu. He advised immediate action, and persuaded Nabeshima Kai no Kami to attack the *Demaru* without orders from Idzu. Kuroda Sayemonosuke and Nagaoaka Keumotsu, the leaders of the van of Hosokawa Etchū no Kami's men, made a simultaneous attack on the *Otsu* and *Nakate* respectively. Breaches were now made in the castle and the besiegers poured in and drove the rebels to the *Hommarn*, where they were utterly defeated, the finale being a fearful massacre of men, women and children.

The castle fell on April 12th, 1638, about seven months after the breaking out of the revolt and after a siege of 102 days. Hōjō Awa no Kami and Nabeshima Kai no Kami especially distinguished themselves.

Kozaimon, Shiro's father, was crucified at Nagasaki, and Shiro's head was exposed at the Ohato (Great Pier) for seven days as a warning to the people. The heads of those who were decapitated were buried at Nishizaka, a suburb of Nagasaki. Their grave is called Ariuna tsuka.

For their misgovernment Terazawa was stripped of all his domains but Amakusa, where he finally committed *hara-kiri* owing to the intense hatred the people bore him, and Matsukura Kai no Kami, Lord of Shimabara, was permitted to disembowel himself.

Previous to the edict of 1636, prohibiting Japanese from going abroad, they had been in the habit of visiting Tonquin, Annam, Taiwan, Luzon, Macao, Cambodia and Siam.

It may be mentioned that Japanese first went abroad for the sake of commerce in 1592, when Shirayama Koyaimon of Nagasaki, having received permission from Hideyoshi to go abroad, and having built a junk at Kiyōdomari in Satsuma, went to Annam.

In the period Keichō (1596-1615) Tsuda Matasavemon went to Siam. That country was at war with 哥阿 a neighbouring tribe (?) and, as the Siamese were being worsted, Tsuda and Yamada with 600 or 700 Japanese, who were living in Siam at the time, assisted them. The King, as a reward, gave Tsuda his daughter in marriage and appointed Yamada to some high office. In the period Kwanyōi (1624-1644) Tsuda returned to Nagasaki and was made the Otona of Zaimoku machi and afterwards Siamese interpreter. He brought with him from Siam a tree called Shaku Sendan (Melia Azedarach?) and an image of Buddha. The tree was divided into three parts, one being given to Nabeshima, Lord of Saga, one to Heizō, and the third part used for the image of Buddha in the temple of No-nin-ji.

In 1622 Anaki Satarô went to Annam and had an audience with the King. He married the King's daughter, and received a document containing the royal recognition of his relationship. The original of this document was given to the Governor in 1681, and exhibited at the exhibition in Nagasaki last year.

In 1623, Hasegawa, the Governor of Nagasaki, wrote to the King of Chaban (?), forwarding 20 *kyomme* of silver for 100 catties of aloes-wood, and requesting that better samples and full weight should be sent in future. As a mark of friendship he presented the King, in the name of the Shôgun, with a sword, and his consort and sisters with two dresses each.

In the same year, Itakura Suwo no Kami received from the King of Siam a present for the Shôgun of two elephants-tusks and four pieces of white *nuno*. In return he sent from the Shôgun a pair of gold screens.

In this year, also, Hasegawa sent a letter to the Governor of Luzon, thanking him for having sent an envoy to Japan, and presenting him with two swords.

On July 9th, 1656, an ambassador from the King of Siam arrived with presents for the Shôgun, and asked permission for his countrymen to come periodically. This was refused and the presents declined. Some time after, however, the Siamese were allowed to trade at Nagasaki. Chinese acted as interpreters.

In 1605, Arima of Shimabara sent a vessel to Annam to buy aloes-wood. She was driven by bad weather to Macao, and whilst undergoing repairs, the sailors quarrelled with the Portuguese, who killed 50 of them and seized the treasure on board. On board a Namban vessel which arrived in June, was a Japanese who had seen the fight, and who reported to the authorities that the Portuguese who had killed the Japanese were on board another vessel then in port. Arima had received permission from the Government to burn this ship, but the Christians warned the captain of his intention, and the vessel weighed anchor and left with a north-east wind. Arima pursued her to the east of Yuwôjima, where she anchored. A south wind sprang up and fire-ships were sent against the vessel. She was destroyed on the 18th of December, 1609. Her cargo consisted of silk, treasure, embroidered stuffs, chains and bracelets.

In 1641, two guard-houses were erected at Nishidomari and Tomachi. Two daimiôs from the neighbouring provinces took each his turn to be on guard in the 4th month of every year. The men on guard numbered 1,000 and were changed every 100 days.

In 1648, naval and military equipments were stored at the guard-houses, and a complete staff of officers, soldiers, sailors and watchmen was kept up.

Another guard-house was established at Fukahôri, and the *Karô* of Nabeshima provided a contingency in case of necessity, the captain of the guard being sent yearly from Hizen.

After the Shimabara rebellion, Matsudaira Idzu no Kami was ordered to inspect places in Nagasaki suitable for coast-guard stations and signal fires. Look-outs were established at Nomo, Kosodo and Hokwazan. That at Nomo was situated on the top of Hinoyama. Two boats, manned by five oars each, with the words "Nomo imperial reporting boats" on the sails, and with masts painted black in the middle and white at each end, were attached to it. Two men were on watch twenty days each throughout the year. When Chinese vessels left, four were on duty. When a foreign ship appeared, she was signalled at Nomo, the signal being taken up at Kosodo and passed on to Jiuzen-ji Mura (the present Jiu nin Machi), and thence to the Governor's yashiki.

In 1689, a look-out was erected at Kosodo. Ten watchmen, ten sailors and four boats, painted similarly to those at Nomo, formed the complement of the guard.

In 1641 a look-out was erected on Hôkwazan and provided with two farmers, who were changed every ten days. Upon the farmers objecting to this service, Heizô appointed men of his own retinue in 1659, and after Heizô's banishment, Government officials were appointed.

A signal fire was kindled on this mountain in case of danger: it was taken up by another on Taradake Yama and thence on to Yedo. In October, 1764, the watch on Hôkwazan was abolished. After this, in 1808, a guard-house was erected below the old place.

In 1799 guard-houses were erected at Ichôyama and Ushibuka in Amakusa.

In 1653 or 1655 seven forts were built by Matsura Hizen no Kami—three within the harbour of Nagasaki, at Odawo, Megami and Kozaki, and four without it, at Shirasaki, Takahoko, Naginata and Kagenowo (the two last on Koyagi Island).

Chinese traders had been in the habit of visiting Japan from very early days: their visits became less frequent in the time of the Gen dynasty. During the Ming dynasty both Japan and China were troubled by internal dissensions. The dwellers on the sea-coast of Kiu-shiu took advantage of this state of lawlessness, and having crossed over to China, ravaged the coast and committed all sorts of atrocities. On the sails of their ships were written two characters meaning Hachiman, and owing to this the Chinese called their vessels "*Bahan-sen*," "*Bahan*" being the Chinese sound for these characters and "*sen*" of course meaning ship. Intercourse between the countries was in consequence partially broken off by order of the Chinese Government, the only Japanese vessels allowed to visit the ports of China being those licensed by Ochi Yoshitaka.

At the restoration of peace, in the beginning of the reign of Iyeyasu, Chinese junks came and traded at Kagoshima, Bônotsu, Kiyôdomari, Kuchinotsu, Yokoso Ura, Omura, Karatsu, Hakata, Shimonoseki, Waka no Ura, Sakai, Anotsu, Namu, Kadzusa and Nagasaki; but in 1636 they were forbidden to trade at any other place but Nagasaki.

Upon the arrival of a Chinese junk, some of the merchants of Nagasaki went out to Kozaki to meet her and to make arrangements about the landing of cargo and the lodging of the officials and crew. As an inducement to make the townspeople recant from Christianity, Hasegawa, when Governor, allowed them to lodge the Chinese, and charge a commission on the cargo, which amounted to 10 per cent of the value of general stores and one *momme* per *tan* of piece goods. In 1633 this commission was reduced by one-half.

In 1636 the inspection of the cargo imported in Chinese junks was introduced.

The following appears to be the mode in which trade was carried on between the Chinese and Japanese. Certain streets took it in turn to control the trade. Merchants sent in their tenders to the *Otona* of the street, the average of the three highest tenders being held to be the price at which the goods were to be purchased. The Machi-doshiryô reported the price appraised to the Governor, who informed the Chinese. In case of the latter refusing to accept this price, their goods were sent back.

In 1672 the *Otona* of Uchinaka Machi and Zaimoku Machi were ordered to receive tenders, but disputes having arisen between the merchants, the system of general tendering was abolished, and twelve of the most influential merchants of Kiôto, Yedo, Osaka, Sakai and Nagasaki were chosen to tender on behalf of the merchants. As before, the average of the three highest tenders was taken, and held to be the rate at which the goods were to be bought.

In 1666 the Chinese were not allowed to lodge where they pleased, but only in the street whose turn it was to control the trade.

The entrance and clearance of Chinese junks were first registered in the time of the Government of Takekaka Uneme (1629-1632).

In 1602 Chinese were permitted to bury their dead in the grounds of Go-shin-ji, at Inasa, and this formed the precedent for the burial of foreigners there.

In 1688-1704 a settlement for Chinese was formed at Jiuzenji Mura, which they could not leave without permission. Three Chinese temples were built for the burial of the dead. Priests were sent for from these temple, and festivals, which were formerly held at Go-shin-ji, came to be held in the settlement. Yealy subscriptions, however, were still paid to Go-shin-ji, and burials took place there now and then.

It may be interesting to know that by an order given to the Dutch and Chinese interpreters on May 4, 1668, the import of the following goods was prohibited:—

Trees and plants (except those used for medicine).
Vermilion.
Living animals.
Articles de Paris.
Gold lace.
Coral.

Foreign clothing (except flannel and woollen clothes).
Red oxide of lead.
Dutch Magemono (round boxes?).
Aloes-wood.

Also that by an order dated 16th September, 1715, the following articles were prohibited to be exported :—

Gold.
Silver.
Gold and silverware.
Arms and ammunition.
Portraits of warriors.
Swords and razors.
Edged tools.
Sulphur.
Oil, etc.
Lacquer.
Money coined in Kwanyei.
Rice, wheat, millet, beans and sorghum (except what was required for ships use).

Silk.
Pongee.
Light silken fabrics.
Grass cloth.
Floss silk.
Ginned cotton.
Raw cotton.
Hemp.
Portraits of the Emperor, officials in full dress.
Obscene pictures.
Pictures of battles or strategic movements.
" " camps and castles.

I will conclude this paper by giving a short account of a visit paid to Nagasaki by an English man-of-war in 1673, and by a Russian man-of-war in 1804.

On July 9th, an English man-of-war, carrying 10 guns, arrived at Nagasaki, and produced a letter said to have been given by the Japanese Government about 44 years since to the captain of an English ship which had touched at Hirado. Upon examination it was found that this document was without any official seal.

In reply to enquiries, the captain said that war between England and Holland, and the idea that small profit would accrue to them if they were to trade with Japan, had prevented their visiting the country for some forty years; that now their country was at peace with Holland; that they had no Portuguese on board, nor any articles of church furniture; that their religion differed from that of the Portuguese and that they were willing to give up their arms and ammunition during their stay. The Dutch told the Governor, with a view of influencing him in his report to Yedo, that the English King had married a daughter of the King of Portugal, and that friendship existed between the two nations.

The English said they left England in November, 1671, in company with two other vessels, and arrived off Bantam, in Java, in April, 1672, where they remained 40 days; that one ship went to Tonquin, whilst the other two arrived at Singapore in June; that one of these then returned to Bantam, her cargo having first been transferred into the vessel bound for Japan.

The vessel anchored off Nishidomari. Five guard-ships and two ships with *Chôji* on board were appointed to watch her movements. Permission to trade was refused, but as they were short of provisions they were allowed to sell some of their goods. These realized 348 *riô 3 bu*, 260 *riô 3 bu* of which they spent in purchasing provisions, etc.

On October 9th, 1804, a Russian ship with four shipwrecked Japanese on board visited Nagasaki. She anchored off Yuwôjima and afterwards at Odawo. The Russians said they desired to offer presents to the Shôgun and to make a treaty of friendship and commerce. Nabeshima kept guard over the ship with seven large and a number of small boats, while the Lords of Hizen, Chikuzen and Omura guarded the approaches to Nagasaki by land and sea. On the 30th they were allowed to live on shore. In December a house was erected in Megasaki where 19 Russians (the Envoy and his staff) and the shipwrecked Japanese lived for 17 days. People were not allowed to look at or associate with them. On 5th March, 1805, seven Russians proceeded in a boat from Megasaki to Ohata, and thence to visit the Governor at Tateyama yashiki. The roads through which they passed

were hung with curtains on each side to prevent the Russians seeing or being seen. The Governor informed them on the 6th, when they visited him again, that Holland, Korea, China and Loochoo were the only countries with which Japan had intercourse and that he could not receive their presents. Floss silk and rice were given them.

On the 9th the Government received the shipwrecked Japanese, and on the 19th the ship left.

The above notes will doubtless strike readers as being somewhat disjointed, but the confused mass from which I had to extract the information rendered this almost unavoidable. On a future occasion I hope to be able to supplement them by a more detailed account. I have endeavoured to put my gleanings into as readable, consecutive and condensed a form as possible, and trust they may not be quite devoid of use or interest.

LIST OF AUTHORS CONSULTED IN MATSURA TÔ'S COMPILATION.

Nagasaki Yawagusa.
do. Shikô.
do. Dzushi.
do. Jikki.
do. Riaku-yengi.
do. Nikki.
do. Go Yô Kibutsu Shoku.
do. Ki.
do. Yengi Riaku.
do. Yengi hiyô.
do. Nukigaki.
do. Kagami.
do. Kagami Hikaye.
do. Shugai.
do. Irai no Oboyegaki.
do. no Shoki.
do. Jitsu Roku.
do. Shizoku Hen.
do. Shichu Meisai Roku.

Kiyô Riakki.
Amakusa Seibatsu Ki.
Kôyei Kemmon Jikki.
Takutani Uji Nen rai Ki.
Seikoku Taushô Sambutsu Riakki.
Matsumai Sekijû Ikken Kikigaki.
Araki Uji no Ki.
Kwambun jin sau nen America Sen niukô Nikki.
Tenki Rei-ô Ki.
Hizen Fu-do-ki.
Wa-ji-ga.
Sai-ran-i-gen.
Tenshō Ki.
Kwai-tsû Shô-kô.

ASIATIC SOCIETY OF JAPAN.

A general meeting of the Asiatic Society was held at the Shôheikuwan, Seidô, Tôkiyô, on Tuesday, March 8th, Dr. Divers, President, in the chair. It was announced that the Rev. W. C. Davison and General T. H. Van Buren had been elected members of the society.

Professor Ewing made a short communication with reference to the earthquake which occurred at 12.20 p.m. on the day of the meeting, and exhibited a glass plate on which the horizontal movement of a point on the earth's surface had been automatically registered during the shock. The earthquake had been unusually violent and prolonged. Some of the motions had an amplitude of more than half a centimeter, and they continued, with considerable size, for at least two and a half minutes. There was one feature about this earthquake record which was of special interest, and which had led him to bring it before the notice of the society. It was this, that now for the first time distinct evidence had been obtained that the direction in which a point on the earth's surface made its successive oscillations was by no means constant during the disturbance. At the beginning the motion was almost wholly East and West, but little later a strong North and South component appeared, and during the remainder of the shaking both components were present, but in exceedingly irregular proportions. Mr. Ewing added that, being in the neighbourhood of the instrument when the disturbance began he had run to the spot and had reached

it in time to see the later part of the earthquake in the act of writing its record on the plate. He then observed that the two pointers (one giving E-W motion, the other N-S motion) were moving in a manner which would have been impossible had the successive oscillations of the ground been in one and the same straight line. Occasionally one pointer would almost come to rest, when the other was moving vigorously, and then a few seconds later the first would be again moving, when the other had nearly come to rest, and so on alternately. This change in the phase-relation of the two constituents of horizontal motion was probably due to the presence of a series of transverse waves following closely on the heels of the normal waves. Owing to the difference in the velocities of transmission of the normal and transverse vibrations, the former must have been the first to reach the point where the instrument stood. The possibility of existence of transverse waves in the soil of Tôkiyô had been questioned, but if this explanation of the two distinctly independent waves which had been seen was the true one, this record must be taken as giving conclusive evidence not only that transverse waves existed, but that they had (in this case) amplitudes scarcely less than those of the normal waves. There was however another possible explanation, namely, that there were two or more distinct earthquakes going on at the same time and sending waves to the observing station from different points of the compass. This was more possible than it might at first sight seem to be, for there could be little doubt that in the any neighbourhood subject to frequent earthquakes there were, at most times, masses poised in a state of critical equilibrium which the shaking of an earthquake might serve to destroy. From this point of view one earthquake might be the immediate cause of others, and we should then observe during the later parts of the motion the very complicated vibrations which were the resultant of those due to the separate and nearly simultaneous disturbances. Which of these two explanations was the true one could be decided only by the careful examination of many records of earthquakes, but in the meantime the fact clearly proved by this observation, that there was something more than linear vibrations of constant direction present during an earthquake, seemed to the speaker to be a distinct step in our knowledge of seismic phenomena. The record exhibited was full of interest in other ways, but the complete discussion of it would have to be reserved. There had been no time for the necessary measurements to be made, the earthquake having taken place only that afternoon.

The President congratulated Mr. Ewing on the success which he continued to have in obtaining records of the motion during earthquakes. The hypothesis of two shocks in different places, one induced by the other, was by no means unreasonable: at the same time he thought the presence of a transverse wave afforded a more probable explanation of the interesting fact observed by Mr. Ewing.

The corresponding secretary, in the absence of the author, read a "Note on the Coleopterous Genus *Damaster*," by George Lewis, Esq.

The Revd. W. B. Wright read a translation of part of an old M. S. work by Arai Hakuseki, a famous man in the beginning of the last century. This professed to give an account of the capture, examination and captivity until death of Père Johan Battista Sidotti, a native of Palermo, who was sent in the commencement of the 18th century by the Pope to try and gain entrance into Japan. It details how he heard from the Government that this person had been caught in the island of Yakushima, south of Satsuma, to which he had come by ship from Luxon. He was conveyed up to Kagoshima and thence to Nagasaki, where he had an interview with the Dutch and then was despatched to Yedo. He arrived at Yedo in the year 1709, and was at once imprisoned in the Kirishitan Yashiki at Koishikawa, when this author was requested by the Government to attend and assist in his examination. The paper mentioned the appearance, and the learning of the Italian Missionary, and also the humility displayed by him. He was the means of converting two fellow prisoners, an old man and his wife, who had formerly been secretly taught the Christian religion by a supposed apostate, whose servants they had been. They confessed their faith to the Kirishitan Commissioners and were imprisoned separately.

Finally the old man and the missionary died in September, 1715. A future paper will contain the questions, and replies made by Sidotti in the course of his examination bearing on himself, his religion and the state of foreign countries generally.

Mr. Satow thought it would be interesting to the Members of the Society to know that there existed an account of the voyage of the Abbé Sidotti in the Spanish language, entitled "Relacion del viage que hizo el Abad D. Juan Baptista Sidoti, desde Manila al Japon, embiado por el Papa Clemente XI," 1717, which had also been translated into Italian and published in Rome in 1718. There was also an account in the 7th volume of Carlevoix' "Histoire et Description du Japon," which concluded with the statement that he met with a violent death, but this was clearly disproved by Arai Hakuseki's narrative.

The meeting was then adjourned.

REUTER'S TELEGRAMS.

LONDON, 14th March, 1881.

Russia.—A bomb was exploded under the Czar's carriage. The Emperor is dead.

LONDON, 13th March, 1881.

Numerous arrests have been made under the Coercive Bill.

The British Government defer taking part in the Bi-Metallic conference until the terms of invitation are modified.

JAPANESE ITEMS.

[The following Notes on various Japanese matters are chiefly derived from the native papers, occasionally supplemented from original sources of information, and are carefully collated and edited, so as make them readable and intelligible.]

COURT, POLITICAL AND OFFICIAL.

The *Choya Shinbun* says:—All old documents &c., which passed between the former government (*Bakufu*) and that of Loochoo, have recently been sought for in the Legislative Section in the *Daijo-kan*. This is said to be in connection with the Loochoo question.

The *Hochi Shinbun* writes as follows:—The *Kongokwan*, with Mr. Shishido, the Envoy Extraordinary and Minister Plenipotentiary China, on board, was expected to arrive at Yokohama on the 12th instant, and therefore His Excellency Admiral Enomoto, Minister of the Naval Department, Mr. Tai, one of the Assistant Chief Secretaries of Foreign Affairs, and several other officials went thither to receive the Minister. Owing, however, to bad weather she was obliged to put into the port of Shimidzu. There being no telegraph office nearer than three ri, the news of her having taken refuge was delayed. When the gale ceased, she resumed her voyage, and arrived safely at Yokohama on the 12th inst, at 9.30 p.m. The Minister and Mr. Miyamoto, one of the Chief Secretaries of the Foreign Department landed, in a steam launch, at the Admiralty office, and passed the night in the *Fakki-ro* restaurant. The party arrived at the Shinagawa station at 9.30 a.m. the next morning. The *Akebono Shinbun* states that the Minister went to the private residence of His Excellency Ito, Privy Councillor, at Enokizaka, and, after a short interval, proceeded to the Imperial Palace, where he was received in audience by His Majesty the Emperor, to whom he explained the state of affairs in China.

The *Nichi Nichi Shinbun* states, with reference to the recall of Mr. Shishido from Peking, that among many varied rumours it is said that the actual state of the negotiations on the Loochoo question remains nearly the same as before, though differing in some respects from the lines of the leading article in their issue of the 8th February last. The Minister in his recent overland journey from Peking to Shanghai, was escorted by guards despatched by the respective local authorities. In some localities these guards carried old muskets, bows and arrows, long spears etc.: there was no discipline, and in fact the whole escort could be compared to nothing else than a straggling flock of sheep.

The *Hochi Shinbun* publishes a rumour, that His Excellency Admiral Enomoto, Minister of the Navy Department, has tendered his resignation, owing to the Government having rejected a memorial he handed them recently.

The *Mainichi Shinbun* writes as follows:—Soon after the news of the death of the Russian Emperor was reported His Majesty the Emperor sent Mr. Sanjounishi, one of the Imperial Chamberlains, to the Russian Legation on a visit of condolence. His Majesty, being, it is supposed, too deeply sorrowful to feel at ease sent His Imperial Highness Field Marshal Prince Arisugawa-no-Miya, to the Legation on the 15th inst., as his representative, to express his deepest sympathy. The Russian Minister was, we hear, deeply grateful for the Emperor's kindness, an account of which he telegraphed home.

The *Hochi Shinbun* states that it is said to have been reported to the authorities that the Czarewitch publicly ascended the throne on the 13th inst. the same day as that on which the late Emperor died, and declared himself to be Emperor under the title of Alexander the 3rd; also that the state of things in Russia is peaceful.

The same paper announces that it has been reported to the Government that in August or September next, one of the Austrian princes will visit Japan.

We learn from the same source that in connection with the proposed construction of the Imperial Palace there is an extraordinary press of business in the Public Works Department, so that the officials are in attendance every day to a later hour than usual.

The *Mainichi Shinbun* writes as follows:—Their Excellencies Ito, Inouye, Yamada, Privy Councillors, and Mr. Shishido, Minister for China, met at the private residence of His Excellency Iwakura, Assistant Prime Minister, on the 17th inst. at 9 a.m. Owing to this meeting the Assistant Prime Minister did not attend the Cabinet that day. His Excellency Sanjo, the Prime Minister, went to the meeting soon after his return from the Cabinet, and took part in the consultation, which is said to have been connected with China affairs.

The same paper announces that His Excellency Iwakura, Assistant Prime Minister, accompanied by General Yamagata, visited the Russian Legation on the 16th inst. and had an interview with the Russian Minister.

We learn from a native paper that Mr. Nomura, governor of Kanagawa ken, visited the Russian man-of-war *Minin*, on the 17th instant. Also that this vessel will shortly leave Yokohama.

The *Hochi Shinbun* publishes a rumour that the wife of Mr. Shishido, Minister for China, will return from China next month, and that the Minister will not go back to his post.

The *Mainichi Shinbun* writes as follows:—His Majesty the King of Hawaii went, as we stated was his intention, to the Akasaka palace on the 11th inst. at 2 p.m. where he had an interview with His Majesty the Emperor. Refreshments were partaken of, and a conversation ensued on the political administration of Japan and Hawaii. The King left at about three o'clock. He was to have visited the national exhibition again that morning, but the visit was postponed owing to the inclemency of the weather. The King studies his people greatly, and has long paid attention to sanitary affairs. He has established a lazarette on the island of Molokai, under proper official superintendence. The patients all receive medical treatment and are also engaged in such employment as they are acquainted with. They thus can be cured of their disease, while at the same time they can earn a livelihood. The *Kihai Biyoin* (Leprosy Hospital) at Tokio, sent a present of a quantity of medicines used in curing leprosy to Hawaii, through the Japanese consul in that country, in November 1879. Availing himself of the visit of the King, Mr. Goto Shobun, the president of the said hospital, sent his son, Shochiku, to the *Enriokwan* on the 9th inst. to inquire whether these had proved efficacious or not. The son had an interview with Colonel Armstrong, the Chief Commissioner of Colonial Affairs of Hawaii, after which His Majesty received him in audience, and thanked him for the present. He put many questions as to the origin of leprosy, the methods of curing it, &c., to which his interviewer gave minute answers and present-

ed a pamphlet, written in English, containing explanations about this disease. His Majesty read it through, and expressed much pleasure with it saying that should he ever visit Hawaii, he (the King) would be glad to extend him every possible assistance during his stay.

The *Hochi Shinbun* writes as follows:—On the 12th at 10 a.m. His Majesty the King of Hawaii left the *Enriokwan* for the Paper Mill at Oji. He was attended by Messrs. Hachisuka and Daté, in his carriage, and escorted by Colonels Judd and Armstrong, Their Excellencies Sano, Minister of Finance, Hijikata, Assistant Vice Minister of the Imperial Household, and several other Japanese officials. His Majesty arrived at the mill at 11.10 a.m. and was received by His Imperial Highness Higashi Fushimi no Miya, and several officials of the Foreign Affairs, who awaited him. After a short rest he inspected all the machinery and buildings, and visited the workshops of the *Seishi Kwaisha* (Paper factory) in the afternoon. On his way back he called at the country seat of Mr. Shibusawa at Asukayama, where a dinner was given. His Majesty returned to his residence at little after sunset. As he is to leave on the 16th inst. it is said that he proceeded to the Imperial Palace on the 14th inst. at noon to bid farewell. The *Daijin* and *Sangi* will, we hear, give an entertainment to His Majesty in the *Enriokwan* on the 15th inst., when there will be an exhibition of fireworks.

The *Mainichi Shinbun* contains the following:—It is said that His Majesty the Emperor went to the *Enriokwan* on the 15th inst. to bid farewell to His Majesty the King of Hawaii, who is to leave here shortly. As we formerly stated, His Majesty the King of Hawaii went to the Palace at 1 p.m. on the 14th inst. and had an interview with His Majesty the Emperor in a private apartment, when the Emperor personally presented the highest Japanese Order to the King, and the Second Order to the Minister of the Royal Household Department, and the Chief Commissioner of Colonial Affairs of Hawaii. Afterwards an entertainment took place, at which all the Princes of the Blood, and the *Daijin*, and *Sangi* were present. Her Majesty the Empress appeared at the banquet, and had an interview with the King. Miss Inouye, daughter of the Minister of the Foreign Department, attended and acted as the interpreter for the Empress. On the previous day (the 13th), the King was invited by His Imperial Highness Higashi Fushimi-no-miya, Messrs. Daté, Hachisuka, and some other officials specially appointed to entertain the Royal visitor, to the *Momiji-kan* (the Tokio Club) at Shiba, and an entertainment was given in the Japanese style. His Majesty the King appeared at the banquet, as we are informed, in Japanese dress, and the *Nô* and several other Japanese dances were performed.

His Majesty King Kalakaua left Yokohama on the 16th inst. by the M. B. M. S. S. *Tokio Maru*. The King, accompanied by H. I. H. Higashi Fushimi-no-miya, H. E. Ito, the Minister of the Home Department, Messrs. Daté and Hachisuka and Colonels Judd and Armstrong, reached Yokohama by special train, at 2 p.m. On their arrival the King and the staff,—who all wore the decorations of the order of the Rising Sun, conferred upon them by the Emperor—were conveyed in carriages belonging to the Imperial Household Department to the Eastern Admiralty Office, where His Majesty was received by Admiral Nakamura, Port Admiral, the captains of the men-of-war in harbour, and a guard of honour composed of blue-jackets. After a short rest the Royal party embarked in a state barge, and were towed to the *Tokio Maru* by one of the Admiralty steam launches.

NAVAL AND MILITARY.

A native paper says that a man-of-war is to be shortly despatched to Corea on a surveying cruise, and that five Lieutenants were ordered to embark on her yesterday.

The *Nichi Nichi Shinbun* says that as the language of the inhabitants of the island of Oshima, belonging to the province of Hiuiga in the prefecture of Kagoshima, differs from that of the mainland, and owing to other inconveniences, these people have always been exempted from military service. It has, however, lately been decided to abolish this privilege and they will be liable to serve just as the other members of the Empire.

The same paper states that the Regulations for the Gen-darmes were issued by the *Daijokkan* on the 12th inst.

We learn from another paper that the first meeting for the Spring season will be held at the rifle range at Shirokane-daimachi, belonging to the Naval Department, on the 23rd inst.

A vernacular paper says that great activity is displayed on board the various Japanese men-of-war in harbour and at Yokosuka. The men are exercised at quarters every day.

The *Choya Shinbun* states that the Mabuchi leather factory has lately received an order for the manufacture of 25,000 knapsacks from the War Department, and that therefore a considerable quantity of hides have been imported from Corea.

INDUSTRIES, TRADE AND FINANCE.

A native paper contains the following:—In the prefecture of Niigata small paper money and copper coins are both so extraordinarily scarce that in the town of Nagaoka the merchants are obliged to use postage stamps, post cards, revenue stamps, matches, envelopes, chopsticks, wooden spoons &c. as change. In consequence of this 10,000 yen in 10 and 20 sen satsu were sent by the authorities to this prefecture last month.

We learn from the same source that lately all the leading district officials in the Hokkaido held meetings at Hakodate to deliberate upon the question whether any inconvenience would be caused by revising the present tax regulations, with the view of making their collection similar to that of the cities and prefectures in the mainland.

A native paper states that a Mr. Koyeda Hamajiro proposes to fill up the lake in Kashiwabara-mura, Sunto-gori, Shidzuoka prefecture, and to convert it into cultivated land. It is said that should the scheme be carried out an annual income of over 30,000 *loku* may be expected from it.

The *Hochi Shinbun* states:—In Kobe the foreign merchants seem to be much inclined to purchase tea, and consequently the market is very active. Comparing the present price with that of a month ago, superior grades have advanced ten yen, and medium and common six or seven. Should the present state of affairs continue, the market will become still more active when the new season's teas begin to arrive. Mushrooms and dried cuttle fish are scarce; the demand is large and consequently prices advance daily. Superior mushrooms are quoted at 80 yen per picul, and dried cuttle fish at 30 yen.

The following are the arrivals and exports of silk at Yokohama since January last:—6,955 bales arrived, of which 6,627 were sent to the foreign firms. 4,740 of these were purchased and the balance, 1,787, rejected. In January the exports were 3,313 bales, and in February 2,187 bales.

We learn from another paper that it is said to have been decided by the government that the proposed railway between Tokio and Mayebashi, in accordance with representations made by the governors of the prefecture of Gumba and Saitama, will be constructed by the people at their own expense.

The *Bukka Shiapo* writes as follows:—In Yokohama, owing to unfavorable news from America, tea is quoted by foreigners at low prices, and the market is comparatively inactive; holders however are firm, and are waiting for favourable offers. In silk a fair business continues, and deliveries are taken every day. Coal has become scarcer and scarcer, the only stocks being Takashima coal and coal dust. Prices are quoted at 95 yen per 10,000 catties for the latter, and 102 or 103 yen for the former. The nominal price of Karatsu coal is 92 or 93 yen. On Saturday last Kinuatsu opened in the Bourse at 174.8. Their lowest point was 174.65. In the afternoon they ranged from 175.01 to 175.05, at which quotations 414,000 yen were transacted.

A native journal writes:—We announced formerly that the old copper one *rin* coins are very actively purchased, and that consequently their price has gone up so much that at present one yen's worth of them equals 1.35 yen of paper. It is said that in China these coins now circulate at a value of two *rin* (i.e. 20 *mon*), and therefore we anticipate a further advance in their price.

It is stated in the same paper that in the Government Printing Office about one million yen in two yen, and 50 sen satsu, are printed daily, to replace those now in circulation.

The *Mainichi Shinbun* informs us that during February the outturn of the Osaka Mint was as follows:—Gold 77,745 yen, Silver 296,724, Copper 60,784.69 yen; total 465,253.69 yen. The sulphuric acid manufactured in the Mint this month amounted to 28,956 pounds.

We read in the *Bukka Shiapo* that during last year the total amount of coal which came to the capital from different parts were as follows:—Karatsu 31,051,000 catties; Taku 4,700,000; Chikuzen 500,000; Niigu 600,000; Shiromidzu 450,000; Isuhara 200,000; total 37,501,000 catties.

The same paper writes as follows:—The tunnel through the Toneyama mountain, situated between Tsuruga and Hikita, both in the province of Echizen, is reported to have been completed. Notwithstanding that the tunnel is over 500 *ken* (1,000 yards) in length, it has been completed much sooner than was expected. The rails temporarily laid down for about seven English miles westward of Tsuruga, for carrying down the necessary material for the construction of the main railway, have been lent to the people since the 17th of February last, to transport their own goods. This is a great convenience, and is generally appreciated. When the railway between Kobe and Osaka was constructed some years ago, extraordinary expenses were entailed, owing to inexperience, &c.: calculating all the expenses in proportion to the length of the line, we find that one inch of the railway cost about 2.70 yen. For the railway at Tsuruga, however, the expenses were much less, owing partly to Japanese being better acquainted with the work, but principally to the non-employment of any foreigners. It is said that the cost is 20 per cent less than that of the Kobe-Osaka railway. Such a state of things tends to show how the public industries of our country have improved.

A native paper says that in Kobe, both bar and crude copper are in good demand for China, but that as stocks are scarce not much is done. Imports are dull. Foreign merchants are offering to sell at low rates, and the market has consequently declined. The fall is most apparent in hardware, iron, glass, and other minor wares. Foreign cotton yarn and kerosene oil are advancing steadily.

A native journal states that the iron works at Kobe are to be enlarged in order to facilitate the making of iron rails, and thus obviate the necessity of importing them from abroad.

The same paper states:—In the Yokohama Bourse paper seems weak and is falling more and more. On the 15th instant the market opened at 175.4; the highest quotation was 176.3, and the lowest 176.1. The quotations of paper against other specie have fallen as follows:—191.80 for 100 new gold coin; 205 for *Niboo*s; 225.60 for *Ichiboo*s; 247.50 for *Sakura*; 109.50 for *Ishia*, and 149.10 for new subsidiary silver coins.

The *Mainichi Shinbun* contains the following Yokohama market report:—Tea is very scarce at present, but small transactions are still reported. No great change has occurred in prices since our previous notice of the 5th instant, but owing, it is supposed, to this want of stocks superior grades are in proportion rather more active than common, prices ranging from \$35 to \$36 per picul for superior, and from \$6 to \$7 for lowest grades. The following are the latest quotations:—

Yamashiro, Superior	\$35	to	36
" Medium	25	"	26
" Inferior	16	"	17
Suruga, Superior	27	"	28
" Medium	20	"	15
" Inferior	14	"	—
Seishu, Superior	27	"	28
" Medium	21	"	22
" Inferior	15	"	16
Shimo-osa Superior	22	"	23
" Medium	14	"	15
Enshu, Superior	23	"	24
" Medium	21	"	21
" Inferior	14	"	15

Since the 19th February last up to the 8th inst. arrivals were only 3,416 chests, and at present stocks are only about 450,000 or 460,000 catties; merchants therefore are waiting for the arrivals of the new season's tea. Silk is firmer every day and sales were at first tolerably good, but on the 10th of the month the market became comparatively stagnant, and sales greatly diminished. However, as stocks are scarce and arrivals

small, the activity of the market was quickly restored. Shirts are dull. No appreciable change has occurred in sugar, but Japanese superior grades are in fair demand, and the market is firm. Foreign trade has slightly become favourable towards natives. Since the 19th up to the 28th February last, exports were in excess of imports by 400,000 yen, and since the 1st to the 14th inst. by about 150,000 or 160,000 yen; in consequence circulation has become smoother, the ordinary daily interest being 3 per cent., and for loans on security $\frac{1}{2}$ per cent per annum. The following is a table of imports and exports at Yokohama during the last ten days:—

Date.	Imports.	Exports.	Difference.
March 1st.....	\$ 31,500.00.....	\$121,071.00.....	Inc. \$ 89,571.00
2nd.....	51,000.00.....	82,160.38.....	" 31,160.38
3rd.....	91,000.00.....	42,139.00.....	Dec. 48,811.00
4th.....	65,833.00.....	105,443.78.....	Inc. 39,610.78
5th.....	55,000.00.....	17,998.41.....	Dec. 32,001.59
6th.....	none.		
7th.....	30,000.00.....	86,757.05.....	Inc. 56,757.05
8th.....	64,799.75.....	30,137.36.....	Dec. 34,662.39
9th.....	78,909.72.....	86,177.31.....	Inc. 7,267.59
10th.....	62,000.00.....	57,023.30.....	Dec. 4,976.70
Total	530,042.47.....	628,907.60.....	} Inc. 224,366.81 Dec. 125,501.68

Excess of Exports over Imports \$98,865.12

MISCELLANEOUS.

The *Mainichi Shinbun* states that with a view to the convenience of visitors, the office for affairs connected with the Exhibition has lately compiled a pamphlet entitled "Guide to the Second National Exhibition" which contains plans and descriptions of the buildings, exhibits, and a general view of the garden of the Exhibition. In the supplement much useful information is given about all places connected with agricultural, industrial, and other beneficial scientific affairs in the Capital and neighbourhoods. Tickets for admittance to all of these places are to be issued from the office of the Tokio F's committee, in the Exhibition, and the pamphlet is sold by the *Seishinbun* at Kabuto-cho, Tokio, and its branches.

We are sorry to learn from the *Nichi Nichi Shinbun* that thieves are doing very well at the Exhibition, many of the exhibits having been stolen. Strict watch has resulted in the detection of two men. It transpired in the course of their examination that their plan was to enter the Exhibition just before its close and to remain inside all night, laying hands on everything they could, and passing it over the walls of the garden to confederates stationed ready to receive the plunder. They would leave shortly after the gates opened in the morning. One of them actually possessed an exhibitor's ticket, in consequence of which all these tickets are to be changed.

The earthquake on the 8th instant broke a great number of windows in the buildings Nos. I and II.

We learn from a native journal that on the 12th ult., at 11 p.m., a fire broke out at Nakamachi, Miyakojo, in the prefecture of Kagoshima. Favoured by a strong wind the flames spread rapidly, and one hundred and five houses were consumed. This town has, until now, been exceptionally fortunate in its immunity from fires, the last time it suffered being, it is said, no less than one hundred and five years ago.

Another paper says that the wife of the late Japanese Minister at Paris returned to the Capital on the afternoon of the 11th inst. As her residence at Torisaka, Azabu, has been rented by a foreign employé of the Naval Department until the 4th of the next month, she has engaged a residence at Mikawa-daimachi, belonging to the Naval Department, where a grand funeral ceremony over the remains of her late husband will be performed.

The *Hochi Shinbun* states that a report received from the prefecture of Gumba, dated the 12th instant, states that the rioters had not yet dispersed and that therefore the Chief Secretary of the local Government visited the place and endeavored to quell them, but in vain. It is considered probable that they will march to the *Kenchō* and display force, and consequently every possible preparations for defence are made in the Government office, and also in the Takasaki police station. It is decided that should they approach, all the police in the

Takasaki and Mayebashi Police Stations are at once to be despatched to stop them.

It is reported in the same paper that a steamboat plying between the Riogoku bridge, Tokio, and Matsudo, named the *Nagatomi Maru*, sank in the Matsudo river on the 8th inst. at 8 p.m., having struck on an unknown shoal. Fortunately there was no loss of life, all the passengers being taken off by boats sent from both sides of the river.

A native paper states that with the view to promote longevity, a series of inquiries has been instituted into the early life, habits, and morals of all Japanese who are over ninety years of age.

According to a native paper the visitors to the Exhibition were on the 6th (Sunday) 2,065, the 7th 3,081, the 8th 2,567 the 9th 2,278, the 10th 624, the 11th 1,290, the 12th (Saturday) 5,994; total during the week 20,999.

The *Nichi Nichi Shinbun* states that several cases of virulent fever have appeared in Tokiyu. It is said to have originated in the Ichigaya gaol, many prisoners having suffered, and therefore the district officials are adopting preventive measures. The same epidemic is said to be prevalent in the prisons at Hiogo and Sakai.

We learn from a vernacular paper that with a view to the convenience of visitors to the Kioto Exhibition, three hundred tickets are issued daily at reduced rates for the railway between Kioto and Kobe.

The *Mainichi Shinbun* contains the following report:—On the morning of the 4th instant a vessel named the *Waraku Maru*, plying between Osaka and Hiogo, was off Ajikawa, when she passed eleven corpses floating on the surface of water. All the seamen and passengers on board were greatly astonished to see so many bodies at one time, and therefore they attempted to put back to Ajikawa to report the matter, but there being a strong easterly wind blowing they could not manage it. They put in therefore at Isobe, Amagasaki, and reported it to the fishermen there. The fishermen went off in a fishing boat and after a short time came back with their boat filled with the bodies, and a report was made to the nearest police station. On enquiries having been made, it was found that they were the remains of some former vassals of the Ama Han, named Amaki, and Katsu-ura, and their families, who in consequence of the recent rise in the price of rice were reduced to starvation, and therefore had committed suicide by drowning. What a terrible state of things is this!

The same paper gives a report from Gumba prefecture, dated 15th inst., which says:—“As the farmers assembled in the Kongoji temple at Fukushima-mura obstinately refused to be dispersed, two hundred police inspectors, and policemen were despatched by order of the local Government, from the Takasaki police station, against the headquarters of the rioters on the 15th inst. All the farmers had then dispersed, but when the police arrested the eldest son of one of the ringleaders, about 80 of them, armed with bamboo spears, reaping-hooks, etc., and striking gongs, appeared to prevent the police taking him. A short struggle ensued, but the rioters ran away as soon as one of them had been slightly wounded in the hand by a policeman. The force despatched then retired to the residence of the *Kochō* (chief officer) in the village Nakaidsumi.

A native paper says that the examination of the cocoons, cartons, tea &c., now on view in the National Exhibition, commenced yesterday, the 17th inst.

The same paper states that Rear-Admiral Stackelberg and eleven officers arrived at Nagoya, Aichi prefecture, on the 13th inst. where they visited the garrison, workshops, factories, and the Cloisonné Company's buildings. The party was afterwards entertained in the Museum by the local officials.

IMPERIAL GOVERNMENT RAILWAYS.

KIOTO, KORE AND OOTSU SECTION.

Statement of traffic receipts for the week ending Sunday, 13th March, 1881.

Passengers, parcels, &c.	Yen 15,279.14
Merchandise, &c.	" 2,238.95

Total Yen 17,518.09
Miles open 58.

Corresponding week last year.

Passengers, parcels, &c.	Yen 14,533.54
Merchandise, &c.	" 1,747.53

Total Yen 16,281.07
Miles open 55.

KIOTO KOBE AND OOTSU SECTION.

Statement of traffic receipts for the week ending Sunday, 10th March, 1881.

Passengers, parcels, &c.	Yen 16,084.90
Merchandise, &c.	„ 2,526.59

Total.....Yen 18,611.49

Miles open 58.

Corresponding week last year.

Passengers, parcels, &c.	Yen 9,783.74
Merchandise, &c.	„ 1,498.84

Total.....Yen 11,282.58

Miles open 55.

LAW REPORTS.

IN THE U. S. CONSULAR-GENERAL COURT.

Before THOS. B. VAN BUREN, Esq., Consul-General, Judge.
Messrs. P. HUSSEY and G. FARLEY Jr., Assessors.

Monday, March 14th, 1881.

THE MITSU BISHI MAIL STEAM SHIP COMPANY,

Versus

THE PACIFIC MAIL STEAM SHIP COMPANY.

JUDGMENT.

This action was brought to recover the sum of \$5,000.00, with interest at ten (10 o/o) per cent. per annum from the 14th January, 1877, alleged to be due, by the Defendant Company, for the carrying by the Plaintiff Company on the steamship *Nevada*, of the United States Mails, from Shanghai to Yokohama at or about above date.

The petition alleges that a certain agreement was entered into between the parties on the 16th day of October, 1875, by which the Defendant Company conveyed to the Plaintiff Company certain steam-ships, then the property of the former, and, that in said agreement it was provided as follows:—"The said Pacific Mail Steam Ship Company agree to grant and let to hire unto the Mitsu Bishi Mail Steam Ship Company the good steam-ship or vessel called the *Nevada* of New York, of about two thousand one hundred and forty-six tons measurement, and the said Mitsu Bishi Mail Steam Ship Company hereby hires the said vessel with her tackle and appurtenances, as she now stands, for the term of fifteen months from the first day of October current, the charter money for the said steamer *Nevada* for the term above mentioned being included in the amount mentioned in Article I. hereof—the said Mitsu Bishi Mail Steam Ship Company to provide for the said steam-ship (and for any other steam-ship that shall be substituted for her by the said Mitsu Bishi Mail Steam Ship Company as hereafter provided), the master, engineers, officers and crew, and to pay the wages of the same and all other expenses necessary for the maintenance and running of the said steam-ship out of their own moneys, and the said Mitsu Bishi Mail Steam Ship Company agree to run the said steam-ship (or any other steam-ship that shall be substituted for her by the Mitsu Bishi Mail Steam Ship Company as hereafter provided) during the said period of fifteen months, from the first day of October current, exclusively between Yokohama and Shanghai and intermediate ports, and to carry once a month to Shanghai and intermediate ports, and once a month from Shanghai and intermediate ports, on the said steam-ship, all and every the Mails which the said Pacific Mail Steam Ship Company is now bound to carry by its agreement with the United States Government, at the times and between the places stipulated in the said contract between the said Pacific Mail Steam Ship Company and the United States Government, and it is agreed and declared that the said steam-ship *Nevada* shall be at the risk of the said Mitsu Bishi Mail Steam Ship Company, who shall be responsible as owners for any claim or claims for which the owner or owners of the said steam-ship would be liable, and shall relieve the said Pacific Mail Steam Ship Company of all and every claims which may hereafter arise in reference to the said steam-ship, or indemnify them against all loss they may sustain arising out of any claims brought against the said Pacific Mail Steam Ship Company in connection therewith, after the said steam-ship has been chartered to the Mitsu Bishi Mail Steam Ship Company as aforesaid; and in case the said steam-ship

Nevada shall be lost before the expiration of the said term of fifteen months from the first of October current, the said Mitsu Bishi Mail Steam Ship Company will at their own expense, provide another steam-ship under the United States flag for the proper carrying on the said service for the remaining portion of the said term of fifteen months from the first of October current."

The petition further alleges that the plaintiff Company fulfilled all their obligations under the clause of the agreement referred to, and that after the expiration of fifteen months from the 1st day of October, 1875, to wit, after the 31st of December, 1876, all obligation on the part of said company as to carrying mails between Shanghai and Yokohama having ceased, the Plaintiff Company did carry a mail from Shanghai to Yokohama for and on behalf of the Defendant Company, and in order to carry said mail was delayed in Shanghai for four days, to wit, from the 10th to the 14th of January, 1877, and thereby put to great expense; and in a correspondence set out in the petition, between the counsel for the plaintiff Company and the agent of the Defendant Company, the former claimed \$5,000.00 as the amount which the plaintiff Company should receive for the service to be performed, viz the carrying the mail to the 14th of January, 1877; and this amount the plaintiffs claim should therefore be the amount allowed them if it shall be decided that compensation is due them for said service.

On the part of the Defendants it is contended that the service to be performed on the part of the Plaintiff Company did not end with the year 1876, but only when all the mails provided to be carried by the Defendant Company, on their existing contract with the United States Government referred to in the agreement between the parties to the suit, as set forth in the petition, should be fully carried according to the terms of said agreement.

The learned counsel for the defence insists that the clause referred to, although spoken of as a charter in its own language, is in no proper sense a charter, but an agreement to perform a certain service on the part of the Plaintiff Company, and that the particular service to be performed is described in the agreement referred to between the Defendant Company, and the Government of the United States, and included the carriage of the mail which forms the subject of this action. He also contends that if it shall be concluded that the particular service referred to is to be paid for by the Defendant Company, the amount claimed in the petition is extravagant, and unwarranted by the character and amount of the said service.

The issue thus made as to the true interest and meaning of clause No. 3 in the agreement between the parties thereto, set forth in the complaint and above quoted, rendered it necessary in the opinion of the Court, to receive parole evidence as to the understanding of both parties at and about the time of the execution of said agreement, as to when the service agreed to be performed in said 3rd clause was to be considered finally terminated,—whether at the end of 1876, or at such time as the last mail should be carried provided by the contract between the Defendant Company and the United States Government,—whatever such time should be. Accordingly Mr. Robert W. Irwin testified in open Court as to what took place between the parties at and about the time of executing the agreement, and the testimony of Mr. Ness, the counsel for both parties, and of Mr. Center, agent at the time of the Defendant Company was taken by Commission.

The testimony of Mr. Irwin discloses that he acted in conjunction with Mr. Center on the part of the Pacific Mail Steam Ship Company in effecting the sale of the steamships *Costa Rica*, *Oregonian*, *Golden Age*, and *Nevada*, described in the agreement of the 16th of October, 1875, and was present at all the important interviews between Mr. Center and those acting for the Mitsu Bishi Mail Steam Ship Company, which resulted in the execution of the agreement of sale, and he swears that the distinct understanding of both parties and the instructions to Mr. Ness, who acted as counsel for both parties, was to the effect that the service to be rendered by the Plaintiff Company with the *Nevada* in carrying the United States Mails was to terminate on the 31st of December, 1876.

Mr. Ness fully confirms these statements in his evidence taken by commission, and so does Mr. Iwasaki Iwanoske, General Manager.

Mr. Center testifies that the understanding was, that whatever obligations existed on the part of the Pacific Mail Company, by virtue of its agreement with the United States Government, were to be satisfied in full by the Mitsu Bishi Company and that the steamship *Nevada* was not to be finally conveyed to the Mitsu Bishi Company until such obligations had been fulfilled.

Were this question then to depend simply upon the weight of evidence, it must be concluded that the particular service to be performed by the Plaintiff Company in the carriage of the mails ended at that time mentioned in the contract, to wit, in fifteen months from the 1st of October 1876, or on the 31st December, 1876.

But I am not clear that I am driven for a correct interpretation of the contract to the testimony of these witnesses, or that the Court was correct in admitting parole evidence at all as to its meaning.

The contracts referred to are all in evidence, and it seems to me, after a number of careful readings, and mature reflection, that the time during which the steamship *Nevada* was to carry the mails under the American flag between Shanghai and Yokohama ended with the year 1876. I am with counsel for the defence in his contention that clause III. of the agreement of 16th of October 1875 is in no proper sense a charter. The steamship *Nevada* was, according to the terms of the agreement sold by the defendant Company to the Plaintiff Company together with the other steamship named therein. The price of all four said steamships is fixed in said agreement at a lump sum, and the times and terms of payment provided which times and terms were not made dependent upon any thing thereafter to be done by the *Nevada*. On the contrary in clause III. of the contract, wherein the agreement on the part of the Plaintiff Company to render certain service to the defendant Company is mistakenly named a charter, it is declared that the "charter money is included" in the sum to be paid for the said four steamships.

Upon the execution of the contract of the 16th of October 1875, the *Nevada* became as absolutely the property of the Mitsu Bishi Company as did the other steamers named, and she was delivered to said Company as absolutely as said other steamers.

The Mitsu Bishi Company simply agreed to perform with said *Nevada* a service for the Pacific Mail Steam-Ship Company, such service being to carry certain mails between Shanghai and Yokohama, and while so engaged to fly the American flag. The mails so to be carried by the *Nevada* were the mails provided to be carried by the Pacific Mail Steam-Ship Company in its contract with the United States Government.

As to the time when the obligations of the Pacific Mail Steam-Ship Company, in that respect, were to terminate according to said agreement with the United States Government, it is clear from the evidence that neither party had exact knowledge; but, the agent of the Pacific Mail Company believing that the same ended on the 31st of December 1876, that time was finally accepted and agreed upon and entered in the contract as the time when the obligations to carry said mails on the part of the Mitsu Bishi Company should cease.

It will not be disputed that it was perfectly legal and proper for the Mitsu Bishi Company to fix a limit to the term of its agreement to carry said mails, whatever may have been the obligations of the Pacific Mail Steam-Ship Company to the United States Government, and this it seems to me to have done. That it may have been done in a clearer and more decisive form I concede, but still in my judgment it is "so nominated in the bond."

The Defendant Company could have produced the agreement with the United States had it been so disposed, but not so doing it seems to me it must be bound by the time named by its agent in the agreement, and accepted by the other party.

This being so, it is perhaps unnecessary to pause upon the terms of the Contract between the United States Government and the Defendant Company, but I am clear that a fair construction of that instrument shows that the obligations of the Pacific Mail Steam-Ship Company thereunder did in fact terminate on the 31st of December, 1876, the term therein being "ten years from the 1st of January 1867," within which time the said Pacific Mail Steam-Ship Company, was to make "twelve round trips per annum."

If the Pacific Mail Steam-Ship Company, did not, within said ten years make her "twelve round trips per annum" as provided, she violated her agreement, but she nowhere bound herself to carry the mails after the 1st of January 1867, or from the day "the first steamship of the line departed with the mails from San Francisco" as printed in the agreement. The evidence shows that the first of said line did leave San Francisco on the said 1st of January, 1867.

Having thus determined that the obligations of the Plaintiff Company to carry the mails referred to terminated on the 31st of December, 1876, the only question remaining is the amount of compensation to which said Company is entitled for the service set forth in the petition.

The Agent of the Pacific Mail Steam-Ship Company, assuming that the service referred to was covered by the Agreement of October 16th, insisted upon the *Nevada's* remaining at Shanghai in order to receive the mail when ready and carrying the same to Yokohama. This I have said the Plaintiff Company was under no legal obligation to do, but having done so upon the demand of the Defendants it is the duty of the latter to pay for the service which included the detention from the 10th to the 14th January.

The fair charge for such detention is shown by the evidence to have been \$500 per day or \$2,000 for the four days.

The amount to be paid for the carriage of the mails is a more difficult problem which a study of the evidence does not render clear. Upon this subject Mr. Bramsen, on the part of the Plaintiffs, testified that he considered a fair charge for conveying the American mail from Shanghai to Yokohama to be "between 4000 and 5000 dollars." In cross-examination, however, he states "I am not an expert in such a matter as this. My whole experience is with the Plaintiff Company. It is impossible to estimate the value of the service in this case exactly. I am familiar with the amounts received by the Company for the carriage of mails."

Mr. Haswell says, "I am the Acting General Agent of the O. & O. S. S. Co. I have been in Japan about eleven years; always in the service of Steam Ship Companies. Am well acquainted with the steam-ship *Nevada*. Have been in steam-ship service carrying mails for fifteen years. It is generally considered that \$5 a mile (one way) is a liberal compensation for carrying the mails, anything under that is a low compensation."

Mr. de Cimier says, "I am the Agent of the *Messageries*, the French Steam Ship Company here; have been in the company since 1860. I have been navigating 18 years. I think \$2.50 a mile is fair for carrying the mails between Shanghai and Yokohama. My company receives a subsidy for carrying the mails; unsubsidized French vessels are paid by the weight of the mails."

Mr. Rickett says, "I am the Agent of the P. & O. S. S. Co. Have been connected with Steam Ship Companies since 1854. Have had in that time to do more or less with carriage of mails. Our steamers have carried mails; I have been in Japan 11½ years and am acquainted with the route between here and Shanghai: the distance in round numbers is about 1200 miles. I think the fair value for carrying the mail by the *Nevada* on that route is about \$2.50 per nautical mile. I think unsubsidized British vessels are paid for mails from Hongkong to Yokohama one cent per letter, and two cents per pound for printed matter."

Mr. Iwasaki says, "I think about \$4 per nautical mile is a proper price for carrying mails from Shanghai to Yokohama. Our Company has a contract with the Government to carry mails to the Bonin Islands and pays us 3,000 yen per trip. The distance there and back is about 1,000 miles. No regular trips are required."

Mr. Harman, a witness on the part of the defendants, testifies to the amounts received by the Pacific Mail S. S. Company from the Japanese Government for the carriage of mails from this port to San Francisco between January 1st, 1875, and December 31st 1879, from which it appears that the average paid per steamer for such carriage, from January 1st, 1875, to January 1st, 1878, was about 149.60 yen; and from January 1st, 1878, to December 31st, 1879, about 196.74 dollars, the distance to San Francisco being about 4,700 miles. The witness says "the amounts paid by the Japanese Government to our (the Pacific Mail Steamer Ship) Company for carrying the

mail to San Francisco, were arrived at by the Japanese Postal Authorities, as stated in their letters."

Mr. Bryan says: "I am the Director of Posts in the Japanese Postal Service. The Hong Kong Government pays \$25.00 per steamer for carrying the mails to Yokohama and San Francisco. The compensation paid by the Japanese Government to the Pacific Mail Steam Ship Company for carrying the mails was six cents per ounce for letters, and six cents per pound for other matter, up to 1st January, 1880, the same as fixed by law in the United States for sea postage. After the establishment of the Japanese Post Office here, the Japanese mails brought from Shanghai to here on the *Nevada* were included in those sent by us to the United States. The mails made up in the U. S. Post Office in Shanghai did not pass through our office."

This is all the evidence upon the question of the amount justly due to the plaintiff for carrying the mails from Shanghai to Yokohama in January, 1877, and as will be seen it is very contradictory and undecisive.

The weight of the direct evidence introduced by the plaintiff fixes the compensation as \$2.50 per nautical mile. This for 1,180 miles would give \$2,900.

The evidence of the defence shows that the average amount paid by steamer for carriage of Mails from Yokohama and San Francisco, a distance of 4,700 miles, from January 1st 1880 was \$196.74, the amount being determined by weight.

The claim that because \$5,000 was named by the plaintiffs as the amount they should demand for carrying the mail in question, that amount must be taken to be the proper value of the service, cannot for a moment be entertained.

The Defendants, through Mr. Foster their agent, expressly repudiated the obligation of the defendants to pay anything for said service, and nowhere consented to accept the amount of \$5,000 as the proper amount to be paid, if his Company should be held liable.

Had no question been pending as to the liability of the plaintiffs to carry the mail in question and the plaintiffs had informed the defendants they would carry the same only at the price of \$5,000, and the defendants had thereupon delivered the mails to be carried, it is possible that a recovery might have been had for the amount named, unless the same should have been shown to be grossly extravagant.

But such case is not the present one, and I am therefore driven to estimate, from the mass of widely ranging evidence that I have quoted, the real value of the service rendered.

As I have shown, if the mails in question had been carried to be paid for by weight, I can discover nothing in the evidence that would make the service worth any more, if as much as the average amount received by the defendants for the same service between Yokohama and San Francisco, a distance of 4,700 miles.

The estimated value of the service as given by the witnesses for the plaintiffs is about \$2,900 but this estimate it seems to me is based upon the usual subsidies paid by Governments rather than upon the real value of the service or the amount usually paid for similar service where no subsidy exists.

Subsidies are usually paid for other, or more properly for additional, considerations to that of mere carrying the mails, and vessels receiving such subsidies are required to run at regular times and to make certain average trips. In this case the *Nevada* was not a subsidized ship, and the service rendered by her was a single service that ended with the single trip, such trip being her usual one, and between the same ports to and from which she was accustomed to run.

I find nothing in the evidence which would make the carriage of the particular mail in question more valuable than a similar carrying at any time and nothing that would justify me in putting an extravagant value upon it.

It seems to me therefore that the only charge that can be made for the service must be based upon the weight of the particular mail.

In the absence of all testimony as to this, I am driven then to estimate the value in the light of the evidence as to similar service rendered by the Defendant Company.

The average, as stated, received by the Defendant Com-

pany for carriage of mails between Yokohama and San Francisco in the years 1878 and 1879 was \$196.74. I see no reason why the carriage of a single mail from Shanghai to Yokohama should be paid for at any higher rate.

The judgment of the court therefore is that the plaintiffs recover of the defendants the sum of \$2,196.74, with interest at 10 per cent. from the 14th day of January, 1877, and costs, to be adjusted, and that the defendants pay the costs of court.

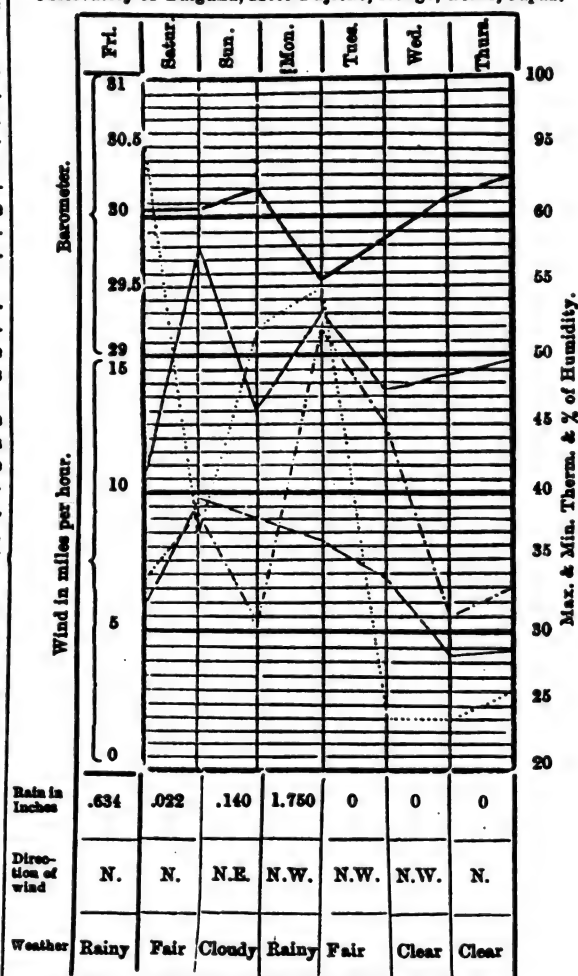
THOS. B. VAN BUREN,
U. S. Consul-General.

We concur:
GUSTAVUS FARLEY, JR. } Associates.
PETER HUSSEY, }

METEOROLOGICAL REPORT

FOR WEEK BEGINNING FRIDAY, MARCH 11TH, 1881.

Observatory of Daigaku, Moto-Fujicho, Hongō, Tokio, Japan.



REMARKS.

Heavy line represents barometer.

Light continuous line—max. & min. thermometers.

.....represents velocity of wind.

.....percentage of humidity.

Max. velocity of wind 31 miles per hour on Monday at 9 p.m.

The barometer is reduced to the freezing point and to the level of the sea.

The highest reading of the barometer for the week was 30.372 inches on Thursday at 11 p.m. and the lowest was 29.429 inches on Monday at 2 p.m. The range for the week was considerable, being .943 inches. The highest temperature during the week was 58° on Saturday and the lowest was 28° on Wednesday. The maximum and minimum for the corresponding week of last year were 68° and 35° respectively. The temperature continues to be much lower than for the same time last year.

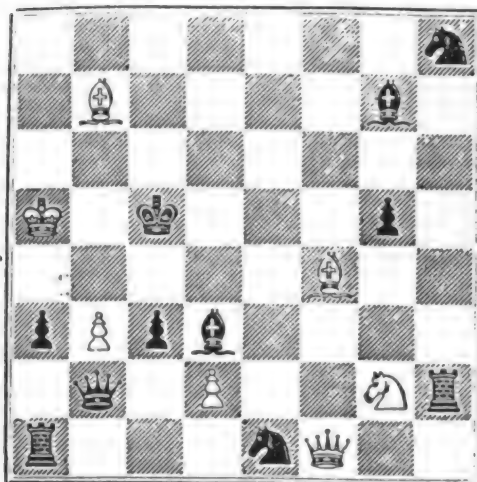
The total amount of rain for the week was 2.546 inches, against a total of .617 inches for the corresponding week of last year.

CHESS PROBLEM,

BY MR. RICHARDSON.

(From the Chess World.)

BLACK.



WHITE.

White to play and mate in 3 moves.

SOLUTION OF CHESS PROBLEM OF MARCH 12TH, BY W. H. TAYLOR

White:

- 1.—B. to K. 6.
- 2.—Q. to Q. 3, ch.
- 3.—Kt. to Kt. 6, mate.

Black:

- 1.—Kt. takes B.
- 2.—K. to K. 4.

if 1.—P. moves.

- 2.—K. to Q. 3.

if 1.—K. to Q. 3.

- 2.—K. to B. 2.

- 2.—Q. to B. 4, ch.
- 3.—Q. to B. 6, mate.

- 2.—Q. to Q. 3, ch.
- 3.—Q. to Q. 8, mate.

Correct solutions received from Q. and Omega.

SHIPPING INTELLIGENCE.

INWARDS.

- Mar. 14, Japanese steamer *Kiushiu Maru*, Davison, 690, from Kobe, Mails and General, to M. B. Co.
- Mar. 14, Japanese steamer *Nigata Maru*, Walker, 1,603, from Hongkong via Kobe, Mails and General, to M. B. Co.
- Mar. 14, Japanese steamer *Hiogo Maru*, —, 896, from Hakodate, Mails and General, to M. B. Co.
- Mar. 14, British steamer *Gaelic*, Kidley, 2,404, from Hongkong, Mails and General, to O. & O. Co.
- Mar. 15, British 3-masted schooner *Mary*, Gubbins, 147, from Takao, Feb. 14th, Sugar, to Jardine, Matheson & Co.
- Mar. 15, Japanese barque *Kinokuni Maru*, Nicolle, 960, from Nagasaki, Coals, to M. B. Co.
- Mar. 15, Japanese steamer *Shinagawa Maru*, Walker, 908, from Kobe, Mails and General, to M. B. Co.
- Mar. 16, Japanese steamer *Meiji Maru*, Peters, 1,010, from Kobe, to Lighthouse Department.
- Mar. 17, Japanese steamer *Takasago Maru*, Young, 1,230, from Shanghai and ports, Mails and General, to M. B. Co.
- Mar. 17, Japanese steamer *Wakanoura Maru*, Christensen, 1,300, from Kobe, Mails and General, to M. B. Co.
- Mar. 17, German barque *Maria*, Jansen, 280, from Takao, Sugar, to order.
- Mar. 17, British steamer *Sunda*, Reeves, 1,704, from Hongkong via Nagasaki, Mails and General, to P. & O. Co.
- Mar. 17, German corvette *Vineta*, Captain Zirzow, 2,000 tons, 19-guns, 437 men, from Kobe.
- Mar. 18, Russian Cruiser *Africa*, Captain Alescoff, 2,800 tons, 13-guns, from Kobe.
- Mar. 19, British steamer *Gordon Castle*, W. Waring, 1,320, from Hongkong, March 10th, General, to Adamson, Bell & Co.
- Mar. 19, British steamer *Fleura Castle*, J. Kidler, 1,622, from Shanghai, March 15th, General, to Adamson, Bell & Co.
- Mar. 19, British steamer *Glenartney*, Jacobs, 1,399, from Nagasaki, Coals, to Jardine, Matheson & Co.

PASSENGERS.

- Per Japanese steamer *Kiushiu Maru* from Kobe:—Mrs. Connors in cabin; 250 Japanese in steerage.
- Per Japanese steamer *Nigata Maru* from Hongkong via Kobe: Col. and Mrs. Fletcher, Mr. F. H. Trevithick, Mr. and Mrs. Booth, Mr. and Mrs. Favre-Baudt, Mr. O. Voigt, Mr. A. Vivanti, Mr. W. Sayle, and 8 Japanese in cabin; 10 Chinese and 157 Japanese in steerage.
- Per Japanese steamer *Hiogo Maru* from Hakodate:—40 Japanese.
- Per British steamer *Gaelic* from Hongkong:—Mr. Nicolaus Poleschajen, in cabin; and one Chinese in steerage. For San Francisco:

Captain J. S. St. Clair, 49th Regiment, Mr. and Mrs. Filabrano in cabin; and 596 Chinese in steerage.

Per Japanese steamer *Akitushima Maru* from Kobe:—40 Japanese.

Per Japanese steamer *Takasago Maru* from Shanghai and ports:—For Yokohama, Prince de Lisle and servant, Baron Benoist Mechiro and servant, Mons. P. de Lapeyrière, Revd. Mr. and Mrs. Hart and children, Mrs. R. Swain and child, Mrs. Goble, Signor and Signora Vela, Signora Cobianche, Revd. C. F. Blanchet, Mr. F. S. Jacobs, Mr. O. von Torp, and 12 Japanese in cabin; 4 Europeans, 3 Chinese, and 304 Japanese in steerage.

Per British steamer *Sunda* from Hongkong via Nagasaki:—Mr. D. Coates and Mr. Boole in cabin; and 6 Chinese on deck.

Per British steamer *Gordon Castle* from Hongkong:—Mrs. Sangster.

Per British steamer *Fleura Castle* from London via Shanghai:—Messrs. Perrington and Hodges in cabin.

OUTWARDS.

Mar. 15, Japanese steamer *Akitushima Maru*, Frahm, 1,146, for Hakodate, Mails and General, despatched by M. B. Co.

Mar. 15, British steamer *Bentley*, Ross, 1,215, for Kobe, General, despatched by Monrilyan, Heimann & Co.

Mar. 16, Japanese steamer *Tokio Maru*, Swain, 1,146, for Shanghai and ports, Mails and General, despatched by M. B. Co.

Mar. 16, Japanese steamer *Tamamura Maru*, Carrow, 559, for Samusawa, Mails and General, despatched by M. B. Co.

Mar. 16, Japanese steamer *Kiushiu Maru*, Kilgour, 690, for Nobiru, Mails and General, despatched by M. B. Co.

Mar. 17, Japanese steamer *Shinagawa Maru*, Walker, 908, for Kobe, Mails and General, despatched by M. B. Co.

Mar. 18, British steamer *Gaelic*, Kidley, 2,652, for San Francisco, Mails and General, despatched by O. & O. Co.

Mar. 18, British steamer *Keelung*, Schultze, 912, for Kobe, General, despatched by Butterfield & Swire.

Mar. 19, French steamer *Tanais*, Reynier, 1,735, for Hongkong, Mails and General, despatched by M. M. Co.

Mar. 19, Japanese steamer *Takasago Maru*, Young, 1,230 for Hongkong via Kobe, Mails and General, despatched by M. B. Co.

PASSENGERS.

Per Japanese steamer *Tokio Maru*, for Shanghai and way ports:—H. M. The King of Hawaii, Col. Armstrong, Col. Judd, Rev. F. F. Alexander, Messrs. Takahasi, Abumi, Wakai, Majima, Orita, Ota, Kitajima, Baba, Kajiki, Tanaka, and Miss Nakawara and 5 Japanese in cabin; 294 Japanese and 2 Chinese in steerage.

Per British steamer *Gaelic* for San Francisco:—Captain J. S. St. Clair, Messrs. J. W. Taylor, H. M. Sargent, Surgeon A. F. Price (U.S.N.), Major Webb, (R.A.), M. S. Cooper, John W. Wendell, For Liverpool:—Messrs. M. W. Sayle, F. E. A. Lorton, and C. G. Dunlop, in cabin. 2 Europeans and 596 Chinese in steerage.

Per French steamer *Tanais* for Hongkong:—M. and Mme. Rica y Calvo, Messrs. S. Harrison, L. Harris, and A. Morton.

Per Japanese steamer *Takasago Maru* for Hongkong via Kobe:—Messrs. Wakai, Merimura, Yamamoto, Moriata, Namasawa and Hamada; Hung Kee, Ah Tai and child in steerage.

CARGOES.

Per Japanese steamer *Takasago Maru* from Shanghai and ports:—

Treasure... .. \$150,330.00

Per British steamer *Sunda* from Hongkong via Nagasaki:—

Transshipment... .. 233 pkgs.

Sundries... .. 248 "

Total... .. 481 Pkgs.

Local:

Sugar... .. 2,722 pkgs.

Sundries... .. 1,724 "

Total... .. 4,446 pkgs.

Per British steamer *Gaelic* for San Francisco:—

TEA:

From	San Fran.	N. York.	Other Cities.	Total
Shanghai	—	60	161	221
Nagasaki	—	—	912	912
Hiogo	8	792	1,112	1,912
Yokohama	1,517	1,274	419	3,210
Hongkong	—	25	—	25
Total	1,525	2,151	2,604	6,380

SILK:

From	San Fran.	N. York.	Other Cities.	Total
Shanghai	—	478	—	478
Hongkong	—	331	4	335
Yokohama	—	211	—	111
Total	—	920	4	924

Per French steamer *Tanais* for Hongkong:—

Silk, for France... .. 996 bales.

" " London... .. 68 "

Total... .. 1,064 bales.

REPORTS.

The British steamer *Gaelic* reports:—Left Hongkong at 3.30 p.m. on the 7th March. Had fresh monsoon up the China sea, strong Northerly winds to Oosima, passed the latter point at 8 a.m. on the 13th and experienced strong N. E. gale thence up to arrival at 4 p.m. on the 14th March.

The British 3-masted schooner *Mary* reports:—Very heavy northerly and N.E. gales with torrents of rain and high cross sea: was within 250 miles of this port for 19 days, but could not make it.

The British steamer *Gordon Castle* reports:—Fresh gale from N.E. up to 14th instant. After which fine weather up to arrival.

The British steamer *Fleura Castle* reports:—Fine northerly winds throughout the passage.

NATIVE CURRENCY QUOTATIONS.

(For Week Ending 18th March, 1881.)

		Discount on Yen Setts.			Gold Yen.	Nibus.	Silver Subsidary (New.)	Silver Subsidary (Old.)
		A. M.	Noon.	Closing.				
1881								
Friday	.....Mar.	11	75 ¹ / ₂	74 ³ / ₄	74 ³ / ₄	—	—	—
Saturday	.....	12	74 ¹ / ₂	74 ³ / ₄	74 ³ / ₄	—	—	—
Monday	.....	14	75 ¹ / ₂	75 ¹ / ₂	75 ¹ / ₂	—	—	—
Tuesday	.....	15	75 ¹ / ₂	76 ¹ / ₂	76 ¹ / ₂	—	—	—
Wednesday	.....	16	76 ¹ / ₂	77 ¹ / ₂	77 ¹ / ₂	—	—	—
Thursday	.....	17	77 ¹ / ₂	77 ¹ / ₂	76 ¹ / ₂	—	—	—
Friday	.....	18	76 ¹ / ₂	77 ¹ / ₂	77 ¹ / ₂	—	—	—

NEXT MAIL DUE FROM,

AMERICA	P. M. Co.	Mar. 24th
AMERICA	O. & O. Co.	April 8th
EUROPE, via HONGKONG	M. M. Co.	Mar. 24th
HONGKONG	P. & O. Co.	Mar. 28th
HONGKONG, via KOBE	M. B. Co.	April 18th
HONGKONG	P. M. Co.	Mar. 24th
HONGKONG	O. & O. Co.	Mar. 24th
SHANGHAI, HIOGO & NAGASAKI	M. B. Co.	Mar. 24th

- 1.—Left San Francisco, March 1st, *City of Tokio*.
- 2.—Left Hongkong, March 13th, *Menzaleh*.
- 3.—Left San Francisco, March 15th, *Belgie*.

NEXT MAIL LEAVES FOR,

AMERICA	P. M. Co.	April 20th
AMERICA	O. & O. Co.	Mar. 24th
EUROPE, via HONGKONG	P. & O. Co.	Mar. 19th
EUROPE, via HONGKONG	M. M. Co.	Mar. 19th
HAKODATE	M. B. Co.	Mar. 19th
HONGKONG, via KOBE	M. B. Co.	April 8th
HONGKONG	O. & O. Co.	Mar. 24th
HONGKONG	P. M. Co.	Mar. 26th
SHANGHAI, HIOGO & NAGASAKI	M. B. Co.	Mar. 26th

The arrival and departure of mails by the "Occidental and Oriental," the "Pacific Mail," and the "Peninsular and Oriental" companies, are approximate only.

CHURCH SERVICES.

CHRIST CHURCH.

Sunday Morning 11 A.M.
" Evening 5.30 P.M.

E. CHAMPNEYS IRWINE, M.A.,
The Parsonage, 101.

UNION CHURCH, No. 167.

Sunday Morning 11 A.M.
" Evening 8 P.M.

REV. LUTHER H. GULICK,
Pastor M.D.,

YOKOSUKA STEAMERS TIME TABLE.

LEAVE YOKOHAMA.

DAILY:—8.30, and 9.45 A.M.; 12.00, 1.30, and 4.15 P.M.

LEAVE YOKOSUKA.

DAILY:—6.45 and 9.30 A.M., and 12.00, 1.30 and 4.00 P.M.

YOKOHAMA-TOKIO RAILWAY.

DOWN TRAINS LEAVE SHINBASHI.

A.M.	A.M.	A.M.	NOON.	P.M.	P.M.	P.M.	P.M.	P.M.	P.M.
8.0	9.15	10.30	12.0	1.30	2.45	4.0	5.15	6.30	8.0

UP TRAINS LEAVE YOKOHAMA.

A.M.	A.M.	A.M.	NOON.	P.M.	P.M.	P.M.	P.M.	P.M.	P.M.
8.0	9.15	10.30	12.0	1.30	2.45	4.0	5.15	6.30	8.0

VESSELS EXPECTED IN JAPAN.

S A I L E D.

DATE.	NAME OF VESSEL.	FROM	FOR
July 17	Ste. Lucie	PHILADELPHIA	Yokohama
Aug. 7	Philip Nelson	HAMBURG	Yokohama
Nov. 18	Pakhoi (s.s.)	GLASGOW	Jap. via Manila
" 19	Ordovic	LONDON	Yokohama
" 22	Malacca	HAMBURG	Yoko. & Hiogo
Dec. 17	Marie	ANTWERP	" "
" 24	Mora	"	" "
" 4	Tamsui (s.s.)	GLASGOW	" "
Dec. 17	R. Robinson	NEW YORK	" "
Jan. 14	Bellerophon	LONDON	" "
" 15	Galley of Lorne	"	" "
" 27	Glamis Castle (s.s.)	"	" "
Mar. 4	Toucer (s.s.)	"	" "

L O A D I N G .

DATE.	NAME OF VESSEL.	AT	FOR
Jan. 28	M. L. Stone	LONDON	Yoko. &/or Hiogo
" 28	Canton (s.s.)	"	" "
" 28	Coldstream	"	" "
" 28	Frank Carvil	CARDIFF	" "
" 28	Achilles (s.s.)	LONDON	" "
" 28	Viceroy (s.s.)	"	" "
" 28	Bothwell Castle (s.s.)	ANTWERP	" "
" 28	Cicero (s.s.)	"	" "
" 28	F. Vander Taelen (s.s.)	"	" "
" 28	Orestes (s.s.)	LONDON	" "

LIGHTSHIP SIGNALS.

The following are the signals made from the lightship to denote the approach of vessels:—

Merchant steamer:—A black ball, with the national flag of the vessel below, at the yard arm.

Mail steamer:—A black diamond, with the company's flag below, at the peak

Man-of-war:—National flag of the vessel at the peak.

Sailing vessels:—For a ship: flag B. (red): barque, flag C. (red ball on white ground): brig, flag D. (white ball on blue ground): schooner, flag F. (white ball on red ground) all commercial code, with the vessel's national flag below as soon as it can be made out.

MERRYWEATHER & SONS,
Fire Engine Manufacturers,
London.

THE undersigned having been appointed Agents for the above firm, are prepared to execute orders for

FIRE ENGINES & APPLIANCES

STEAM TRAMWAYS,

AND

HYDRAULIC ENGINES
OF EVERY DESCRIPTION.

MALCOLM & CO.,
No. 66.

Yokohama, 17th March, 1880.

SHIPPING INTELLIGENCE.

VESSELS IN HARBOUR.

NAME.	CAPTAIN.	FLAG AND REG.	TONS.	FROM.	ARRIVED.	CONSIGNEES.
STEAMERS.						
Flours Castle	J. Kidder	British steamer	1,622	Shanghai	Mar. 19	Adamson, Bell & Co.
Glenartney	Jacobs	British steamer	1,320	Nagasaki	Mar. 19	Jardine, Matheson & Co.
Gordon Castle	W. Warning	British steamer	1,348	Hongkong	Mar. 19	Adamson, Bell & Co.
Meiji Maru	Peters	Japanese steamer	1,010	Kobe	Mar. 16	Lighthouse Department
Sunda	Reeves	British steamer	1,704	Hongkong via N'saki	Mar. 17	P. & O. Co.
Takasago Maru	Young	Japanese steamer	1,230	Shanghai & ports	Mar. 17	M. B. Co.
Volga	Guiraud	French steamer	1,502	Hongkong	Mar. 11	M. M. Co.
SAILING SHIPS.						
Alexander	Carson	American schooner	52	Nagasaki	Nov. 3	J. E. Collyer
Amoy	J. E. Schade	Am. 3-mast schr.	314	Takao	Mar. 5	M. B. Co.
Anna Sieben	Paulsen	German barque	604	Antwerp	Mar. 11	Order
Cilurnum	Beadle	British ship	1,850	Hongkong	Nov. 8	Edward Fischer & Co.
Hedvig	Frahm	British barque	375	Takao	Mar. 4	Soo Hoo
Helena	Ewalt	German schooner	60	Kurile Islands	Oct. 31	Captain
Lottie	Hiltz	German schooner	26	Kurile Islands	Sept. 4	Hohnholz & Co.
Maria	Janson	German barque	280	Takao	Mar. 17	Order
Mary C. Bohm	Petersen	German schooner	55	Kurile Islands	Oct. 24	P. Bohm
Mary	Gubbins	Brit. 3-mast schr.	147	Takao	Mar. 15	Jardine, Matheson & Co.
North Star	Johnson	Russian schooner	42	Kurile Islands	Nov. 16	H. W. Hohnholz & Co.
Otome	Hardy	American schooner	72	Kurile Islands	Dec. 13	H. Suow
Otago	Isaacsen	Russian schooner	46	Kurile Islands	Nov. 3	H. Cook
Pioneer	Maia	Russian schooner	72	Romo, via Hakodate	Jan. 17	Walsh, Hall & Co.
Stella	Werner	American schooner	30	Kurile Islands	Oct. 11	Captain

VESSELS OF WAR IN PORT.

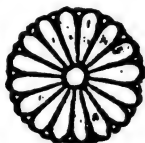
NAME.	GENS.	TONS.	H. P.	DESCRIPTION.	WHERE FROM.	COMMANDER.
FRENCH—Champlain	10	2,000	—	Corvette	Kobe	Captain Dubrot
RUSSIAN—Africa	13	2,800	—	Cruiser	Kobe	Captain Alekoff
—Miuin	16	5,300	6,300	Ironclad	Nagasaki	Captain Nazimoff
GERMAN—Vineta	19	2,000	—	Corvette	Kobe	Captain Zinzow

VESSELS ON THE BERTH.

DESTINATION.	NAME.	AGENTS.	TO BE DESPATCHED.
Hongkong via Kobe	Kokonoye Maru	M. B. Co.	April 2nd, at 4 P.M.
San Francisco	Cilurnum	Edward Fischer & Co.	Unsettled
San Francisco	Oceanic	O. & O. Co.	April 2nd
London via Japan and China ports	Gordon Castle	Adamson, Bell & Co.	Quick despatch
Hongkong via Kobe	Sunda	P. & O. Co.	March 24th, at 1 A.M.
Shanghai and way-ports	Takasago Maru	M. B. Co.	March 26th, at 4 P.M.

MISCELLANEOUS.

[TRANSLATION]



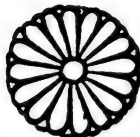
NOTIFICATION

No. 13 of Daijokwan.

IT IS HEREBY NOTIFIED that any Master, Mate or Engineer, holding a Certificate of Competency from any Foreign Government shall, provided the qualifications and requirements under which any such Certificate was issued are deemed to be in no ways inferior to the qualifications and requirements for a Certificate of a corresponding grade under Notification No. 82 of the 9th Year of Meiji, be entitled to a Certificate of Competency of a similar grade without undergoing any examination.

It is also further Notified that the regular examination of applicants for Masters, Mates or Engineers Certificates shall here-after only be held during the 3rd, 6th, 9th and 12th Months of each Year, on such day and hour as shall hereafter be Notified by Yekitei Kioku.

(Signed) SANJO SANEYOSHI,
Daijō-Daijin.



NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that in accordance with Notification of Daijōkwan No. 13, the regular examination of Applicants for Masters, Mates or Engineers Certificates will, till further notice, be conducted at Tokio on the third Tuesday in every 3rd, 6th, 9th and 12th Month of each year, commencing at 9.00 a.m.

H. MAYESHIMA,
Chief Superintendent.

Yekitei Kioku, Feb. 24th, 1880.

NOTICE TO MARINERS.

No. 129.

**CHINA SEA.
SHANGHAI DISTRICT.**

WRECK NEAR THE AMHERST ROCKS.

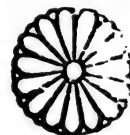
NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that the British Bark *CHINAMAN* lies sunk in 5 fathoms of water 7 miles to the S. 37° W. of the Amherst Rocks. The iron masts are at present visible.

By order of the Inspector General of Customs.

DAVID M. HENDERSON,
Engineer-in-Chief.

Imperial Maritime Customs,
Engineer's Office,
Shanghai, 24th January, 1881.

MISCELLANEOUS.



NOTICE TO MARINERS.

No. 1 of the 14th Year of Meiji, (1881.)

KAGENO SIMA LIGHTHOUSE.

ENTRANCE TO NAGASAKI HARBOUR.

THE GOVERNMENT OF JAPAN hereby gives notice that, on the night of the 1st day of the 3rd Month of the 14th Year of Meiji (1st March, 1881), and every night thereafter, from Sunset to Sunrise, a Fixed Red Light of the 6th Order will be exhibited from the tower built on the Northern point of Kageno Sima, at the Entrance to the harbour of Nagasaki, in the province of Hizou.

According to the Japanese Admiralty Chart No. 108, and the British Admiralty Chart No. 2415, the Lighthouse is situated in latitude 32 degrees 42 minutes 42 seconds North, and in longitude 129 degrees 49 minutes 37 seconds East of Greenwich.

The Tower is built of stone, and is 15 feet 8 inches high from the base to the center of the lantern.

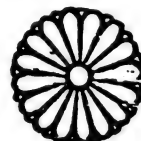
The Light will have an arc of visibility of 206 degrees, the cut off bearings being N. 81° 30' W. and S. 55° 30' E. Bearings true.

The total elevation of the Light above the sea will be 40 feet, and its range of visibility, in clear weather, about 8 Nautical miles.

YAMAO YOZO,

Minister of Public Works

Tokai, February 3rd, 1881.



NOTICE TO MARINERS.

No. 2 of the 14th Year of Meiji, (1881.)

**BLACK BUOY OFF HANEDA LIGHTHOUSE.
BAY OF YEDO.**

THE GOVERNMENT OF JAPAN hereby gives notice that the Black Buoy, which was moored off Haneda shoal, Bay of Yedo, before the erection of the Pile-Lighthouse in the 8th Year of Meiji (1875) on said shoal, and which has remained in same position ever since, will be removed on the First day of the Seventh month of the Fourteenth year of Meiji (1st July 1881), experience having proved that navigation is now safe without the Buoy.

YAMAO YOZO,

Minister of Public Works.

Tokai, February 22nd, 1881.

MISCELLANEOUS.

ANDW. HANDYSIDE & Co.

Limited.

32, Walbrook. London,

BRITANNIA IRON WORKS, DERBY.

Manufacture all kinds of

IRON WORK,

Structural & Ornamental.

BRIDGES of every description. Girder Bridges. Arch Bridges. Suspension Bridges.

A. H. & Co. make every year for Foreign Countries some thousands of Tons of Bridges.

LANDING-PIERS AND JETTIES.

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Illustrated Catalogue (A) free on Application.

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See Large New Illustrated Catalogues (B. & C.) with 1,300 designs.

Railings. Balcony Panels.
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Creatings. Terminals.

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Brackets. Gratings.
Windows. Casements.
Fountains. Drinking Fountains.
Vases. Pedestals.

Conservatories. Band-Stands.


SMITH'S HEARTHS & PORTABLE FORGES

12 Shapes and Sizes.

Catalogue (D) free on Application.

Andw. Handyside & Co., Limited,
LONDON.

26 ins.

	JOSEPH GILLOTT'S STEEL PENS.	Gold.
J	JOSEPH GILLOTT'S STEEL PENS.	Medal.
J	JOSEPH GILLOTT'S STEEL PENS.	Paris.
J	JOSEPH GILLOTT'S STEEL PENS.	1878.

April, 1880.

MISCELLANEOUS.

SAVORY PANCREATIC EMULSION MEDICINAL MOORE'S FOOD

SAVORY & DATURATAULIA FOR INFANTS MOORE'S ASTHMA

IN CONSUMPTION AND WASTING DISEASES IMPROVES THE APPETITE Increases Strength and Weight.

ROYAL NURSERIES. THE MOST DIGESTIBLE, CONTAINS THE HIGHEST AMOUNT OF NOURISHMENT IN THE MOST CONVENIENT FORM.

Asthma & Difficult Breathing promptly relieved and paroxysms averted by Datura Tatula Inhalations. Testimonials accompanying each box of Cigarettes, Opiates and Pastilles. Fine, in the convenient form of tobacco, and in powder for burning, from 4s. 6d. to 10s.

143, NEW BOND ST., LONDON, and of Chemists, &c., everywhere.

August 2, 1879.

26780

TRADE MARK.



ELLWOOD'S
PATENT AIR CHAMBER
HATS AND HELMETS
THE ONLY EFFECTUAL PROTECTION
AGAINST SUN STROKE.

To be obtained of all respectable Hatters and Outfitters
and Wholesale only of

J. ELLWOOD & SONS,
LONDON.

Beware of Useless Imitations.

DINNEFORD'S

THE BEST REMEDY FOR ACIDITY
OF THE STOMACH, HEARTBURN,
HEADACHE, GOUT AND INDIGESTION.



DINNEFORD & Co., Chemists
London,

N.B. ASK FOR DINNEFORD'S MAGNESIA.

April 10, 1880

THE SAFEST MILD
APERIENT FOR DELICATE
CONSTITUTIONS, LADIES,
CHILDREN AND INFANTS,
AND FOR REGULAR USE
IN WARM CLIMATES.

FLUID MAGNESIA.

And of Druggists and Storekeepers throughout
the World.

1y.

MISCELLANEOUS.

**CROSSE & BLACKWELL'S
CELEBRATED OILMEN'S STORES.**

Five Prize Medals, Paris, Vienna and Philadelphia.

PICKLES AND SAUCES,
JAMS AND JELLIES,
ORANGE MARMALADE,
TART FRUITS, DESSERT FRUITS,
PURE SALAD OIL,
MUSTARD, VINEGAR,
POTTED MEATS AND FISH,
FRESH SALMON AND HERRINGS,
HERRINGS A LA SARDINE,
YARMOUTH BLOATERS,
BLACKWALL WHITEBAIT,
PREPARED SOUPS, IN TINS,
PRESERVED VEGETABLES,
HAMS AND BACON, IN TINS,
PRESERVED CHEESE,
OXFORD AND CAMBRIDGE SAUSAGES,
BOLOGNA SAUSAGES,
YORKSHIRE GAME AND PORK PIES,
TONGUES, GAME, POULTRY,
PLUM PUDDINGS,
LEA AND PERRINS' WORCESTERSHIRE
SAUCE.

*Fresh supplies of the above, and numerous other table
delicacies, may be had from most Storekeepers.*

CAUTION.

To prevent the fraud of refilling the bottles or jars
they should invariably be destroyed when empty.
Goods should always be examined upon delivery, to
detect any attempt at substitution of articles of inferior
brands.

*All genuine goods bear the names of Crosse & Blackwell
on the Labels, Corks and Capsules of the Bottles,
Jars and Tins.*

CROSSE & BLACKWELL,
PURVEYORS TO THE QUEEN,
SOHO SQUARE, LONDON.

July, 1878.

ADOLPHUS SINGTON & CO.,

5, St. PETER'S SQUARE,

MANCHESTER,
ENGLAND.

**CONTRACTORS, CIVIL ENGINEERS, AND
EXPORTERS**

OF ALL DESCRIPTIONS OF
MACHINERY.

May 4, 1878.

MISCELLANEOUS.

**J. & E. ATKINSON'S
PERFUMERY,**

*celebrated for nearly a century past, is of the very best English
manufacture. For its purity and great excellence it has
obtained the following*

EXHIBITION PRIZE MEDALS,
LONDON, 1862. PARIS, 1875. CORDOVA, 1872. LIMA, 1872.
VIENNA, 1873. PHILADELPHIA, 1876.
GOLD MEDAL PARIS, 1878.

**ATKINSON'S CHOICE PERFUMES FOR
THE HANDKERCHIEF.**

White Rose, Frangipane, Ylang-ylang, Staphanotis,
Opopanax, Jockey Club, Ess Bouquet, Treval,
Magnolia, Jasmin, Wood Violet, Gold Medal Bouquet,
and all other odours, of the finest quality only.

ATKINSON'S FLORIDA WATER,

a most fragrant Perfume distilled from the choicest Essences

ATKINSON'S QUININE HAIR LOTION,
*a very refreshing Wash which stimulates the skin to a healthy
action and promotes the growth of the hair.*

**ATKINSON'S
ETHEREAL ESSENCE OF LAVENDER,**
a powerful Perfume distilled from the finest flowers.

ATKINSON'S WHITE ROSE TOILET VINEGAR,

*a new and indispensable Toilet accompaniment, and most
refreshing Perfume for the Handkerchief.*

ATKINSON'S WHITE ROSE TOOTH PASTE,
and other Specialities and general articles of Perfumery may
be obtained of all dealers throughout the World, and of the
Manufacturers.

J. & E. ATKINSON,
24, OLD BOND STREET, LONDON, W.

PRICE LIST FREE ON APPLICATION.

CAUTION.—Beware. J. & E. ATKINSON manufacture
their articles of one and the best quality only. Purchasers are
cautioned to avoid counterfeits by observing that each article
is labelled with the firm's Trade Mark, a "White Rose" on a
"Golden Lyre."

ESTABLISHED 1799.

NOTICE.

No. 31, } **COMMERCIAL DINING ROOMS.** { No 31,
Water Street. } Water Street

ON and after this date, the following prices will be
charged:—

BOARDper month \$25.00

Very comfortable bed-rooms,

With European fire-places, and every comfort guaranteed

WM. CURTIS.

Yokohama, November 9th, 1880.

THE BEST REMEDY FOR INDIGESTION.

TRADE



MARK

CAMOMILE PILLS are confidently recommended as a simple Remedy for indigestion, which is
the cause of nearly all the diseases to which we are subject, being a medicine so uniformly grateful
and beneficial, that it is with justice called the "Natural Strengthener of the Human Stomach."
"Norton's Pills" act as a powerful tonic and gentle aperient; are mild in their operation, safe
under any circumstances, and thousands of persons can now bear testimony to the benefits to be
derived from their use, as they have been a never-failing Family Friend for upwards of 45 years.
Sold in Bottles at 1s. 1½d., 2s. 9d., and 11s. each, by all Medicine Vendors throughout the World.

CAUTION.

Be sure and ask for "NORTON'S PILLS," and do not be persuaded to purchase an imitation.

November 11th, 1878.

MISCELLANEOUS.

BUGS, FLEAS, MOTHS, BEETLES,

and all other insects are destroyed by

KEATING'S INSECT POWDER,

which is quite harmless to Domestic Animals.

In exterminating Beetles the success of this Powder is extraordinary, and no one need be troubled by those pests. It is perfectly clean in application.

Ask for and be sure to obtain "KEATING'S POWDER," as Imitations are Noxious, and fail in giving satisfaction.

SOLD BY ALL CHEMISTS IN BOTTLES, 1/- & 2/6 each.

KEATING'S WORM TABLETS,

A PURELY VEGETABLE SWEETMEAT, both in appearance and taste, furnishing a most agreeable method of administering the only certain remedy for **INTESTINAL** or **THREAD WORMS**. It is a perfectly safe and mild preparation, and is especially adapted for Children.

TESTIMONIAL.

Medical Hall, Gildersome, Nov. 28th, 1876.

MR. KEATING,

Dear Sir,—I think it nothing but my duty to inform you of the immense sale I have for your Worm Tablets, which I may justly say is enormous, and in every case gives the greatest satisfaction. I have now in stock two bottles containing the Round Worms brought me during the last few days by customers, one Worm 40 yards long. I dare not be without the remedy.—Yours respectfully,

M. A. WALKER.

SOLD IN BOTTLES, BY ALL CHEMISTS AND DRUGGISTS.

Proprietor—**THOMAS KEATING, London.**

REWARD AND CAUTION.—Whereas fraudulent imitations of this unsurpassed remedy have been sold, I hereby request anyone knowing of the vendor of the same to communicate with me, on conviction of the offender a liberal reward will be paid.

April, 1880.

E. P & W. BALDWIN,

WILDEN WORKS.

STOURPORT ENGLAND.

SHEET IRON,

BRANDED

"BALDWIN—WILDEN," AND "SEVERN."

TIN PLATES,

BRANDED "EP & WB" "WILDEN," "UNICORN,"
WH "ARLEY," "STOUR."

Stamping Sheets, Button Iron, Sheet Iron, Pickled, Cold Rolled, and Close Annealed.

Export Agents—

Brooker, Dore & Co., 2, Rood Lane. London, E.C.

April, 1880.

THE "HIOGO NEWS."

PUBLISHED AT HIOGO EVERY MORNING,
(Sundays excepted).

SUBSCRIPTION \$24 per Annum, payable half-yearly in advance.

Terms for Advertising can be obtained at

"JAPAN MAIL" OFFICE.

Yokohama, February 12, 1874.

tf.

MISCELLANEOUS.

HONGKONG AND SHANGHAI BANKING CORPORATION.

PAID-UP CAPITAL \$5,000,000.
RESERVE FUND... .. \$1,800,000.

Head Office: HONGKONG.

COURT OF DIRECTORS.

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Deputy Chairman—H. L. DALRYMPLE Esq.,

Adolf André, Esq., E. R. Belilios, Esq., H. de C. Forbes, Esq.,
H. Hoppius, Esq., Hon. W. Keawick, F. D. Sassoon, Esq.,
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Manager—EWEN CAMERON, Esq.

BRANCHES AND AGENCIES.

New York, London, Bombay, Calcutta, Foochow, Shanghai, Hiogo, Hankow, Saigon, Amoy, San Francisco, Manila, Singapore.

YOKOHAMA BRANCH.

Interest allowed on Current Accounts at 2 o/o on Daily balances.

On Fixed Deposits, for 12 months, at 5 o/o

" " " " 6 " " 4 "

" " " " 3 " " 3 "

LOCAL BILLS DISCOUNTED.

Credits granted on approved Securities, and every description of Banking and Exchange business transacted.

Drafts granted on the Chief Commercial places in Europe, India, Australia, America, China and Japan, and Circular Notes issued for the use of Travellers.

JOHN WALTER, Manager.

Yokohama, 26th February, 1881.

The "Japan Mail,"

A Daily, Weekly, and Fortnightly Journal,

ESTABLISHED, 1865.

TERMS OF SUBSCRIPTION.

WEEKLY EDITION. The "Japan Weekly Mail," a Weekly Review of Japanese Commerce, Politics, Literature and Art:—Per annum, \$24: Six months, \$13: Three months, \$7.

FORTNIGHTLY EDITION, being a Summary of the foregoing, is published for transmission by the American Mail Steamers via San Francisco. Per annum, \$12; Six months, \$7; Three months, \$4.

THE JAPAN DAILY MAIL is published every morning (Sundays excepted) and contains the Arrivals and Departures of all Shipping, Passenger lists, Cargoes, Vessels on the Berth and in Harbour &c. &c. Also the latest Telegrams, Japanese news, Reports of Trials in the Courts of Law, Meetings of public bodies, and all matters of interest to the Community. Special attention is called to this Journal as a medium for circulating local advertisements. It has a large and constantly increasing circulation, its low price bringing it within the means of all classes of the community. It therefore affords exceptional advertising advantages, and secures to all announcements the utmost publicity, the object aimed at by advertisers.

SUBSCRIPTION PER MONTH—ONE DOLLAR.

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LONDON..... G. Street, 30, Cornhill.
" Bates, Hendy, & Co., 4, Old Jewry.
NEW YORK..... A. Wind, 133, Nassau Street.
SAN FRANCISCO..... White & Bauer, 413, Washington Street.
HONGKONG..... Kelly & Co.
SHANGHAI..... China and Japan Trading Co.
HIOGO & OSAKA..... F. Walsh & Co.
NAGASAKI..... China & Japan Trading Co.

Who are authorized to receive Subscriptions and Advertisements for these papers.

Printed and published for the Proprietor, by the Manager
A. HERRERT BLACKWELL, at the "Japan Mail" Office, 16
Bund, Yokohama.

THE Japan Weekly Mail,

A WEEKLY REVIEW OF
JAPANESE COMMERCE, POLITICS, LITERATURE, AND ART.

VOL. V. No. 12.]

Yokohama, March 26th, 1881.

[\$24 PER ANNUM.]

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The Japan Weekly Mail.

'FAIS CE QUE DOIS; ADVIENNE QUE POURRA.'

NOTICE TO CORRESPONDENTS.

No notice will be taken of anonymous correspondence. Whatever is intended for insertion in the JAPAN WEEKLY MAIL must be authenticated by the name and address of the writer, not for publication but as a guarantee of good faith.

It is particularly requested that all letters on business, relating to Advertisements, Job-printing, or Accounts, be addressed to the MANAGER.

And that literary contributions of every description be addressed to the EDITOR.

YOKOHAMA: SATURDAY, MARCH 26TH, 1881.

JAPANESE ERA 2541, MEIJI 14TH YEAR, 3RD MONTH, 26TH DAY.

An Imperial order communicated by the Household Department to the Home office, directs that for the future, except on State occasions, the Emperor's body-guard shall be dispensed with, and that at all other times His Majesty, when leaving the Palace, shall be accompanied by four or five officers and two or three soldiers of the Household Troops.

Just fourteen years ago the Mikado ceased to be a terrestrial divinity and became an active power and a visible presence among his subjects. Had he been required to perform this new rôle after years of habit had adapted his feet to the traditional groove of apathetic seclusion, it is not impossible that the change might have proved unendurable, and that to the many difficulties with which his ministers have already been called on to grapple, might be superadded the embarrassment of serving a puppet Prince according to the forms of responsible procedure. Fortunately, however, the Emperor approached his unprecedented task without any of the prejudices of experience, and in the conviction that the fashions of the past were incompatible with the necessities of the future. He has succeeded—thoroughly succeeded—in taking an effective place at the head of the State and in conforming to the strangely novel circumstances of his altered relations with the outer world. Not without an effort indeed has the transformation been accomplished. In the beginning

it seemed as though the icy insensibility could not possibly be laid aside, and those foreigners who in the early days of our residence here had the honor of being admitted to the Imperial presence, found it difficult to reconcile that statue-like imperturbability with anything but the idea of a puppet set up to take the place of the sacred being not yet sufficiently humanized to endure the aspect of humanity. These, however, are but memories growing fainter day by day. They were succeeded first by forebodings; subsequently by astonishment. Something it was thought must happen—some indescribable revulsion of national feeling or some disturbance of social equilibrium—when the key-stone of fealty was struck away, and the Sacred Being men had worshipped for twenty cycles, laying aside his divinity, shewed himself to be of the earth, earthy. Public opinion proved, however, to be completely at fault. The faith on which the loyalty of the Japanese people rests, shewed itself to be independent of form. Almost before the reality of the metamorphosis had been fairly credited by the outer world, we were bewildered by the extraordinary spectacle of proletarians and pariahs gazing unconcernedly on the "Dragon's visage" of which they had hitherto known nothing save that its aspect was accounted fatal to human vision. Some good folk were seriously scandalized by this suddenly developed spirit of irreverence. It seemed to them that the demon of revolution was abroad, when the Emperor's presence elicited from aliens demonstrations of respect denied to him by his own subjects. The truth was that Japanese had for the most part no hats to take off, and being denied the privilege of rubbing their foreheads in the dust, all that remained for them was to adopt the negative course of doing nothing. Whether they regretted or rejoiced at a change which enabled them to take their own share of the road whoever happened to be their fellow traveller, and to keep their doors open even when royalty passed, there ought not to be much difficulty in conjecturing. But they sought for no further privilege. The phantom of democracy, which, according to political prophets had been evoked beyond the possibility of exorcism, never assumed any tangible shape, and society moved quietly along in its old grooves.

Meanwhile we cannot doubt that the Emperor, unhesitatingly as he has adopted his altered rôle, must have found the new character very difficult to sustain. Everything that he was required to do, he has done with grace and dignity. Inaugurations of public enterprises, reviews, receptions and so forth, have constantly been honored by his presence, and he has taken his place in the Council chamber, not perhaps as a ruler with active functions and original projects, but still as a real, no longer an ideal, head of the State. So far, however, as intercourse with the world in a European sense is concerned, he has remained almost as much secluded as ever, and to expect that it could have been otherwise would have been scarcely reasonable. His conduct in such matters was altogether regulated by his Ministers, and by many of his valued advisers what he had done was deemed enough, possibly

more than enough. It seemed to them that between the crown and the crowd lay an impassable gulf, and that to step beyond the edge on either side would be the prelude to a mutual catastrophe. They were in fact a little timid about the issue of all the startling innovations that succeeded the Restoration. Before Mr. Walter Bagehot came Confucius, and the English politician's dictum had been anticipated by the Chinese philosopher, who taught that the full effect of an altered course does not make itself felt so long as the old hands are at the helm. "How many similar shocks will the monarchy survive, and how many successive generations will be content to be separated from the throne by men whose title to such a privilege rests upon traditions long forgotten?" Such questions as these, not easily answered or left unanswered, did not fail to suggest themselves to statesmen who look back as well as forward, and who, although they might not conscientiously oppose their sovereign's descent from the lofty pedestal his ancestors had occupied, have been well satisfied to see him standing always within the margin of its shadow. Their counsels, not perhaps unsupported by his own inclinations, nor yet urged altogether unwisely, have hitherto sufficed to make the Emperor a presence rather than an influence in the State. His intercourse with his subjects has been less real than nominal; he has seen life with the eyes of others and trodden a path where no sign-posts of sympathy or experience are visible.

Is this altogether expedient? Is it not very conceivable that a Government, exercising functions delegated to it by a mechanical authority, may be charged without much injustice with usurping those functions? We do not by any means lack experiences to warrant such a hypothesis. More than once the public peace has been disturbed by men who professed to believe that the respect due to an office varies with the method of investiture, and that an imperial commission ceases to be sacred when the signature it bears may be counted involuntary. To us as Englishmen remedies for such a creed easily suggest themselves, nor will they perhaps be long absent from the polity of Japan; but meanwhile it is plainly desirable that the nation should learn to regard its rulers' acts as intimately associated with the will of its sovereign, and cease to entertain the phantasy that its law-givers are to all intents and purposes irresponsible magistrates. For the moment nothing seems better calculated to educate the people's perception in this direction than unequivocal evidence of the Emperor's active interest in the daily business of life; evidence that his conception of the high office he holds is not confined to an inanimate observance of the Imperial ritual, but that he comprehends and sympathizes with his Ministers' efforts, and that he is no more insensible than any other human being to the foible which makes the substance of power so much sweeter than its shadow. It is for this reason—though many others of a not less cogent nature might be adduced—that we watch with especial interest the rapid steps which have been lately taken towards bringing the Emperor into intimate contact with the realities of life. A month ago we had to tell of a hunting expedition in which His Majesty took as active a part as any of his courtiers; now an order is issued by the Household Department, reducing the Emperor's body guard to a mere fraction of its former strength *except on official occasions*—from which it may fairly be inferred that the frequent occurrence of *unofficial* occasions is contemplated in the immediate future—and we are very much mistaken if His Majesty's fashion of life is not soon assimilated to that of an English or French potentate. There may be some sufficiently conservative to regret such a result, but to us it seems unequivocally *auspicium melioris reii*.

It is impossible to escape the conviction that the Master of the *Ella Beatrice* has been more erring against than erring. He lost his ship through an error of judgment, which so far as the evidence before the world is concerned, might have been committed by the most able seaman that ever possessed a certificate. Struggling against a heavy sea and a fierce wind that almost amounted to a hurricane, blinded by snow that either hid the land altogether or so disguised it when seen as to render it unrecognizable, baffled by currents setting in a direction opposite to that suggested by circumstances, and all the while never once relaxing his vigilance or suffering his crew to take any rest, the Captain of the *Ella Beatrice* mistook his position, ran his ship aground, and being tried by a Court whose composition barely legalizes its action, was sentenced to precisely the same punishment that would have been inflicted on a Master who to complete incompetence had added culpable carelessness. Such at least is the aspect this unfortunate case bears in the eyes of the non-professional public. Sympathy, however, is apt to lead us astray in matters of the sort, and it will therefore be well to consider briefly the finding of the Court and the evidence upon which that finding was based.

"The total ignoring and neglecting the use of the lead was the principal cause of the loss of the *Ella Beatrice*," and "the decision of the Court therefore is that the certificate of Andrew Thompson be suspended for the period of twelve months from this date." Such in effect is the finding, for though four other items appear, they are dismissed as "errors of judgment" to which the best of us are liable and for which none can be justly held accountable. Now what is the evidence with regard to this question of the lead? It is at once of the simplest and scantiest description. The Captain says he did not heave the lead and that it never struck him to do so; the Chief mate says that they had "everything ready to heave the lead if there was a possibility, but it was blowing so hard there was no chance," and again, that "it seemed of no use to attempt soundings as the sea was breaking so heavily over the ship". Let us examine these statements in detail. Heaving the lead is the most elementary expedient of navigation and one to which the veriest tyro would immediately have recourse in the presence of danger. In the opinion of the Court, made wise by the event, "a cast or two would at once have shown the Captain his error." Yet the Captain, a zealous and vigilant officer as he evidently is, did not once cause the lead to be heaved, nor even think of so doing. The Chief Mate, whose duty it was to take care that the sounding apparatus was always ready for use, fulfilled that duty, but saw no possibility of taking soundings for reasons quite as intelligible to tyros as to experts. On the strength of this testimony the Captain's certificate is suspended for twelve months, a sentence exceeding that lately passed elsewhere in a case where criminal neglect resulting in serious loss of life was indisputably proved. Now it cannot be supposed for a moment that Captain Thompson did not understand the value of soundings in certain positions, or that he would have failed to employ the lead had the occasion suggested such a course. He says, however, that it never struck him to do so. Why? Was it because of the same impracticability recognized by the mate, or was it because the possibility of the ship being on a lee shore did not for a moment occur to her commander? Surely the Court ought to have taken some steps to ascertain these points. If the former was the true reason, the charge against the Captain fails at once; if the latter, the neglect of sounding was a portion of those errors of judgment which

the Court virtually condoned. But whatever may have been the cause, it was beyond all doubt the Court's imperative duty to question Captain Thompson fully upon this point, and not to condemn him without ascertaining whether any circumstances existed to prevent him from *once thinking* of a method familiar to every able-bodied seaman and conclusively efficacious in the opinions of men who are at least supposed to be capable of judging. But the Court did not concern itself at all about such considerations, and we have no choice but to repeat our conviction that the Master of the *Ella Beatrice* has been dealt with more harshly than the circumstances of the case warrant. He is practically without remedy, but not we trust without sympathy, and if he has been peculiarly unfortunate, it is at least to be hoped that a comparison of his case with those of others recently tried by Naval Courts, will help to persuade the Board of Trade that the carriage of justice is not always free from risk under existing regulations.

The remarks made in our last issue with reference to that part of Consul-General Van Buren's report which treats of Japanese morals have excited some criticism. We are not, however, disposed to withdraw from our position. The points to which we took *partial* exception in our review of the General's valuable treatise, depend to a great extent upon individual observation, and though our common estimate of the verdict such testimony suggests has been truly expressed in the "Report on Labor," we cannot retract our statement that an impression stronger than the facts warrant is there conveyed. In the chief provincial towns dissipation has certainly increased rather than diminished since the Restoration. The exceptional prosperity of the agricultural classes, consequent upon settled tenure and the extinction of feudal drones, has attracted many of the ministrasses of pleasure from the outer circles of the metropolitan *Saturnia regna*, and as a consequence, the moral condition of such places as Mayebashi and Nagoya is not by any means above reproach. Nevertheless our own observation and the weight of native evidence tend to prove that the supporters of the fifth estate in the rural districts are chiefly recruited from the merchant, not the laboring class. The former turns his feet towards Corinth with tolerable regularity no doubt, but on the whole his life is one of very decent domesticity compared with that of the tradesman, who celebrates his purchases and sales alike after the fashion of Panurge. In fine, however, the point is not of much moment. Whichever view we hold, the general correctness of the conclusions set forth in the "Report on Labor" remain unimpugned, though as we said before, the impression they convey bears a little harshly upon the agricultural section of the community.

With regard to the question of bathing, it is certainly very true that the method of separating the sexes by a wooden partition extending only through a portion of the bath-house can scarcely be called effective. Neither do we deny that even this flimsy device is sometimes wanting in the purlieus of cities or the hamlets of remote districts. Still we maintain that separation is the rule, and we should have been glad to see the loose statements of previous writers on this subject corrected in a treatise so eminently calculated to command credence as General Van Buren's "Report on Labor."

In perusing the remarks of the press on the Birmingham clockmaker's story of the "infernal machines" which he was asked to construct, one is struck by the confusion that appears to exist in men's minds as to the difference between Socialism and Nihilism; a confusion so helpless that the two terms are sometimes used indiscriminately. Thus, for

example, surprise is expressed that the Nihilists should have come to England for an agent, when so many Socialists on the Continent are competent to work to designs; the inference being that the purpose of an infernal machine would not be any argument against the propriety of constructing it in the eyes of a Socialist, though such a consideration might have the effect of deterring a Birmingham artizan. Surely it ought not to be necessary to point out that the two creeds are completely distinct. Socialism is a phantasy indeed, but it has a definite aim, sympathy with which under certain aspects is not absolutely impossible, while its supporters, though they are levellers, are not destroyers. A social reorganisation, under which the benefits to be derived from capital and property should be divided equally among all the members of the community, is a programme of justice dominant, to which many a benevolent philosopher has subscribed his declaration of faith, and one which all humanity, if only it were not human, would accept with acclaim. But the Democrats of Germany and Communists of France alike have no feeling but one of horror for the Russian revolutionist. His object is anarchy and his weapon, crime. He would replace the social organization that exists at present by a system of absolute individualism, in which each man's desire should be his own law. Four paragraphs of a Nihilist proclamation, seized by the Prussian authorities at Königsberg in 1876, set forth the doctrines of the Sect better than any words of ours could. They are as follows:—

§XVI. In the selection of your victims you should only allow yourselves to be influenced by the relative use which the Revolution would derive from the death of any particular person. In the foremost rank of such cases stand those people who are most dangerous and injurious to our organisation, and whose sudden and violent death would have the effect of terrifying the Government and shaking its power by robbing it of energetic and intelligent servants.

§XXIII. The only revolution which can remedy the ills of the people is that which will tear up every notion of Government by its very roots and which will upset all ranks of the Russian Empire with all their traditions.

§XXIV. Having this object in view, the Revolutionary Committee does not propose to subject the people to any directing organisation. The future order of things will doubtless originate with the people themselves; but we must leave that to future generations. Our mission is only one of universal, relentless and terror-striking destruction.

§XXVI. The object of our organisation and of our conspiracy is to concentrate all the forces of this world into an invincible and all destroying power.*

It were absolutely inconceivable that such a creed should find disciples, did we not know that total freedom from legal and moral restraint is the madman's ideal of happiness. One day or another, if needs be, the whole world will unite to take out a commission of lunacy against Nihilism, but when that time comes, Socialists and Communists will be in no more danger of arraignment than Birmingham watchmakers.

Speaking of Communists reminds us of the case of Charles Lullier, whose return to Brest from penal servitude last December, under the terms of the final amnesty, recalled to the memory of the Continental world the Generalissimo of the Confederates, and the most original of all the heroes of the Commune. Lullier, once a naval officer of considerable promise, was obliged to leave the service on account of his incorrigible propensity for duelling, which had led to more than one encounter fatal to his opponent. His superiors, we are told, would gladly have condoned this failing in consideration of his well-recognised ability, and of the combined energy, skill and powers of endurance he had proved himself to possess, but the man's invincible propensity to fight on

* The Nineteenth Century, January, 1880.

any and every occasion, as well as his almost incredible vanity, made it impossible to retain him in the service. He therefore received his *congé*, and during his futile attempts to obtain some situation or means of livelihood, developed an idiosyncrasy not incompatible with pugnacity—drunkenness. Intelligent, accomplished and humane in his sober moments, a little absinth sufficed to render him at once idiotic and brutal. In his cups he was no longer recognizable. The first of his exploits which attracted public attention occurred in the latter days of the Empire. Irritated by an insult offered to his protector, Jules Favre, by Paul de Cassagnac, he went to the office of the *Pays*, and treated the champion of the Bonapartists to a lusty chastisement. This performance immediately brought him into high favour with the opposition. Like Mr. Beck's points, which might never have been discovered but for the fortunate accident of John Halkett's call, Lullier's accomplishments were only brought to light by the slaps he aimed at Cassagnac's face, and from that moment the retired officer became a notoriety, not for his physical prowess alone, but also for the abilities he displayed as a speaker at the Radical Clubs. After the Commune had taken possession of Paris, he was appointed Commander-in-Chief of its forces, and in that capacity he met with an "accident," which, with a refinement of cruelty, Gambetta's new organ the *Etoile Française*, took care to publish in detail on the 29th of December, the very day of the Communist convict's return from prison.

On the 23rd of March—so the story runs—Lullier received orders to take possession of Mount Saint Valérian, which was known to be garrisoned by a very small force. He set out with fifteen hundred men, carrying storming ladders and all the necessities for an escalade. The fortress was defended by eighty men and it seemed impossible that the commandant should entertain any idea of resistance. Probably indeed no such unreasonable notion occurred to him until the first summons to recapitulate disclosed the fact that Lullier commanded the assaulting columns. Then certainly the commandant became hopeful. He at once declared himself ready to negotiate, but only with the "General" in person. The drawbridge was let down and Lullier, resplendent in a uniform covered with gold lace, passed the fosse, while the drums and trumpets sounded the "general quarters." He was received by the commandant, who hastened to meet him, and saluted him with all the respect due to a superior officer. Escorted with no stint of ceremony to the council chamber, the leader of the Commune's forces was treated to a long dissertation on the subject of the proposed capitulation, and presented at every possible opportunity with a glass of absinth. The "General"—as he was called at every second word—was not insensible to all this homage and hospitality. He grew very sociable, and drifted away from the point at issue to a recital of sundry incidents in his own distinguished career as well as to a *résumé* of his future plans. The commandant listened with well-feigned admiration until he saw that the "General's" frame of mind was sufficiently happy, when he proceeded to inform him with much simplicity that he could not consent to surrender the fort, as it would be very undignified for an old soldier, like himself, to terminate his military career by a capitulation. He declared, however, with much emphasis, that so long as he was governor there, he would pledge his word of honor to observe a strict neutrality, and Lullier expressing himself content with this promise, ordered his troops to countermarch. Arrived at the *Comité Central*, he rushed in and proceeded to proclaim the result of his mission, lauding with great aplomb his own skill as a negotiator. Assi, however, interrupted him. "The question is not of yourself, citizen," he said,

"but of Mont Valérian. Why did you not remain in possession?" "Because..... because I have the parole of the Governor—the word of a soldier. I guarantee with my person his neutrality." Assi, infuriated beyond control, drew his revolver and fired at Lullier, but fortunately missed his man. A terrible tumult ensued; a free fight in short, which ended in the arrest of the "Commander in Chief," who was remanded for trial by Court Martial. On the 3rd of April he escaped from Mazas, where he was confined, and put an advertisement in the newspapers to the effect that he would shoot anyone who attempted to arrest him, and nobody cared to test his sincerity. Mont Valérian of course received a reinforcement from Versailles, and the ruse old commandant was promoted to a position where his parole ceased to be binding. Ultimately Lullier was arrested as a Communist and condemned to penal servitude for life, but he refused to put on the convicts' clothes, and it was found necessary to envelope him in quilts which were firmly bound round his body with cords. In this condition he was conveyed to New Caledonia, and during the whole of his stay there he never left the cell assigned to him, but sat in silence, naked and brooding, a manner of life which in few years turned his hair snow white and changed him into a decrepit old man.

We have to acknowledge the receipt of the Seismological Society's Observation Book, and we should be sincerely glad if any words of ours could help to persuade the public of the invaluable evidence that might be gradually compiled at a very trivial cost of time and trouble by observing the directions now furnished to in us so succinct and convenient a form. The subject of earthquakes is one that thrusts itself upon our notice after a fashion more imperative than agreeable. These villainous visitors refuse to be shut out or ignored, and moreover, unlike the fox in the fable, acquaintance in their case has anything but the effect of softening prejudice. The more we see of them the less we like them, and if any body of scientific gentlemen are willing to spend their leisure hours in the observation and investigation of such ill-favored phenomena, it seems but a small return that we should devote to recording our impressions a tiny fraction of the time we waste in detailing them to one another afterwards. The public must help in this matter. The great desideratum is a consensus of testimony, and if few of us have either the leisure or the ability to be scientific observers, we are certainly not incompetent to carry out the instructions contained in this Observation Book. The Society indeed has made to the community an appeal of the most practical and imperative description. Which of us will be content to say six months hence that we have kept this delightfully concise and handy little volume lying unused among waste papers or other literary lumber, thus shewing ourselves absolutely indifferent to one of the most interesting questions now before the scientific world, while our neighbours, perhaps, have regularly filled in the seven short columns set before them by the Seismologists, and so helped to accelerate the discoveries that must soon reward patient science? We can fancy that the receipt of this volume will produce a little moral friction here and there. Some of our friends will chafe secretly at such a tyrannical addition to their already overwhelming obligations, and perhaps in a moment of unjust wrath, anathematize the scientists who, never sparing themselves, are so presumptuous as to think that others may sometimes be unselfishly industrious. To such pottish persons we desire to predict, that by following the Seismological Society's counsel, they will be providing a source not merely of information for the world but of appreciable pleasure for themselves. The advent of an earthquake will cease to be an unalloyed

iii. It will be invested with a new interest. Our Observation Books will become journals, not of the fugitive aimless character described by Bacon, but of practical value and universal benefit. We shall have something sensible to discuss after our curios have been broken and our chimneys cracked, and it is not inconceivable that after a time we may get quite as impatient for the coming of a good protestant "shake" as the scientific folk who make earthquake-clocks their toys and seismographs their bed-fellows. For ourselves we have watched the Seismological Society's able, honest and untiring labours with keen interest, and we shall take good care that no unpardonable indolence of our own shall invalidate this their new departure, or give the world occasion to say that we neglected our opportunities and refused to be useful with less trouble to ourselves than to those who have now pointed out to us the path so distinctly.

Considered in connexion with the not impossible contingency that we may all be one day subject to Japanese jurisdiction, any new Government enactments seem worthy of record and perusal. For this reason we propose in future to give a place in the columns of this journal to such legislative changes of importance as may occur from time to time. We have already noted the establishment of a corps of gendarmes for service in Tokiyo, and explained that the city is to be divided into six districts with an allotment of two hundred gendarmes to each. The total strength of the corps is now fixed at 1618 of all ranks, viz., one Lieut. Colonel, nine Captains, 25 subaltern officers, 383 N. C. officers and 1,200 privates, which force is to be organized immediately for Tokiyo, and subsequently, with suitable modifications of strength, for all the other chief towns. The Regulations, issued on the 11th inst. with subsequent amendments are as follows.

Art. 1.—The Gendarmes will form a part of the Army. Their duties will be to patrol the streets and be on the alert; to keep a look out for any soldier or sailor who may misconduct himself; to perform the general duties of civil police, and to carry out the instructions of the three Departments of Home Affairs, Navy, and Justice, for the better maintenance of order and tranquillity. The Regulations relating to their duties in time of foreign wars or rebellion will be hereafter promulgated.

Art. 2.—Gendarmes will be organized in every Military Division of the Empire and stationed in all towns and Prefectures.

Art. 3.—In matters relating to the maintenance of military discipline the Gendarmes will hold themselves subject to the orders of Army and Navy Departments, in matters of executive police they will be under the control of the Home Office, and in matters of judicial police under that of the Department of Justice.

Art. 4.—The Gendarmes will further receive orders relating to the discharge of their duties from the Superintendent-General of Police, as well as from all Governors (except the Governor of Tokiyo*), Prefects and public Prosecutors of the Superior and Local Courts.

Art. 5.—The relations between the Gendarmes and the commandant of the Military Division within which they are stationed to be regulated by the provisions of arts. 19 and 20 of the "Garrison Regulations."

Art. 6.—The ordinary duties of the Gendarmes will be of two natures, viz. patrolling the streets by day and night and marching out to search for or arrest criminals.

Art. 7.—At the request of an officer of the Police Administration or a policeman, the Gendarmes will assist, or if necessary take the place of a policeman, and the police will similarly obey any requisition from the Gendarmes.

Art. 8.—If while patrolling the Gendarmes meet with policemen arresting soldiers or sailors who have committed offences, they are to receive and deal with the offender. If on the other hand the Gendarmes observe civilians violating the Police regulations, they will arrest the offender and hand him over to the Police.

Art. 9.—If while patrolling, the Gendarmes observe persons in the act of committing offences other than those contemplated by the Police regulations, they will arrest them at once whether civilians or militarymen.

Art. 10.—The Gendarmes will arrest soldiers or sailors who have deserted on receipt of an order from an officer of the Army or Navy.

Art. 11.—The Gendarmes will arrest immediately all soldiers or sailors whom they observe drunk, on furlough, or committing acts of violence, whether in the streets or in places of public entertainment, or intimidating people, or such as are guilty of any misdemeanour outside the bounds of their barracks. They will convey such offenders to their respective camps or barracks, and report the

nature of their offence together with the particulars of any damage or loss sustained thereby.

Art. 12.—Should the offenders be so numerous that the arrest of their whole number is impossible, efforts will be made to secure the ringleaders.

Art. 13.—In the event of Agrarian Disturbances, the Gendarmes will make an accurate investigation of the circumstances, and will at once take steps to ascertain and report the numbers and names of the conspirators.

Art. 14.—On occasion of fires or floods the Gendarmes will render every assistance to the sufferers, will take steps to prevent robbery and outrage, and will keep watch over the places to which reserved articles may have been transported.

Art. 15.—In the event of sudden deaths the Gendarmes will take immediate steps for the disposal &c. of the body. They will also give assistance to aged or infirm persons, to those attacked by sudden illness or exposed to danger, as well as to lunatics, women and children.

Art. 16.—The Gendarmes must not enter private houses to arrest people or seize property unless furnished with a proper warrant.

Art. 17.—The Gendarmes are forbidden to make use of their arms in arresting persons, except in cases of violent resistance not otherwise manageable, or when the offender is committing an act of a dangerous character.

Art. 18.—No matter what may be the nature of the offence committed, if the offender is within the compound of a foreign legation or of a foreign envoy's residence, the Gendarmes are not allowed to enter and arrest him. In such a case they will keep watch round the compound, and send notice at once to the nearest station.

Art. 19.—Any Gendarmes guilty of a violation of the regulations or other offences, will be reprimanded or dealt with under to the provisions of the "Army Correction Regulations" according to the nature of his crime. Offences not included in the Military Discipline Orders will, however, be exceptions to this rule.

Art. 24.—N. B. The following provisions represent minimum qualifications, and will not therefore constitute a claim to promotion &c.

The Gendarmes will be recruited from the Imperial Guard, the Standing Forces, the Reserve or Local Reserves, and their qualifications will be as follows. (1) Age from 22 to 30, and height 5 feet or upwards. (2) They must be able to read and write. (3) They must have given proofs of steadiness and good conduct.

Art. 3.—30. 31. 32. 33. & 34. The Lieut.-Colonel in command will have supreme control at Head Quarters, will issue all orders, and exercise general supervision &c. He will be guided in the discharge of his duties by the requisitions of all Government officials with whom he may be in correspondence. He will furnish immediate reports of anything unusual to the Ministers of the Home, Army and Judicial Department and to the Superintendent General of Police. He is empowered to demand the assistance of Garrison troops in case of need and in unusual emergencies. He will receive reports from Captains Commanding companies and compiling them with his own each month, will forward them, according to the nature of the subjects, to the Ministers for Home Affairs, Justice, the Navy, the Army &c.

The remaining regulations as well as those omitted above, relate to promotion and interior economy.

What a pity it is that automorphism cannot be eliminated from the list of literary characteristics, and that in ninety-nine cases out of a hundred it should be a matter of utter impossibility for any social observer to avoid expressing his neighbours' thoughts and motives in terms of his own! At astronomical observatories and other places where great accuracy both in watching and registering phenomena is required, it has long been acknowledged that the only thoroughly unreliable mechanism is that of the observer himself, and accordingly, even as a correction for parallax or refraction is applied to an instrumental reading, so the personal error of each living machine is ascertained and allowed for in the result of its performances. We can imagine no more excellent achievement of scientific legislation than one which would make similar provision for submitting every public writer to some process for determining the exact index of his automorphic proclivity. Thus, at the head of each leading article or editorial note in the daily journals, an unobtrusive little fraction might appear—neatly incorporated perhaps in an ornamental initial letter, or disposed after the fashion of an æsthetic monogram—so that a simple arithmetical process would enable readers to determine, with tolerable accuracy, what portion of the matter set before them was to be regarded as reliable, and what to be dismissed as the outcome of class, political or emotional bias. Such a newspaper modulus, showing the relation between the mass of matter and the molecule of veracity, would be of incalculable convenience to the public,

* Because in Tokiyo all police affairs are under the immediate control of the Supr. Gen. of police.

and largely beneficial to a certain class of journalists who, with an infinity of honest intention, are yet so curiously constituted that they are unable to distinguish between the promptings of prejudice and the dictates of conscience. One can fancy too that for another class the index of credit might assume the form of a fraction with cipher for its numerator, but to pursue this part of the hypothesis further were obviously unwise. Let us rather content ourselves with recording the experience of Pantagruel and his companions in the Land of Satin, leaving the application of the allegory to be suggested by the occasion. "While we were looking up and down to find some more substantial food, we heard a loud various noise, like that of paper-mills, or women bucking of linen: so with all speed we went to the place whence the noise came, where we found a diminutive, monstrous, misshapen old fellow, called Hear-say. His mouth was slit up to his ears, and in it were seven tongues, each of them cleft into seven parts. However he chattered, tattled and prated with all the seven at once, of different matters and in divers languages. He had as many ears all over his head and the rest of his body, as Argus formerly had eyes; and was as blind as a beetle and had the palsy in his legs. About him stood an innumerable number of men and women gaping, listening and hearing very intensely; among them I observed some who strutted like crows in a gutter, and principally a very handsome bodied man in the face, who held them a map of the world, and with little aphorisms compendiously explained everything to them; so that these men of happy memories grew learned in a trice, and would most fluently talk with you of a world of prodigious things, the hundredth part of which would take up a man's whole life to be fully known. I am much mistaken if I did not see among them Heroditus, Pliny, Solinus etc., and forty cartloads of other modern historians, lurking behind a piece of tapestry, where they were at it, ding-dong, privately scribbling the Lord knows what, and making rare work of it, and all by hearsay."

The funeral of the late Emperor of Russia will take place to-morrow (Sunday). No further particulars as to the assassination have yet been received, nor is the reported arrest of one of the murderers confirmed, but this of course was not to be expected. We understand that the telegram sent by the Japanese Minister at St. Petersburg to the Foreign Office in Tokyo, spoke of the bombs as having been thrown from the window of a house, and indeed it is difficult to conceive what other plan the assassins could have adopted. His Majesty the Mikado is said to have been much distressed at the intelligence. By his command the Court and all the Government officials of high rank went into mourning from the 14th to the 21st instant, and the nobles have postponed *sine die* a performance of private theatricals which had long been in process of preparation and were to have been carried out on a scale of exceptional magnificence.

The published reports of the case Bair v. Leibscher, lately heard in the German Consulate, are of such a meagre nature that the public is scarcely in a position to arrive at a just judgment. The facts we believe are simply these. Towards the close of last year Dr. Leibscher had some difficulties with Dr. Naumann, foreign Director of the Geological Bureau, and, in the issue, the former gentleman was removed from his post. So far as Mr. Bair was concerned, his connection with the affair consisted altogether in an attempt to smooth away the friction which had been set up and to bring about a reconciliation. It subsequently came to Mr. Bair's ears that Dr. Leibscher had made some remarks reflecting on his, Mr. Bair's, conduct in the affair.

These remarks were to the effect that Mr. Bair had denied to Dr. Leibscher cognizance of a letter addressed by Dr. Naumann to Vice Minister Shinagawa, requesting the dismissal of Dr. Leibscher, which letter Dr. Leibscher described as having passed through Mr. Bair's hands into those of H. I. G. M. Consul Zappe. Mr. Bair, however, took no notice of these reports, and would no doubt suffered have the matter to rest there, had it not transpired that his silence was openly construed by Dr. Leibscher into an evidence of his inability to deny the imputation. It was then that legal proceedings were unavoidably taken, and the Judgment, though unfavorable to Mr. Bair, turned rather upon a question of terms than on the merits of the case, as will be seen from the clause in which the finding is based upon the consideration that the Article 186, could not be considered applicable to the case, because the statements of the witnesses did not indicate the affirmation of facts calculated to render the complainant contemptible or to lower him in public estimation. We fancy, however, that the judgment was not a matter of much moment to Mr. Bair compared with his desire to give publicity to his contradiction of the action ascribed to him by Dr. Leibscher.

On the 16th inst. was commenced the preparation of the site for the Imperial Palace inside the castle enclosure. The style of the building will be purely Japanese and skilled artificers have been summoned from Kiyoto to carry out the details. Mr. Yoshii, Assistant Vice-Minister of the Department of Public Works, is charged with the general superintendence. Near the well-known entrance to the Fukiage Park, on the side of the British Legation, will be constructed a separate building for the reception of foreign guests. The material employed for this structure will be the stone called *Komatz*, a description of granite, and the design will perhaps be borrowed from plans formerly furnished by Mr. Chastel de Boinville for the palace itself, before the idea of adopting the European style throughout was abandoned. That the outcome will be creditable under such circumstances is exceedingly problematical. We have before our eyes ample evidence of the abortions resulting from wanton mutilation of designs furnished by competent foreign architects, and one must needs be very sanguine to expect that anything but a monstrosity can result from the sacrifice of scientific experience to ignorant temerity. We should like to see this building secured against a similar fate, for its purpose and position render it an object of more than common interest, and we strongly recommend that its design should be entrusted to the architect of the Permanent Museum at the Uyeno Exhibition, rather than abandoned to the vagaries of men who, with an abundance of good intention, labour under the disadvantage of an absolute lack of qualification.

The much talked of proposal for constructing a harbour within the line of Forts at Tokiyo is again prominently before the public. The scheme has already given rise to frequent discussions at the Municipal assembly, but as no decision had been pronounced, an extraordinary meeting was lately convened to consider the prospects of the undertaking. The worthy citizens who were required to give judgment did not, however, find themselves sufficiently fortified with either science or statistics. They confined themselves very sensibly to a declaration that if the work was really practicable, it could not fail to benefit the trade of Tokiyo largely, and indirectly that of Japan. This has proved sufficient to revive the energies of those who promote the affair, and a survey of the ground will be com-

menaced, it is said, in a few days. Not being as yet possessed of the details of the scheme, we shall be content with endorsing the hypothetical verdict of the Municipality.

The rate of interest on deposits in the Post Office Savings Bank has lately been increased to seven per cent per annum. Apparently the financial tempest is beginning to ruffle the calm of other regions besides the exchange shops.

The Treasury budgets of late years have shewn a constantly increasing tendency to thrift. Each new statement seems to have reached the verge of feasible economy, and the last especially was of such a nature that some were disposed to accuse its provisions of precipitancy. The same omens, however, that preceded previous reductions are again beginning to appear in the firmament of Finance, and it will not surprise us much to see another exodus of foreign employes and fresh reductions in Departmental allotments of a medium bearing to bullion the ratio of one to two.

At the last meeting of a certain scientific society, a well-known political economist, in speaking of the effect likely to be produced on the Society's funds by a proposed change of subscription from silver to satz, stated with melancholy emphasis that paper had by no means reached the *Inferno* of its downward progress. Could not our Yokohama Punch persuade the two notables of his late inimitable cartoon, to extend the scope of their "easy lessons in finance," and let the public see behind the veil that conceals the course of the currency from uninitiated eyes?

The number of articles sold at the Ueno Exhibition from the 15th to the 21st instant amounts to 7,311, the aggregate value being 13,389 yen, of which 1,984 yen represents the share of foreign purchasers.

The total number of visitors to the Exhibition at Ueno from the 1st to the 15th was sixty five thousand seven hundred and thirty four. More than twelve thousand were admitted last Sunday (20th).

The new Kinsatz, both in size and quality of paper, are a decided improvement on their predecessors, but the Empress Jingō Kōgu's pretty face makes one quite sad to think that the portrait of such a charming person should command so little appreciation. At the same time it would be interesting to know whether Japanese ladies in the second century had a Grecian type of features, divided their hair down the middle, and wore massive necklaces.

The idea of manufacturing iron rails in Japan was lately entertained at the Foundry in Ozaka, and estimates showing the cost of the necessary machinery &c. procured from abroad. The project has, however, been abandoned for the present, as it was found that a very large saving could be effected by importing the rails from England or America. A similar conclusion might be advantageously formed in sundry other cases also, we suspect.

The newsmongers of Tokiyo are beginning to fabricate the most circumstantial and unblushing falsehoods. According to their latest budget His Excellency M. de Struve, H.I.R.M. Minister—who, we need scarcely say, is still in Tokiyo and has no intention whatever of leaving Japan—set out for Europe on the 21st inst. and was accompanied to the Railway Terminus at Shinbashi by Mr. Uyeno and

other officials of the Foreign office. Truly, we shall presently lose our identity altogether if these vendors of moonshine are bent upon disposing our goings and comings after their own fantasy, and employing our persons with or without justification as padding for their journalistic chasms.

Writing for newspapers is an employment that finds its prototype in the pastime provided by Pharaoh for the Children of Israel. Not only have the bricks to be made but the straw has also to be procured. In Tokiyo there are many diligent searchers for straw. Morally they are about as respectable as the rag-robbers, who go about with hooded heads and a long pair of prehensile chop-sticks; practically they are even less discriminate. They will pick up anything, and when nothing is to be found they will collect dirt. They are paid by the item, neither is glory inaccessible, for if the catalogue of odds and ends they amass attains a certain limit, their names are posted in places conspicuous to their confrères. The intelligence they furnish is therefore an index of their own gains and is occasionally true, by accident. They are called "Tambo-nin," and European reporters are not a patch upon them.

It is not always convenient to possess the best bank-notes in the market. A gentleman who had been disporting himself with more mirth than morality, a few evenings ago, tendered in payment of his bill a bundle of the new pattern paper money. His landlord, not being well posted in financial matters, fancied he had discovered a forger in the very act of uttering base coin, and accordingly hastened off to the nearest police station where he lodged a formal accusation. It does not appear, however, that he received the reward promised to successful informers.

It is rumoured that Mr. Matsuda, now Governor of Tokiyo, will shortly be promoted to the Senate and that his place will be filled by Mr. Shishido, lately Minister for Japan at Peking. The change seems scarcely likely, but we do not at any rate anticipate Mr. Shishido's return to Peking.

We have to acknowledge the receipt of a *Handbook for Central and Northern Japan* by Messrs. Satow and Hawes, but we defer our review of the work until it is placed in the booksellers' hands, which will, we believe, be the case by the 1st prox.

We acknowledge the receipt, from the Statistical Department of the Chinese Imperial Maritime Customs, of the *Customs Gazette* for the quarter ending December 31st, 1881.

COREA AND THE AMUR.

THE *Oesterreichische Monatschrift für den Orient* contains a very interesting article from the pen of Herr N. von Nasackin on the subject of the Russian territories on the Pacific Ocean. It appears that a certain M. Skalkowski, having been lately deputed by the Government of the Czar to travel in this region and examine its condition, has furnished a report by no means satisfactory. He describes the state of the east Siberian coast, throughout its great extent, to be one of utter trade stagnation and indeed of almost complete desolation. The inhabitants consist for the most part of Government employes and military men, who so far from feeling any interest in the welfare of their stations are principally busied with devices to escape from so uncomfortable an exile. Naturally

disadvantages are no doubt to a great extent answerable for all this, but the more proximate causes seem to be absolute ignorance and indifference as to the most suitable means of promoting industry and trade, or, to speak more correctly, of creating them. Under existing circumstances it is impossible to develop the navigation of the coast. The Russian territories remain in a state of unchanging isolation, and their relations with neighbouring countries are not more intimate than they would be if no such countries existed at all. It results that the prices of the most necessary articles are exorbitantly high. The following, for example, are some of the quotations in Wladiwostock:—a liter of milk, 50 kopekes; a cord of firewood, 18 roubles; a kilogr. of candles, 65 kopekes; a kilogr. of salt meat, 45 kopekes; 100 lbs. raw iron, 24 roubles; 1 lb. of tobacco, 7 kopekes; and 100 lbs. of hay, 1.80 roubles. On the Amur a pack-horse of the very worst description costs upwards of 100 roubles, while in other parts beasts of burden are not to be obtained at any price. Rye-flour, although one of the most important articles of consumption among the colonists, cannot be brought at all to the market of Wladiwostock. Its price is absolutely prohibitive. In the main the articles imported are such as have failed to obtain purchasers in the harbours of Europe and Asia. Among the exports one of the most important is sea-kale, considerable quantities of which are used by the Chinese and Japanese. In Sagalin there are a good number of rich coal mines, which are, however, but little worked. They are leased by the Russian Government to the Sagalin Navigation Company, which is now on the verge of bankruptcy. Here again scarcity of labour is the chief difficulty; a difficulty which might be overcome, in the case of the mines at any rate, by employing the convicts, of whom about a tenth part aid in the extraction of the coal, while the remainder lead a life of lazy inactivity. In Wladiwostock the want of hands is felt even more keenly. Chinese are imported at very high wages to supply the deficiency, but this at best can be nothing more than a palliative. M. Skalkowski is of opinion that sufficient attention is not paid to Kamtschatka, where valuable fisheries, especially of the whale, might be established, as has already been done by several English companies. Above all he urges the necessity of establishing commercial relations with Corea, for the latter being essentially an agricultural country, could furnish the Siberian coast with grain and receive in exchange the products of Russian manufactures.

In reviewing this report, Herr von Nasackin is of opinion that if any improvement in the trade of the East-Russian territories is to be permanent, it must find its genesis in a normal development of colonization. The condition of those emigrants brought from European Russia to the Amur, Ussuri, Sagalin &c., is, he considers, in the highest degree precarious. Twenty-seven years have elapsed since the Russians first took possession of the Amur and Ussuri territories, and during that time the number of colonists, so far from increasing, has sensibly decreased. This decrease has been especially notable of late years. In 1878 and '79 a large number of emigrants made their way home to European Russia, and there has been no corresponding immigration, nor does there seem to be any probability of improvement in this respect until the conditions of life in these remote regions are altered.

Perhaps the greatest obstacle to prosperity is to be found in the fact that horned cattle, sheep, horses and other domestic animals are exceedingly scarce in the Amur provinces, while in Sagalin they are not to be found at all. The Russian Government has not been blind to this deficiency. Knowing well that such animals are essential to the existence of a stable population, the authorities at St. Petersburg made an effort some twenty years ago to furnish the colonists with cattle and horses from Europe. The attempt, however, proved a failure for two reasons: it was on too small a scale, and the transport arrangements were so inefficient that the stock arrived in a miserable condition and most of the beasts ultimately perished. Nevertheless there were no insuperable difficulties to be overcome. Quite the contrary. The extensive territory of the Transbaikal, whose steppes swarm with horned cattle, is not at an excessive distance from Amur. Animals could have been obtained from that district at cheap rates and without much inconvenience of transport. Driven from Zuruchaisui through Manchuria to Blagoschtschensk, they might have been shipped thence in steamers or on rafts, advantage being taken of vessels descending the river, which are generally obliged to load ballast in default of cargo.

That this lack of cattle is the chief impediment to the prosperity of Russia's Pacific territories, is demonstrated by the fact that those colonists of the Amur provinces who were supplied at the outset with a sufficiency of farm stock, are now fairly prosperous and shew no inclination to return westward, while those who were not so supplied, have almost invariably made their way back, rather than endure the privations and miseries contingent upon a longer stay. If a farmer without horses and cattle is helpless in European Russia, how much more must this be the case in the sparsely inhabited regions of East-Siberia! No industry can compete with such adverse conditions, and it is the duty of the Central Government, as well as the local authorities, to provide a remedy with all speed.

These opinions of Herr von Nasackin cannot fail to carry considerable weight with them, coming as they do from one whose claims to be heard with attention are admitted by all Europe. The remedy he points out may perhaps recommend itself to the Government of the Czar, though to us its application seems essentially a matter for private enterprise. This, however, as a mere question of detail, does not much concern us at present. What we desire to emphasize is the fact that Russia's attention is actively directed to the condition of her colonies on the Pacific coast, and that an official, specially despatched to examine the circumstances of those colonists, has furnished his Government with a report which will necessitate either speedy interference, or resignation to the ultimate extinction of colonial existence in those regions. To anticipate the latter contingency would be to ignore Russia's previous history. *Semel pro semper* is the motto of her Asiatic policy. Where she plants her foot, there she stands immovable, quick indeed to advance if advance be possible, but slow, very slow to recede. Her rumoured retrocession of Kuldja may perhaps be urged in contradiction of this estimate, but those who hold such a view will do well to remember that the Pamir is almost entirely under her sway, and that this as a *point d'appui* for future aggression in the direction of

China, is not a whit less advantageously situated than the ceded region. We need not be at all afflicted with Russophobia to recognise that self-aggrandizement is a ruling element of the great autocratic empire's present constitution. The Russia of modern times has been well defined as a compound of three distinct factors: the Emperor, the people and the official, aristocratic and military class. On the former two we have learned of late to look with altered eyes. During a long reign Alexander the Second's acts amply justified the epitaph already by universal consent inscribed over his tomb. A just and philanthropic ruler, he achieved for his countrymen triumphs of peaceful legislation, which, however unfortunate their outcome has been in one direction, are appreciated and applauded by the whole civilized world to-day. Neither does justice permit us to disparage the qualities of the Russian people. They are, as Mr. Gladstone says, "a peaceful and submissive race, whose courage in the field is that of a determined and uncalculating obedience." It is impossible to suppose that the lust of territorial aggrandizement has much influence upon their life of rural domesticity, or that such a sentiment endures any serious comparison with the unusually hard circumstances of their daily struggle for existence. It is from the third factor, from the aristocratic class, that the aggressive policy which characterizes Russia's attitude towards the outer world, emanates. The story of our own past tells us plainly enough what are the natural tendencies of this class, and social conditions in the empire of the Czar are certainly not calculated to mitigate those tendencies. The time will come no doubt—perhaps even now it is not far distant—when the forces of the great northern nation will cease to be at the disposal of this disturbing motor, which has so often proved itself pernicious to the peace of the world, and to the rights of other countries. Meanwhile, however, it would be stultifying ourselves willfully to look for any retrogression or avoidable pause in Russia's progress. Towards the Kuen-lun mountains on the one side, towards Yezo on the other, she has pushed out the two lateral feelers which always precede her central advance, and in the condition of her Pacific Colonies she will assuredly find a pretext for the southward stride she is even now, we believe, meditating. It would be as absurd to fancy that the twenty millions of roubles she has spent in the deserts of the Turkoman steppes were destined entirely to promote quixotic objects, as to expect that she will content herself now with driving cattle from the Transbaikai to stock the farms of her Amur emigrants. Even supposing the German economist's suggestion carried out, there would still remain Mr. Skalkowski's firm and probably not unwelcome ultimatum—the necessity of establishing commercial relations with Corea. How long will Russia hesitate to follow this advice? If she has the example of one nation's failure to deter her, she has that of another's success to encourage her. Japan is now firmly established at Fusan, and every month brings rosier accounts of the trade her merchants are carrying on there. It is true that their presence is little more than tolerated, and that they retain their footing less by acknowledged right than by patient unobtrusiveness, but these details will not give Russia much concern nor invalidate her claim to similar indulgence. That she would have any serious difficulty in establishing such a claim, or that the result would be injurious to the cause of humanity, no one can

pretend to think, for though her title to be called a true representative of Western civilization rests on a somewhat slender basis, the limit of her capabilities as a reformer lies very far indeed beyond a Chinese or Corean standard. Still we cannot contemplate the prospect of her establishment in Corea with indifference. The Muscovite bear—to use a slightly hackneyed simile—with one paw on Sagalin and the other on the Manchurian promontory, would have more within his reach both eastward and westward than seems quite consistent with the prudence his predatory disposition prescribes, and since the contingency appears by no means remote, it were well that those most concerned should begin to regard it with less indifference. To pursue the subject further here were an idle task.

THE NICARAGUAN CANAL AND GENERAL GRANT.

SO long as British commerce shall extend its thousand mighty limbs over the surface of the globe, and the British mercantile marine shall be the principal vehicle of transport not only of the people and produce of England's empire but of the trade and travel of every other commercial country, so long will the opening of new highways by land and water be of more importance to British statesmen and merchants than to those of any foreign state. The question of a ship-canal, connecting through the immense isthmus which joins North and South America, the two oceans of the world, is to England of as great moment now as was that of the piercing of the Suez barrier twenty years ago; and unless the final catastrophe which is to prepare the surface of this sphere for a new-genesis, should in the meanwhile whelm the present race of man and his inventions, the Atlantic and Pacific will, ere many lustres have passed, be conjoined by a grander and more permanent link than that which unites the floods of European and Asiatic continents. The new enterprise, over whichever line of the extensive area available it may be conducted, under whatever auspices it may be undertaken, has special interest for all residents in this region, where British trade and shipping so largely predominate; and where indigenous peoples, under the impulse of a newly learned civilization, are heartily and with laudable energy striving to found an external commerce of their own. As regards England, it matters little by whom the work is done, provided it be actually executed. An association composed principally of French and Egyptian actionists effected M. de Lesseps' grand Suez scheme. General Grant's anxiety that none but United States citizens should have art or part in the consummation of the new inter-oceanic junction, and that the Government of the Great Republic should have sole control over the operations while in progress and the traffic of the waterway when perfected, is probably without sufficient ground in reasonable prescience; but we must remember that Americans like to hear, occasionally, a declamation or an argument on the "Monroe doctrine." The application of that famous theory to his subject by no means detracts from the practical value of an article recently contributed, by the ex-President, to the able columns of the *North American Review*.

The great idea which, we may hope, is now to develop into fact, was born on a glorious September day in 1513,

when the daring Conquistador Balboa, at the head of his handful of adventurers, reached the Isthmian summits whence he saw the gleam of that vast western ocean whereof he had heard at Darien, and to reach which he braved all perils and pains, existent and imaginary. Those terrible pioneers,—Spanish, Portugese, Italian, Dutch, and English,—of the fifteenth and sixteenth centuries, were, in many now unthought of respects, the real fathers of our modern science and progress. Only fifteen years after Balboa's discovery, and eleven after his judicial murder at Santa Maria, an interpointine aqueduct, joining the bays of Darien and Panama, was loudly advocated by enthusiastic scientists and treasure-seekers. A similar project was doubtless part of the vision of William Paterson, when he founded his luckless colony in 1695. Not much more than a hundred years later Alexander von Humboldt, wandering among the Cordilleras, foresaw the inevitable connection. Probably one great impediment to the hitherto fruition of a scheme of so much importance, has been the preconception that the shortest route must eventually be selected; and hence engineers have been confronted with difficulties, not of themselves insuperable—a word unknown in modern dynamics—but requiring an outlay which might never be repaid. The nearest way is not always the easiest or the shortest to travel: it is certainly not always the best and cheapest to construct. Until the recent agitation of Mr. de Lesseps and his French *coterie*, it appeared virtually decided that the State of Nicaragua should be traversed by a ship canal, advantage being taken of the San Juan River and the Lake of Nicaragua. The distance between ocean and ocean is 181 miles: The facilities already offered for water-traject would reduce the length of the actual artificial bed to about sixty-two miles. General Grant now appears as an advocate for some one interoceanic channel, and strongly recommends that the Nicaraguan track be the one adopted.

While there can be no doubt that the consummated undertaking would be of incalculable benefit to the United States, the conveniences that it must afford to other nations are scarcely less momentous. There are more producing districts than those of the North American confederacy, on the American shores of the Pacific; and hosts of consumers in Europe have an interest in procuring their trans-Atlantic purchases at reduced prices and in shortened time. As General Grant himself remarks, "the States of North and South America lying along the Pacific furnish in large abundance those commodities which are constantly supplied with markets in almost every country of Europe." Chili alone exports eastward, annually, four hundred thousand tons of freight (at least two-thirds of which go to Great Britain); which four million tons of freight—we take the author's own estimate—also find their way eastward from the Pacific Slope in the course of the year. A quarter of this cargo consists of grain from California and Oregon, and is shipped almost exclusively to British ports for consumption or distribution. Indeed, the same remark may apply to the majority of the merchandize referred to. This state of trade, and the comparative value of the tonnage in which the goods are conveyed, have, perhaps, no connection with the proposition of Mr. James Monroe; but it is questionable whether that astute, if ambitious, President would have dreamed of carrying his

policy to the lengths suggested by his illustrious successor. This gentleman computes that "the trade of Australia and the remote East Indias" (Query:—the remote East?) "bound to Great Britain . . . would undoubtedly add one million tons to the freight seeking a passage through the canal." In connection with the contraction of the distances between various terminal points, a few places are mentioned with which British commerce is neither small nor indirect, and where British influence is not a thing of nothing or of yesterday. Thus, the canal would diminish some lines of traject as follows:—New York-Hongkong, by 5,870 miles: New York-Yokohama, by 6,980 miles: Liverpool-San Francisco, by 6,065 miles: Liverpool-Callao, by 4,874 miles.

Our author enumerates briefly some of the principal objections to the Panama route. Among others is the increased length of passage between New York and the ports on the west coast of the United States. Such objection is equally valid as regards the great centres of the Pacific Slope's export trade to Great Britain. The natural obstacles to be surmounted are a still stronger argument against the selection. Noteworthy are the floods, caused by sudden and immense rainfall, which "have attracted the attention of the most careless traveller, and have perplexed and confounded the scientific engineer in his attempts to provide some method to overcome the difficulties which they create." Then there are the dismal swamps, unfit for the passage of watercourses, and so destructive of human life that "labor and death seem to have joined hands there." Enormous tunnels and cuttings would have to be made; and "the most careful surveys have always developed a discouraging want of material for construction" of the viaducts, and permanent and temporary works of all kinds involved in such an undertaking. Navigators object to the route on account of the long and tedious calms which prevail in Panama Bay; and, finally, the cost of the canal must attain dimensions to make the most speculative of plungers shudder. It "cannot be less than four hundred million dollars, and would probably be much more." Truly, "the American" (or any other) "capitalist would be likely to look for dividends on an investment like this." He might wait, indeed, as long as the builders of the pyramids have waited for a pecuniary return upon their outlay.

General Grant details the advantage of the Nicaraguan route as follows:—The ease and economy with which the canal can be constructed: the admirable approaches to it, both east and west, from the sea: the distance saved between Liverpool and the North American ports over that of the Panama route: the distance saved, also between New York and other Atlantic cities, and the ports of the United States on the Pacific; and the astonishing difference in cost of construction. The outlay necessary for the approved scheme has never been estimated at more than one hundred million dollars; while an experienced and competent civil engineer, of extensive American reputation, reduces the calculation to less than half that amount, and still provides for the preparation of harbours at Greytown and Brito. On the other hand, the facilities for the work are incomparably greater in Nicaragua than in Panama. Materials needed for construction, and food for the labourers employed, are abundant along the entire line: the ports just mentioned need comparatively little

improvement: the water supply from the great lake is free from deposit, limitless in quantity, and easily controlled: the lake itself, summit of the canal, is only one hundred feet above the level of either sea: the local rainfall is not excessive; and "the climate during the trade winds is delightful." All things being taken into consideration, the gallant writer concludes that the route which he commends will prove "an economical highway as well as a profitable investment"; and we have no hesitation in agreeing with him and in adding a few points to strengthen his thesis.

Thus, as for the territory through which the canal will be carried, the work cannot fail to redound to its commercial advantage, and should have some effect in rendering impossible a recurrence of those incessant political distractions which have all but destroyed its material prosperity. The country is rich in dense forests of valuable timber, alternating with splendid pastures which support large herds of cattle. Sugar-cane, softer and of more abundant juice than that of Asia, grows almost without culture; and a generous soil produces with ease rice and maize, cacao, cotton, coffee, tobacco, indigo, and all the fruits of the tropics. Present vegetable exports include sarsaparilla, aloes, ipecacuanha, spices, copal, caoutchouc, and other gums, while the northern part of the state is opulent in mines of the precious and useful metals. As is the case with all the republics on the American continent, the principal trade is with Great Britain. That the rulers of Nicaragua are aware of the extent to which the resources of their country would be developed through the construction of the contemplated aqueduct, is evident from the liberality of the concessions offered by them to the American promoters of a company to undertake the work. Among other provisos is one to the effect that the "two ports to be constructed, and to serve for entrance to the canal on each ocean, are declared to be free; and will be recognized as such from the beginning to the end of the concession."

We have followed General Grant in his lucid, practical and sensible argument in favor of a design which worthily meets with his approbation. We have seen how, incidentally and perhaps without intending it, he has demonstrated (yet only in part) the importance of that scheme to British commerce and interests. We will not pursue him through the ratiocination which leads him to the conclusion, in accordance with the "Monroe doctrine," and to his own satisfaction, that no foreign power or foreign money-holders should have share in the undertaking. It is still less part of our object to demonstrate in how trifling a degree an addition to the coast line of the United States, even though the increment should extend that line from the Pacific to the Atlantic, is likely to promote the shipping business of the Republic in the existing condition of its navigation laws. It is sufficient for us that, seeing the eminent need of rapid means of communication between the two great basins of the world, the essayist brings the whole weight of his name and influence to further the adoption of the best available means to the end in view. We have no objection, in this instance, to a fresh departure from the base of the "Monroe doctrine": no complaint to make if British actionaries are excluded from the projected association; and no dislike to see the perfected channel taken under United States protection. In

the interest of universal commerce we merely desire that the Nicaraguan canal may shortly be added to the list of facts already accomplished by this century teeming with wonders.

JAPANESE NOMENCLATURE.

THE following list of terms, forming the initiatory portion of a valuable work now in preparation, has been kindly placed at our disposal, and we hasten to publish it, thought not yet complete, feeling that the confused system of nomenclature hitherto employed, has proved a most serious obstacle to accuracy and understanding alike. This list has been endorsed by some of the most eminent Japanese scholars and learned legal authorities in the country, and we propose for the future to adopt it invariably as a guide in the columns of this journal:—

THE JAPANESE GOVERNMENT.

Seifu	The Government (generally).
Daijokuwan	Privy Council (sometimes Privy Council Office).
Naikaku (less formal).....	Privy Council or Cabinet.
Daijo Daijin	First Minister of State.
Sa "	Second " " "
U "	Third " " "
Sangi	Privy Councillors.
Shōkun Kiyoku	Decorations Bureau.
" " Chōkuwan.	President of above.
Giteikuwan	Councillors, " "
Kuwaikē Kenshin	Board of Audit.
" " Chō ..	President of above.
" " Kanji ..	Official Chief of above.
" " Kensakuwan	Audit Commissioners.
Shiushikuwan	National Record Office.
" " Sōsai	Keeper of the National Record.
Honshinkwan	Recording Secretaries.
Shiurikiyoku	Board of Adjudication.
" " I-inchō	President of above.
" " I-in	Members " "
" " Shuji	Permanent officer of above.
Naikaku Shokikuwan kiyoku	Cabinet Secretariat.

Sections of the Privy Council.

Hōsei Bu	Legislative Section.
Kuwaikē Bu	Finance " "
Ganji "	Section of War.
Naimu "	" for Home Affairs.
Shihō "	" of Justice.
Guwainu "	" for Foreign Affairs.

Genrō-in	Senate.
Gichō	President of above.
Genrō-in Kanji	Official chief of above.
Gikuwan	Senators or, Members of the Senate.

ADMINISTRATIVE DEPARTMENTS.

Guwainu-sho	Department for Foreign Affairs.
Guwainu-kiyo	Minister for Foreign Affairs.
Guwainu-tayū	Vice " " "
Guwainu-shoyū	Assistant Vice Minister for Foreign Affairs.
Dai-shokikuwan	Chief Secretaries.
Gon-dai-shokikuwan	Assistant Chief Secretaries.
Sho-shokikuwan	Secretaries.
Gon-sho-shokikuwan	Assistant Secretaries.

Naimu-sho	Department for Home Affairs.
Naimu-kiyo	Minister for Home Affairs.

The other titles for Vice-Ministers, Secretaries, etc., are the same in all cases.

Bureaux.*

Nai-kiyoku	Private Secretariat.
Keiho-kiyoku	Police Bureau.
Kuwannō-kiyoku	Bureau of Agriculture.
Chiri-kiyoku	Topographical Bureau.
Koseki-kiyoku	Census Bureau.
Shaji-kiyoku	Bureau of Public Worship.
Doboku-kiyoku	Engineering Bureau.
Yei-sei-kiyoku	Sanitary Bureau.
Tosho-kiyoku	Press Bureau.
Hakubutsu-kiyoku	Museums Bureau.
Kuwaiki-kiyoku	Accountants Bureau.
Shomu-kiyoku	Bureau for Miscellaneous business.
Torishirabe-kiyoku	Examiner's Bureau.
Sanrin-kiyoku	Forests Bureau.
Kangoku-kiyoku	Prisons Bureau.
Chō (affixed to the name of a Bureau in all Departments)	Director (of a Bureau.)

Bureaux Semi Independent of Naimusho.

Keishi-chō	Board of Police.
Keishi-sōkuwan	Superintendent General of Police.
Yekitei-kiyoku	General Post Office.
Yekitei-sōkuwan	Post-master General.

Okura-sho	Finance Department.
Okura-kiyo	Minister of Finance.

Bureaux.

Shoki-kiyoku	Secretariat.
Gi-an-kiyoku	Drafting Bureau.
Sosai-kiyoku	Bureau of Inland Revenue.
Kuwanzai-kiyoku	Customs Bureau.
Shōmu-kiyoku	Bureau of Commerce.
Kokusai-kiyoku	National Debt Bureau.
Suitō-kiyoku	Accountant-General's Bureau.
Zohai-kiyoku	Bureau of the Mint.
Iusatzu-kiyoku	Government Printing Bureau.
Jōhei-kiyoku	Bureau for the storage of grain.
Kiroku-kiyoku	Record Bureau.
Chōsa-kiyoku	Auditor-General's Bureau.
Giuko-kiyoku	Bank Superintendent's Bureau.

Rikugun-sho	Army Department.
Rikugun-kiyo	Minister for the Army.

Bureaux.

Kiyo Kuwambō	Minister's Secretariat.
Sōmu-kiyoku	Bureau for Miscellaneous business.
Jin-in-kiyoku	Staff Bureau.
Hōhei-kiyoku	Bureau for the Artillery.
Kōhei-kiyoku	" " " Engineers.
Kuwaiki-kiyoku	Military Accountant's Bureau.
Konoye-kiyoku	Bureau for the Imperial Guard.
Gumba-kiyoku	Military Stables Bureau.

Sanbō Hombu	Head Quarters Staff Office.
" " Chō	Chief of the Staff.
Kangun Hombu	Inspector General's Office.
" " Chō	Inspector General of the Army.
Gan-i Hombu	Army Medical Staff Office.
" " Chō	Chief of the Army Medical Staff.
Rikugun Saibansho	Army Courts-martial Office.

* In the Department for Foreign Affairs and in the Colonization Commission there are no Bureaux, properly so called, as in the other Departments. In those two offices the work is apportioned by the Chiefs: the divisions so made are not publicly notified; and, though not in any way secret, they are of sufficient importance or interest to call for enumeration here.

Knigun-shō	Navy Department.
" kiyō	Minister for the Navy.

Bureaux.

Gunmu-kiyoku	Staff Bureau.
Kuwaiki "	Accountants' Bureau.
Shusen "	Dockyards
Sairo "	Hydrographical "
Imu "	Medical Staff "
Heiki "	Arsenals
Kaigun Saibansho	Naval Courts-Martial Office.

Mombu-shō	Education Department.
" kiyō	Minister of Education.

Bureaux.

Kwanritsu Gakumu-kiyoku	Government Schools and Colleges Bureau.
Chidō " "	Local Schools and Colleges Bureau.
Henshu-kiyoku	Archives Bureau.
Hōkoku "	Bureau for Reports and Statistics.
Kuwaiki "	Accountant's Bureau.

Kōbu-shō	Public Works Department.
" kiyō	Minister of Public Works.

Bureaux.

Kōzan-kiyoku	Bureau of Mines.
Totsudō "	" " Railways.
Todai "	Lighthouse Bureau.
Denshin "	Bureau of Telegraphs.
Kosaku "	" " Engineering and Manufacturing.
Yeizen "	" " Buildings.
Kuwaiki "	Accountants' Bureau.
Kensa "	Auditors' "
Sōko "	Bureau of Stores.
Shoki "	Secretariat.

Shihō-shō	Department of Justice.
" kiyō	Minister of justice.

Bureaux.

Giji-kiyoku	Council Bureau.
Keiji "	Bureau for Criminal Matters.
Minji "	Bureau for Civil Matters.

Daishū-in	Supreme Court of Judicature.
Joto Saibansho	Superior Courts.
Saibansho	Courts (of first instance).
Kenji-kiyoku	Offices of the Advocate-General (in every court).

Kunai-shō	Imperial Household Department.
" kiyō	Minister of the Imperial Household.
Shikibu-shō	Board of Ceremonies.
" no-kami	Master of the Ceremonies.

Kaitaku-shi	Colonization Commission.
" Chokuwan	Chief of above.
[As to Bureaux, see note upon the word 'Bureaux' in the Constitution of the Department for Home Affairs.]	

OFFICIAL GRADES.

(Of all Civil Military and Naval Officers.)

Chokunin	'First Grade': includes Officers of First Three Classes, appointed directly by the Emperor.
Sōnin	'Second Grade': includes officers of 4th to 7th classes, appointed by the First Minister of State.

Original from
UNIVERSITY OF CALIFORNIA

[SUPPLIED TO THE "HONGKONG DAILY PRESS."]

London, March 12th.—It is stated that the Ashantees have no intention to declare war.

Numerous arrests have been made under the Coercion (Ireland) Act.

The British Government defers taking part in the Bi-metallic Conference until the terms of the invitation are modified.

MISCELLANEOUS NEWS.

We learn that the P. & O. S. S. *Malacca*, with the English mails of 11th February, left Hongkong for Yokohama via Nagasaki, at 2 o'clock last Sunday afternoon.

The O. & O. S. S. *Oceanic* left Hongkong for this port on Wednesday afternoon, and the O. & O. S. S. *Bellerophon*, from London, left Hongkong for this port on the evening of the same day.

Last Tuesday was the 84th anniversary of the birthday of the veteran Emperor of Germany, and our fellow-citizens of that nationality celebrated the festival with the usual gay display of bunting and cordial hospitality. The *Vineta* being in port, the men-of-war were dressed, with the exception of the Russians, who only flew the German flag at the main, and a salute was fired at noon. The assassination of the Czar of Russia interfered with any official rejoicings, and a ball which was to have been given at the German Legation was postponed; about forty gentlemen however, met at the Club Germania, in honour of the occasion, at a tiffin when the health of the Emperor was drank with full honours, and a congratulatory telegram despatched to him. The Imperial Marine Band was in attendance.

An auction was held on the 23rd inst. of some very fine young cattle, imported from San Francisco as a speculation, which we fear was anything but profitable. The total cost of the mob as laid down in Yokohama was, we are informed, \$2,800, of which the item for freight was \$895. Private offers had been made but at too low a figure and the cattle were put up in one lot at \$2,200 upset price. No advance was made and they were then sold singly. The first, a handsome young Durham bull, was knocked down to Mr. Winstanley for the sum of \$101 after very slack bidding. Another young Durham bull was knocked down for \$79; the freight alone for bringing the animal over was \$75. The next offered was a handsome Jersey cow, four years old, in milk. She was sold for \$175; her cost laid down here was \$300. Next came a number of young heifers and bulls, from four to ten months old; all, unfortunately for the owner, in very low condition. The bulls sold from \$9 to \$13 ahead: and the heifers from \$26 to \$64; the last half-dozen fetching low prices. The total proceeds of the sale were only \$1,157.

The Vela Company gave its first concert in the Gaiety Theatre last Wednesday evening, under distinguished Consular patronage, and before a fair house. Although scarcely bearing out the eulogiums of the Shanghai press, the company seems fully equal to the average peripatetic troupe, and it would be perhaps unjust to criticise too harshly the first appearance of artists who bear such high-sounding titles. Madame Vela has a Soprano voice a little past its prime, but the lady sings with expression and shews artistic training. M. Vela is an experienced accompanist and conductor. In addition to those duties he played two *Fantasias*, for Piano and Violin respectively, in a pleasing style. Of the two remaining artists we should prefer not to speak until we have an opportunity of hearing them again. We learn that the company intends to remain here some time, so further opportunities will not be wanting.

On Thursday the Yokohama Amateur Rowing Club inaugurated their new season and their new club-house. It had been arranged that the boats should be put into the creek from Messrs. Mollison, Fraser & Co.'s godown, where they had been stowed, and go from thence in procession to the new building. Owing no doubt to the bleak and cheerless weather, but few spectators assembled at the starting place. Crews

were ready for five four-oars (representing four nationalities viz.: English (2) Scotch, German and American. The boats went down the creek and then to the boathouse, where a great number of members quickly assembled. Mr. Litchfield, after the boats were stowed away snugly, called the members round him in the general room upstairs and in a few words proclaimed the new boat-house open, an announcement which called forth the most enthusiastic cheers.

As a specimen of the benefit that the new building may be expected to become, we may mention that nearly fifty new members are already up for ballot, and that the skeleton programme of a regatta, to be held on or about the 24th of May, is already posted on the notice board. We hope great things from the club under its present fortunate circumstances, and must again congratulate all those concerned in overcoming the many difficulties that have from time to time presented themselves.

The race between Hanlan and Laycock over the Thames championship course, for the championship of England, the Sportsman Challenge Cup, and £1,000, came off on the afternoon of the 14th ultimo, and was won easily by Hanlan by about four lengths. There was little betting on the race. The result was regarded as a foregone conclusion. Three to one on Hanlan was freely offered. Hanlan and Laycock visited the Westminster Aquarium the same night. They left for their respective homes shortly after the race. Laycock, although rowing well and strongly, had no chance from the beginning. The weather was cold and rainy, yet the tow-path along the river bank was thickly lined with spectators. Hanlan left London in the steamer *City of Chester*, and on his arrival at New York was the guest of the Atalanta Boat Club. On the 2nd or 3rd of March a dinner was to be given in his honor, at which Mayor Grace, Rev. Henry Ward Beecher, and other distinguished gentlemen were expected to be present.

A correspondent to the *Shanghai Courier*, signing himself as "O. Paque," commenting on the case of *Regina v. Page* lately tried at Canton, writes . . . "With all due deference to the abounding wisdom of "Regina" and her supporters in the recent fiasco which has taken place at Canton, may I be permitted to trouble them and your readers again with another little "rider."

"What difference is there between Page's case and that of Colonel Gordon and officers eight or ten years ago?"

"Gordon, with the approval, nay, at the instigation of his Government, accepted an appointment in Chinese Government employ, and in that capacity, I suppose, (judging from the wording of the Page indictment) did deliberately murder any number of Chinese, and not a few foreigners.

"Page, also, with the approval of his Government, is supposed to have acquitted himself in a similar manner, though on a minor scale. The latter was doing his duty in maintaining order, the former in restoring it."

The Chinese Minister Hsu, (writes the *Shanghai Courier* of the 14th instant) who proceeds to Japan, will stay at the Canton Guild in Ningpo Road for a time when he arrives here. He is expected by the *Pautah*. The District Magistrate Moh has ordered preparations to be made for his reception. Moh will receive him at the C. M. S. N. Co's Wharf.

Efforts are being made in Shanghai to hold an International Exhibition at that port during the year 1882. The *Daily News* states that the outlines of a scheme have already been laid before them, and continues, "The originator of the enterprise is Signor A. Cagli, and he assures us that he has the co-operation and support of gentlemen in England, who were associated with the exhibitions held in London, Paris, Philadelphia, South Africa and elsewhere, and that the preliminary arrangements in regard to the capital required to erect a suitable building for an exhibition here on a large scale have already been made. Moreover, he has shown us correspondence in partial confirmation of his assertions, and he informs us that further negotiations are now being conducted by telegraph. There cannot be

much doubt that the enterprise is one that would create a stimulus to both native and foreign trade, and one to an extent perhaps unprecedented in the history of the Settlement; but the magnitude of the scheme will, we are inclined to think, cause misgivings in the minds of our readers as to its realisation at so early a period. But those who have had experience of Signor Cagli must admit that he is both energetic and enterprising. The Shanghai community know him, however, only in the character of *impresario* of the Italian Opera Company, but he has placed before us documents showing that he was the Director-General of the Exhibition in South Africa in 1877, as well as complimentary testimonials from Sir Bartle Frere and the Cape Government as to the way in which he managed that undertaking. He also holds a decoration from the late King of Italy, Victor Emanuel, which was conferred upon him for success he then achieved: and he further informs us that he was one of the original promoters of the Milan exhibition. With these facts before us the probability of the scheme being successfully carried out becomes somewhat stronger; and as we have no reason to question the genuineness of the information Signor Cagli has communicated to us, we bespeak for him the co-operation and support of those who are interested in the expansion of trade in China, and the general well-being of these Settlements. Pecuniary aid he does not require; all he solicits is the influence and moral support of foreigners and natives. These accorded him, he predicts that, with the arrangements he has already made, the Shanghai International Exhibition of 1882 will be a grand success."

JAPANESE ITEMS.

[The following Notes on various Japanese matters are chiefly derived from the native papers, occasionally supplemented from original sources of information, and are carefully collated and edited, so as to make them readable and intelligible.]

COURT, POLITICAL AND OFFICIAL.

The *Mainichi Shinbun* states:—As formerly announced, Their Majesties the Empress and Empress Dowager intend visiting the National Exhibition, and therefore two or three days ago information to this effect was sent by the Imperial Household Department to the office connected with the affairs of the Exhibition, but the Chief Commissioner replied that as the exhibits were not as yet in perfect order, perhaps the visit had better be postponed for a short time. The Chinese Minister, accompanied by one of his secretaries, visited the Exhibition on the 8th inst. at about 11 a.m. After inspecting every building, he partook of refreshment in a room up-stairs in the Fine Arts Gallery, with His Imperial Highness Kita Shirakawa-no-miya, Chief commissioner of the Exhibitions, and returned home at about 1 p.m.

The same paper states there is a rumour that Mr. Shishido, the Minister for China, will again be despatched to Peking on or about the 10th of next month.

We learn from a native source that it has lately been decided that any books published in Japan on political matters are in future to be exchanged for books of a similar class, with all the treaty powers; and that therefore a book exchange will shortly be opened in the Foreign Department.

A native journal writes:—There is a rumour that our Government has resolved to maintain a very firm attitude in its dealings with China, and that it is now simply waiting for a final reply. It is also reported that the leading naval and military officers attend the Cabinet daily. Another journal says that many of these officers are tendering their resignations, and asks what can be the reason? We doubt if this last report can be true.

The *Hochi Shinbun* states that in deference to the usual ceremonial of European Courts, the Government postponed the festival of Shiunki-Korei-Sai (the spring festival for the Emperor's Ancestors) which should have been held on Sunday last. An entertainment to the *Daijin* and *Sangi*, on the 19th instant, was postponed for the same reason.

The *Nichi Nichi Shinbun* states that it is under the consideration of the Government to make still further reductions in the appropriations of the 14th fiscal year for all the government Departments, except the Military, Naval, and Judicial.

We learn from the same source that the inspection, by the Senate, of the New Marine Laws of Japan has nearly been completed and that therefore they will shortly be issued.

The *Hochi Shinbun* contains the following:—On the 19th instant, His Excellency Tokudaiji, Minister of the Imperial Household, issued the following Notification, dated the 15th instant, to every Government Department in the various cities and prefectures.

"It is hereby notified that owing to the recent death of the Emperor of Russia, Alexander the 2nd, His Majesty the Emperor will remain in *Fukuso* (mourning for the dead) during 21 days, beginning on the 14th instant. All officials higher than the rank of *Sonin* are hereby informed of his intention."

In accordance with this notification the officials before mentioned have assumed their mourning.

The same paper states:—His Excellency Inouye, Minister of the Foreign Department, went to Yokohama on the 21st inst., and thence to Kobe on his way to Kioto for the benefit of his health. During his absence, Mr. Uyeno, the Vice-Minister, will, it is reported, act for him.

The *Choya Shinbun* states that the treaty revision, about which there have been so many rumours, will shortly be concluded.

The *Hochi Shinbun* says that the foreign settlement has hitherto been protected by native police, a statement which many among us who have suffered from burglaries &c. will perhaps be inclined to doubt; be that as it may, our contemporary hears that it has been decided to replace the native by foreign policemen. This seems too good to be true.

A vernacular journal stated that General Saigo went to Yokosuka on the afternoon of the 22nd inst., and inspected the men-of-war there. He returned to the Capital the next day. The same paper also says that Admiral Kawamura invited General Oyama, Minister of War, to his private residence on the 22nd in the afternoon, when a secret conference was held.

We learn from the same source that the Ministers of all the Government Departments attended the Cabinet on the 23rd inst. in order, it is said, to confer on some secret matter with His Majesty the Emperor.

The *Mainichi Shinbun* states that Mr. Nagnoka, Japanese Envoy Extraordinary and Minister Plenipotentiary for Holland, will return to Japan about next June.

The *Nichi Nichi Shinbun* says that secretaries of all the various departments of the Cabinet hold meetings daily in the Accountant's section of the Finance Department to deliberate on some matter which is kept secret, but which is believed to be in connection with the further reductions in the appropriations contemplated by the Government.

NAVAL AND MILITARY.

The same paper writes as follows:—The troops of the Imperial Guard, and the Tokio garrison, and the military cadets of the *Kiododan*, are all to be despatched to the Shimo-Shidzuranohara plain, on the 31st instant for field manoeuvres. One battalion will also be sent there from the barracks at Sakura, and after the manoeuvres, which are expected to last for two weeks, a sham fight will be held about on the 15th or 16th of the next month. One party, representing the Imperialists, will take up its headquarters at Funabashi; and the other, the enemy, will attack them. These latter will wear white cap-covers to distinguish themselves from their antagonists. It is said that His Majesty the Emperor will attend these manoeuvres.

The same paper announces that the War Department are investigating the efficiency of the ordnance, and that trial of the field guns has been lately made at Echujima. Ample experiment has been made of their power, and of the rapidity of the projectiles. The shot used on the occasion was that manufactured at the arsenal.

INDUSTRIES, TRADE AND FINANCE.

It is reported in a native paper that some merchants in Sakai, Osaka Fu, have applied to the Osaka Arsenal for 4,200 stand of Snider rifles, which they intend to export to Corea.

The same paper contains the following:—White wax is exported from Osaka to China in very considerable quantities

and large profits are made on it. With a view therefore to encourage this industry, a company has been established under the name of *Hakuro-Seiso-Kwaisha* (White Wax Manufacturing Company), by Mr. Tanaka Yozaburo, a merchant in that city, with a capital of 200,000 yen. Agents have already been despatched to Iyo, Nagato, Sowo, Chikuzen, Satsuma and other provinces where this staple is found, to purchase raw wax for purposes of manufacture.

We learn from the *Akebono Shinbun* that the manufacture of sulphuric acid in the Osaka mint improves yearly more and more, and that the export trade of this article to China has also greatly increased. The paper we quote says that formerly China obtained all her supplies from Germany, but now she imports it solely from this country, owing to the greater cheapness of the Japanese market.

A native paper says:—The gold mine at Kakago Kawabegori, Satsuma province, which was formerly worked by the local government in the time of the feudal system, has since the Restoration become the property of Mr. Shibuya Kuniyasu, a well-known merchant in the province, by whom the work has been carried on assiduously. Since last year, indeed, from five to six *keanime* of pure gold can be obtained monthly. We have been informed that the bullion taken from the mine will in future be purchased by the Finance Department, and therefore with the view of increasing the outturn, over eight hundred workmen are employed.

The same paper says that a regular line of steamers will shortly be opened to Wladivostock.

The *Bukka Shinpo* writes as follows:—It is a matter of congratulation that the *Homaisen Kwaisha* (Company of ships built on foreign models) is very prosperous, and that their fleet has greatly increased. A vessel named the *Dofuku-Maru* was dispatched by them for Ogasawara (Bonin Islands) on the 19th inst., and we learn that the shipping trade of that place is henceforth to be conducted by the company. As stated lately, another vessel, named the *Kenshin-Maru*, is to be sent to Sydney, with a cargo of matches from the Match Factory in the Capital and other sundries, and will bring back coal to Hongkong. This will be the first instance, with the exception of those vessels that go to China, of Japanese ships engaging in transport to foreign countries. A similar vessel, named the *Kamikura-Maru*, is expected to be despatched for Karatsu on the 23rd inst., to load with coal, stocks of which article have become extraordinarily scarce in the Capital lately.

A vernacular journal writes:—"Currency seems to fall more and more, but many transactions were made on the 19th inst. and consequently the quotations fluctuated greatly so that the bourse had to be closed soon after the afternoon's transactions commenced. On that day the market opened at 177.7 in the morning, and fell to 178.5. In the afternoon it re-opened at the same rate and receded to 178.37. The average in the morning was 177.85, and in the afternoon 178.4. Transactions were made to the extent of 1,855,000 yen. Silk has been quiet since our issue of the 16th inst. and prices are unchanged. By the last French mail steamer the *Tanais* 1,045 bales were exported by different foreign firms. On the 18th inst. about 101 bales were taken by foreigners, of which 13 were rejected; present stocks are only 1,400 or 1,500 bales. Arrivals of tea are daily reported, and sales are made on a small scale: prices are unchanged. Arrivals of new season's tea are expected shortly. Sugar is dull generally. No transactions are reported in foreign cotton, and quotations remain unaltered. Nail rod iron has lately been imported in considerable quantities, and is in consequence, very weak."

It is stated in a native paper that Mr. Godai and another gentleman in Osaka have been joined by the wealthy merchants in Nara and Gojo, both in Yamato province, and intend constructing a new road, on which carriages can travel, from Tennoji in Osaka to Nara via the Kokubu-Goye mountain road. They have applied to the Osaka *Fucho* for a loan of the necessary funds, offering government bonds to the value of 100,000 yen as security.

The *Mainichi Shinbun* announces that on the 21st inst. the leading *Kwaizoku* of Tokio held a meeting in the *Kwaizoku Bucho Kioku*, and deliberated upon the measures to be adopted

for constructing the proposed railway between Shinagawa and Takasaki, in Joshiu province.

The Custom Bureau in the Finance Department furnishes the following return of the Exports and Imports in Japan during January last:

Exports	Yen 2,744,838.061
Imports	" 2,641,317.378
Excess of Exports over Imports	" 103,520.688
Custom duties and miscellaneous collected	" 229,354.923
Export of specie and bullion	" 706,403.408
Import " "	" 4,065.823

A native paper publishes the following commercial report:—

In the Yokohama Bourse the paper currency seems to become weaker and weaker. On the 22nd instant, the market was opened at 184.4; the highest rate reached during the day was 180, and the lowest 181.5. In consequence the quotations against other specie fell suddenly 3 or 4 yen, viz: 198.90 for 100 new gold coins, 211.60 for *Niboo*, 232 for *Ichiboo*, 254 for *Sakura*, 215.40 for *Isshu* and 153.40 for the new subsidiary silver coins. It is reported that the cause of such an extraordinary fall of paper is owing to nothing but the competition of speculators, because the deliveries taken from foreign firms have not been so appreciable as to increase considerably the demand for silver. Silk, owing to the rainfall during last one or two days, could not be delivered to the foreign firms. There are many who are anxious on account of its having a downward tendency, but as no unfavourable report has been received from Europe, the market there is supposed to be steady; so that, as soon as the weather the has become fine, the inspection of the staple by buyers will become active. The stocks on hand are less than 2,000 bales at present. This indeed is a small quantity, compared to the amount usually on hand at this season of the year, and therefore there need be no great anxiety as to the result of transactions.

The *Nichi Nichi Shinbun* writes as follows:—The construction of a railway between Tokio and Awomori, has, it seems, been decided upon. We hear that Mr. Yamayoshi, governor of Fukushima prefecture, called together the Superintendents of various sections, *attachés*, and other officials in his government, on the 17th inst., and gave the following instructions:—"Our Central Government has decided to construct a railway between Tokio and Awomori, and you will do well to render assistance towards the accomplishment of such a praiseworthy enterprise, by respectively aiding them with funds. Although one share is 50 yen, it is not necessary to pay that amount at once, as it can be paid during five years in instalments. We therefore hope you will take the matter into favorable consideration."

We learn from the same source that in the Yokosuka dockyard works are to be commenced for the construction of a steamer of forty horse-power, of wood on an iron skeleton; and that if, after completion she be found successful, similar ships will be built.

One of our native contemporaries says that several active men in Kioto intend establishing a Commercial School. Necessary arrangements have been made, and steps for opening the establishment will soon be taken.

The *Nichi Nichi Shinbun* says:—The silk exported for Hongkong and Europe by the French Mail *Tanais*, on the 18th inst., was as follows:—

Raw Silk	310 bales	by No. 90.
" "	266 "	" " 76.
" "	61 "	" " 91.
" "	21 "	" " 8.
" "	128 "	" " 90b.
" "	6 "	" " 177.
Doupion "	19 "	" " 91.
Raw "	35 "	" " 3.
" "	112 "	" " 2.
" "	88 "	" " 6.
" "	15 "	" " 166.
Noshi "	28 "	" " 47.
Waste "	10 "	" " "
" "	87 "	" " 76.
Pierced Cocoons	36 "	" " "
Noshi Silk	15 "	" " 91.
" "	7 "	" " 8.
" "	10 "	" " 66.
Waste "	87 "	" " "
Noshi "	3 "	" " 76.

Total Raw silk 1,064 bales; Noshi and Waste silk 295.

The same paper contains the following Yokohama market report:—Silk, owing it is supposed to the recent extraordinary appreciation of silver, or to the continual rainfall, is comparably inactive, buyers and sellers both waiting for favourable terms. Although this staple is taken freely into the godowns of many foreign firms, no inspections have been made, but this is considered to be due to there being an interval of some days before the departure of the next mail. Stocks being small, however, sellers are strong, saying that if foreigners refuse to purchase at the price asked they will take back their goods from the firms. Such being the state of things we believe there will be no great fall in prices. Foreign cotton yarn is unsalable, sales of No. 3 yarn only being reported. No change is reported in foreign cotton, either white or red. Sea products are generally inactive. Seaweeds, owing to the unfavourable news from Shanghai, are dull.

We learn from the same source that in Kobe business is very dull. Purchases are made, but only of small quantities. Holders are very anxious to do business.

We learn from a native source that Mr. Zassho Aisushii, ex-governor of the old Sakai prefecture, who is anxious to promote agricultural industries, has established a company under the name of *Nogikwaisha*, and having purchased some cultivated land east of Sakai, is planting trees and vegetables of all kinds, with a view to establish an extensive agricultural market.

The *Bukka Shimpō* writes:—The Semi-annual return of the Exports and Imports in Japan ending on the 31st December last, as furnished by the Customs Bureau shows the following:—

Imports.....	Yen 18,153,447.202
Exports.....	" 16,933,762.868

Excess of Imports " 1,219,684.334

Comparing the above figures with those in the corresponding period in the year before last, when the Exports were over 17,334,716 yen and the Imports over 18,256,582 yen, we find that Exports were diminished in the last year by 400,954 yen, that is by 2.36 per cent, and Imports by 103,135 yen, that is by .056 per cent. Notwithstanding such diminutions in both items, the excess of Imports is no less than 297,821 yen more than that of the corresponding period in the year before last when it was 218,661 yen.

In the latter half of the year the Exports and Imports of specie and bullion were:—

Exports.....	Yen 4,729,308
Imports.....	" 281,929
Custom duties and Miscellaneous collected.....	" 1,433,187

During the same period the arrivals and departures were as follows:—

ARRIVALS (STEAMERS).			
	Number.	Tonnage.	Passengers.
Japanese	68.....	76,167.....	4,435
Foreign	138.....	195,574.....	8,114
Total	206	271,741	12,549
ARRIVALS (SAILING VESSELS).			
Japanese	5.....	2,213.....	95
Foreign	128.....	67,258.....	1,793
Total	133.....	69,471.....	1,888
DEPARTURES (STEAMERS).			
Japanese	67.....	74,893.....	4,220
Foreign	129.....	184,622.....	7,577
Total	196	259,515	11,797
DEPARTURES (SAILING VESSELS).			
Japanese	5.....	2,215.....	94
Foreign	116.....	77,201.....	2,016
Total	121	79,416	2,110

MISCELLANEOUS.

The *Mainichi Shinbun* contains the following from a correspondent in Korea:—In Fusan, Korea, an appreciable change has occurred since last year. In March or April last year statistics showed that there were 200 houses, and 1,200 or 1,300 residents, but in February last it was found that the former had increased to over 430, and the latter to over 2,400. However, only few large traders open stores, the bulk of the im-

migrants being very poor indeed. Amongst the above mentioned 430 houses, 40 are shops; 150 or 160 commission agents; 50 or 60 retail dealers, and the balance 170 or 180 are eating houses, artisans, and coolies dwellings, &c. Although trade seems to have comparatively declined since the end of 1880, it is still not less than 200,000 yen monthly. The quotation of the Japanese paper currency against the Korean cash is on an average 3 paper yen against 1 *kwonmon* of Korean cash, which was formerly quoted at between 1.50 and 2 yen. Since the beginning of this year the visits of the mail steamers have been less, and in consequence the stocks held by merchants have become small. All shirtings &c., especially, are very scarce. Up to the end of the last year, mail steamers came bi-monthly, but since the beginning of this year, once in the month. Now that residents have increased and commerce is developing this has caused great inconvenience to the merchants, and therefore they petitioned for the increase of the mail service, but without success. Many active residents have therefore decided to combine and establish a shipping company, named the *Kaiso Kwaiisha* with a capital of 5,000 yen in shares of 50 yen. It is said that the company was to have been opened about the middle of this month; and that at first sailing vessels will be used, and their places taken later on by steamers. In the Chamber of Commerce, business has fairly progressed. Enquiries for exports and imports and other general commercial transactions are entrusted solely to that institution, and reports of daily transactions are printed by it. With a view to publish a newspaper in the Japanese and Korean languages, necessary machines etc., have been purchased, and everything is arranged so that the paper can be published as soon as official permission is granted. If it be obtained a great benefit will be conferred on both Japanese and Koreans. The Korean Government has purchased, under the name of a merchant, a sailing vessel of foreign model. The vessel is called the *Kokoku Maru*, and was built at an expense of about 7,000 yen. Korea has purchased it for about 11,000 yen and is now using it for trial. Rumour has it that Korea will buy many more vessels of the same kind, and therefore we beg our country men to endeavour to sell her strong vessels at moderate prices. A report has been received to the effect that the opening of the gulf of Jinsen has been decided upon, and we believe on the date originally proposed. However, this gulf will not make a good port, because the rise and fall of tides are most unusual and no large vessels can anchor within 20 *cho* (1 *cho*=360 feet) from the shore. To speak more definitely, the difference between high and low tide is usually 29 feet; therefore when it is ebb-tide the bed of the sea appears, to over 10 *cho* from the land. The current also is so rapid that during high tide boats can hardly go to and from the ships and the shore. Moreover, during two or three of the winter months, no boats can approach the shore in consequence of the water freezing along it. With these three important obstacles the port is not anticipated to become a good one in future, but we think we can justly conjecture that its opening was so firmly demanded, simply because there is no other suitable one near to the Korean capital. The road between Seibutsuho (the name of the place where the port is to be opened) in the Jinsen gulf, and the Capital is about 9 *ri* in distance. Thence to Jinsen Fu is 1 *ri*, the road being level. At a distance of 12 *ri* from that Fu there is a mountain named Kinzan, from it to Gori is 2 *ri*. Near the latter place there is fear of inundations from the overflowing of the river of Bakuko. Roads are generally level, but they seem like the village roads in Japan, before repairs. From Yokwachin to the entrance of the Capital is 1 *ri*, and from there to the Japanese Legation is 1 *ri*.

The same paper gives the following extract from a letter of a Japanese in the Korean capital. "The opening of a port at Jinsen has, after several negotiations, been decided upon, but reports vary as to the date. At first it was agreed the port should be opened within seven years, but finally it seems to have been decided to open it within twenty months. The Koreans grumble even about this and public opinion appears to be that the government might as well throw the capital open to the Japanese to plunder at once. The proposal is

very unpopular in consequence, and notices have been placarded at the four gates of the Capital remonstrating with the Government. Numbers advocate the presentation of a memorial against the measure. The Government finds itself in a difficult position, and to allay the dissatisfaction the special dispatch of a Minister has been found necessary. Great reforms have been effected in the Korean Government, and a special Department for Foreign Affairs has been opened, after the model of that in China. This department consists of eleven bureaus viz.—*Jidaishi* (Bureau for affairs connected with China) *Korinshi* (for those connected with Japan), Army and Navy, Finance, Engineering, Commerce, Languages, Shipping, and three others. The Minister of the department is Risaio, a member of the Privy Council. Kinkoshiu, who lately came to Japan as Envoy, and Kinbogen, are Superintendents of the Bureau for Commerce.

The *Hochi Shinbun* notes that the Chinese Legation has been singular in not displaying its flag half-mast, as all the other Legations have done, since the receipt of the news of the assassination of the Emperor of Russia, but adds that it may be simply owing to differences in national observances.

The *Nichi Nichi Shinbun* says that in the confusion which ensued at the temporary Imperial Palace on the occasion of the fire in its vicinity, some dishonest person made away with a magnificent *Masamune* (a sword called after the maker, the most renowned workman in this line that Japan has ever produced). Strict enquiries have been made for it but without avail, and all the metal merchants have been warned against purchasing it.

A native paper states that last week the visitors to the National Exhibition were:—On the 13th (Sunday) 4,677; the 14th, 998; 15th, 5,700; the 16th, 5,712; the 17th, 5,727; the 18th, 5,214; the 19th (Saturday) 12,472.

The same paper that gave us former particulars states that the riot in the prefecture of Gumba, of which we have published several short accounts, has been pacified, and that therefore two officials from the General Police office in the Home Department are shortly to be sent to inquire into the actual state of matters. Several of the leading rioters have actually reported themselves at the police station at Takasaki, but the two ringleaders, Mashio and Awoki, are not yet arrested. Strict search is now being made for them.

Another paper informs us that over 100 *shizoku* in the prefectures of Yamaguchi and Kumamoto, have applied to the *Kaitakushi* for permission to emigrate to the Hokkaido and that their former lords have given various amounts of money to them for that purpose.

We take the following from a native source:—Under the auspices of Messrs. Nishimura Tei, one of the first-class officials of the Educational Department, and Nosô Sakau, of the *Gakushuin In* (the Nobles School), and several other gentlemen, an Educational Union Society has lately been established under the title of *Tokio Kioku Kiokwai*, with the view of corresponding with the teachers in various localities, and collecting hints, suggestions and experiences in all matters connected with education. A journal is also to be started with the same object, and it is proposed to hold lecture meetings to deliberate upon any scientific matters relating to education, so that the society, occupying the position of a medium between government and the public, will promote the educational affairs of the country. The first meeting of the society was held on the 18th instant in the Nobles' school, when more than twenty new members were enrolled. Mr. Nishimura Tei was elected director, and Mr. Nosô Shakau, president. The meetings will in future be held on the third Sunday of every month in the Tokio Library, which will kindly be lent for that occasion.

Another paper states that during the seven days from the 15th to the 21st inst., both included, the total number of exhibits sold in the National Exhibition was 7,313, valued at 13,339 yen.

The same paper writes:—Sometime ago we heard that Mr. Nomura Oshisuke, a gentleman residing in the prefecture of Kagoshima, intended establishing a large school near his place at a heavy expenditure. He was reported to have been prepared to invest no less than 40,000 yen in the undertaking. Now we

are informed that several energetic persons, belonging to the same prefecture, have it in contemplation to open another establishment for educational purposes.

IMPERIAL GOVERNMENT RAILWAYS.

TOKIO AND YOKOHAMA SECTION.

Statement of traffic receipts for the week ending Sunday 13th March, 1881.

Passengers, parcels, &c.....	Yen 8,249.56
Merchandise, &c.....	" 1,067.71

Total..... Yen 9,337.27

Miles open 18.

Corresponding week last year.

Passengers, parcels, &c.....	Yen 8,814.27
Merchandise, &c.....	" 951.95

Total Yen 9,766.22

Miles open 18.

TOKIO AND YOKOHAMA SECTION.

Statement of traffic receipts for the week ending Sunday, 20th March, 1881.

Passengers, parcels, &c.....	Yen 10,415.73
Merchandise, &c.....	" 1,180.19

Total..... Yen 11,595.92

Miles open 18.

Corresponding week last year.

Passengers, parcels, &c.....	Yen 10,112.35
Merchandise, &c.....	" 898.50

Total..... Yen 11,010.85

Miles open 18.

KIOTO KOBE AND OOTSU SECTION.

Statement of traffic receipts for the week ending Sunday, 20th March, 1881.

Passengers, parcels, &c.....	Yen 18,310.50
Merchandise, &c.....	" 2,741.50

Total.....Yen 21,052.00

Miles open 58.

Corresponding week last year.

Passengers, parcels, &c.....	Yen 18,220.37
Merchandise, &c.....	" 2,023.59

Total.....Yen 20,243.96

Miles open 55.

THE LOSS OF THE "ELLA BEATRICE."

The Naval Court of Enquiry at H. B. M.'s Consulate this morning gave the following

DECISION.

The Court is unanimous on the following points:—

1.—Having made the island of Koshima (or Kosima) with very thick snowy weather and a hard gale blowing from W. by N., and not being acquainted with the coast, it would have been prudent for the master to have tried to hold his position till the weather cleared up or the gale moderated.

2.—Having, however, made up his mind to run for the Straits, he should have steered for the south point of Yezo.

3.—Having made the land at 4 p.m. it appears strange, why, after having steered for mid-channel, he should, without any apparent reason—especially being under the impression that the ship had been running over a current from the N.E. which should make his course more southerly than steered—at once decide that the land in sight was the Yezo instead of the Nippon shore. A cast or two of the lead, after hauling to the S.S.W., would at once have shown him his error in supposing (as he says he did) that he was opening the fair-way of the Straits, whereas, undoubtedly he was the whole time—that is from making the land at 4 p.m. till the vessel struck—on a lee shore, and in good indicative soundings.

4.—In his sworn declaration and his evidence the master only mentions the vessel being put round at 8 p.m. and at midnight, but the chief mate, the boatswain and a seaman state that in their opinion she was put round three or four times during that time. While attaching no undue importance to this discrepancy in the evidence, it seems clear to us, that with the exception of the master himself, all the

witnesses were aware that the vessel was on a lee shore long before she struck.

5.—As the ship was put before the wind so often, had the lead been used at all, the master would have known that his frequent bearing up before the wind, could not fail to be fatal in the end: and we are of opinion that whatever other error of judgment the master was guilty of, the total ignoring and neglecting the use of the lead was the principal cause of the loss of the *Ella Beatrice*.

The decision of the Court therefore is that the certificate of Andrew Thompson be suspended for the period of twelve months from this date.

MARTIN DOHMEN,
H. M. Acting Consul, President;

WM. McDONALD,
British Merchant,
and late master mariner; } Assessors.
HENRY BEADLE,
Master British ship *Glurnum*.

THE JAPANESE PRESS.

PEACEFUL TERMINATION OF THE CHINA DIFFICULTY.

(Translated from the *Fuso Shinshi*.)

AT one moment thick clouds suddenly cover the sky, and at another all is sunshine; and political affairs seem to us almost as changeable as the weather. Is not this true of the relations between Japan and China? Reflecting how our decided attitude on the Rinkiu question caused a chance of trouble between the two countries, we find that at one time peace was about to be secured, and at another a rupture was imminent. These changes and the revulsions of popular feeling which attended them, we cannot renumerate. Since the sudden departure of the *Kongo-kwan* a short time ago, a rumour that the anticipated rupture between the two countries was at last inevitable filled the public mind. Indeed, the reports that we gave to our readers at that time, were couched in such terms as to make it appear certain that blood would soon flow and the noisome breath of war pollute the east of Asia. However, before the ink on our paper is dry, another rumour reaches us to the effect that the pending trouble is to be peacefully terminated. In publishing these contrary reports one after the other, we have doubtless incurred the derision of our readers, who perhaps look upon us as decidedly credulous, but in a country like ours, where strict diplomatic secrecy is considered all-important, this is unavoidable. Again journalistic enterprise frequently requires it of an editor to publish the latest intelligence he hears, without waiting for time to enquire into its accuracy. The rumour now brought to us runs thus:—The Chinese Government, recognizing the undesirability of a rupture at the present, but at the same time not being inclined to agree to the proposals made by Japan to cede two of the islands, has asked that the whole group shall be re-converted into a *Han*, as formerly, of both countries, offering should the suggestion be accepted to reimburse Japan all the expenses incurred in the administration of the islands up to the present day.

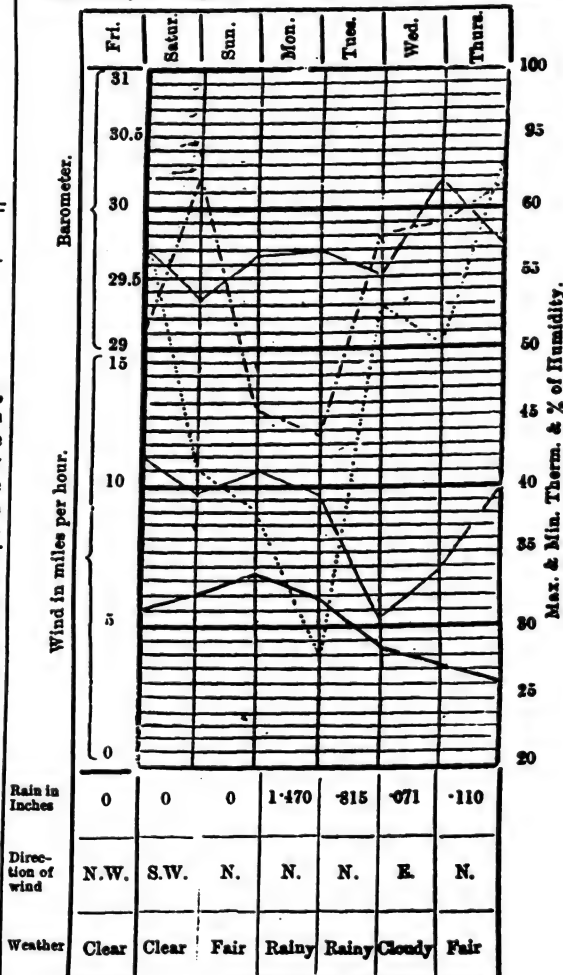
If this proposition has actually been made, when did it occur? Was it before the withdrawal of Mr. Shishido, our Minister for China, from Peking; that is, when the Chinese Government was reported to have refused to agree, as it was about to do to, the proposals made by Japan to cede to her the two islands of Miyako and Yagayama? Or was it after our Minister had actually withdrawn from Peking? If in the first instance we have heard it too late, and if in the second, it reached us too early, and this being so we cannot give much credence to the rumour, more especially as the last news is that our Minister will return to his post in the middle of next month. We cannot either learn anything confirmatory of it from the actions of the Chinese Minister at Tokio; in fact, the new Minister is, we believe, to leave Peking for Japan at the end of the current month. It seems to us, therefore, that if China has refused to accept what she previously agreed to, viz: our cession to her of Miyako and Yagayama, other negotiations must be under weigh, of a somewhat similar character, and that therefore our Minister has returned to confer with the

Central Government, and personally to learn their views on the subject. Of course we cannot vouch for the accuracy of our surmises. However, we beg our readers not to consider us credulous, but to understand that our sole desire is to supply them with the earliest information that reaches us.

METEOROLOGICAL REPORT

FOR WEEK BEGINNING FRIDAY, MARCH 18TH, 1881.

Observatory of Daigaku, Moto-Fujicho, Hongō, Tokio, Japan.



REMARKS.

Heavy line represents barometer.
Light continuous line—max. & min. thermometers.
.....represents velocity of wind.
.....percentage of humidity.
Max. velocity of wind 31.0 miles per hour on Monday at 11 p.m.
The barometer is reduced to the freezing point and to the level of the sea.
The highest reading of the barometer for the week was 30.440 inches on Friday at 11 p.m. and the lowest was 29.528 inches on Tuesday at 6 a.m.
The highest temperature for the week was 59°.3 on Sunday and the lowest was 28°.8 on Saturday. The maximum and minimum for the corresponding week of last year were 66°.8 and 33°.8 respectively.
The total amount of rain for the week was 2.466 inches, against 2.433 inches for the corresponding week of last year.

CHURCH SERVICES.

CHRIST CHURCH.

Sunday Morning..... 11 A.M.
" Evening..... 5.30 P.M.
E. CHAMPNETS LEWINE, M.A.,
The Parsonage, 101.

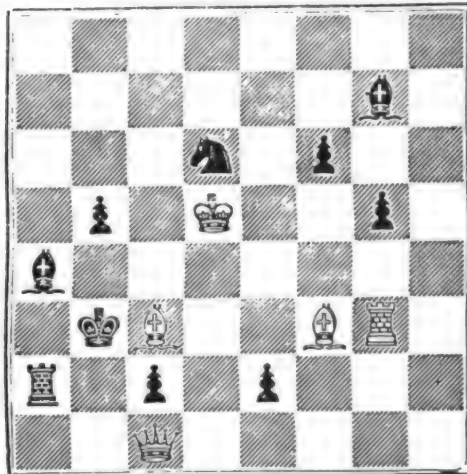
UNION CHURCH, No. 167.

Sunday Morning..... 11 A.M.
" Evening..... 8 P.M.
REV. LUTHER H. GULICK,
Pastor M.D.,

CHESS PROBLEM.

BY J. B. OF BRIDPORT.

BLACK.



WHITE.

White to play and mate in 3 moves.

SOLUTION OF CHESS PROBLEM OF MARCH 19TH, BY
MR. RICHARDSON.

- | | |
|--------------------------------|---------------------------|
| White. | Black. |
| 1.—B. to K. 5. | 1.—B. takes B. |
| 2.—Q. to B. 8, ch. | 2.—R. covers or K. moves. |
| 3.—Q. mates at B. 2, or Kt. 4. | if 1.—R. takes Kt. |
| | 2.—Any. |
| 2.—Q. to B. 5. | |
| 3.—P. or Q. mates. | |
- Correct solutions received from Q. and Omega.

SHIPPING INTELLIGENCE.

INWARDS.

- Mar. 20. Japanese steamer *Sumida Maru*, Hubenet, 896, from Amoy, General, to M. B. Co.
 Mar. 20. German 3-masted schooner *Louisa*, H. Schmidt, 245, from Takao, Sugar, to Chinese.
 Mar. 22. French steamer *Menzaleh*, Homery, 1,273, from Hongkong, Mails and General, to M. M. Co.
 Mar. 23. American steamer *City of Tokio*, Cobb, 5,050, from San Francisco, Mails and General, to P. M. Co.
 Mar. 24. Japanese steamer *Genkai Maru*, Conner, 1,917, from Shanghai and ports, Mails and General, to M. B. Co.
 Mar. 24. Japanese steamer *Suminoye Maru*, Frahm, 852, from Hakodate, Mails and General, to M. B. Co.
 Mar. 24. British Sloop *Albatross*, Captain Errington, 894 tons, 4-guns, 838 H.P., from Kobe.
 Mar. 24. British steamer, *Galley of Lorne*, Branthwaite, 1,540, from London via Hongkong, General, to Smith, Baker & Co.
 Mar. 26. Japanese steamer *Kiushin Maru*, Davison, 690, from Kobe, Mails and General, to M. B. Co.

PASSENGERS.

- Per Japanese steamer *Sumida Maru* from Amoy:—2 Europeans, 2 Chinese and 118 Japanese in steerage.
 Per American steamer *City of Tokio* from San Francisco:—Mrs. Wm. B. Cobb, Mrs. C. S. Cotton and son, Mr. H. W. Churchill, Dr. G. E. Hannon, U.S.N., Mr. Jas. Entuistie, U.S.N., Miss Murdock, M.D., Rev. and Mrs. J. R. Hykes, Mr. and Mrs. A. D. Remington, Dr. A. S. Oberley, U.S.N., Mr. E. C. Dearlgru and Mr. S. L. Beckwith in cabin. For Hongkong: Mr. J. McEvoy in cabin; and 223 Chinese in steerage.
 Per Japanese steamer *Genkai Maru* from Shanghai and ports:—Genl. and Mrs. Starring, Revd. Mr. and Mrs. Wiun and 2 children, Mrs. C. H. Willard, Mrs. Boudon, Miss Boudon, Messrs. G. Peters, J. R. Reddie, F. Culbertson, W. Culbertson, Genl. Zarobin, Messrs. G. Lewis, W. H. Moore, Capt. Pync, Lieut. Dillais, Messrs. Challons, M. C. Willard, Aganoor, Paymaster Tiffany, U.S.N., and 14 Japanese in cabin; 2 Europeans, 2 Chinese and 428 Japanese in steerage.
 Per Japanese steamer *Suminoye Maru* from Hakodate:—12 Japanese in cabin; and 150 Japanese in steerage.
 Per Japanese steamer *Kiushin Maru* from Kobe:—57 Japanese.

OUTWARDS.

- Mar. 19. Japanese steamer *Yoshino Maru*, Niregi, 190, for Hakodate, Mails and General, despatched by M. B. Co.
 Mar. 21. Japanese steamer *Wakanouchi Maru*, Christensen, 1,343, for Kobe, Mails and General, despatched by M. B. Co.
 Mar. 22. British barque, *Hedwig*, Frahm, 375, for Takao, Ballast, despatched by Chinese.

- Mar. 23. Russian cruiser *Africa*, Captain Aleasoff, 2,800 tons, 500 H.P., 13-guns, for Nagasaki via Kobe.
 Mar. 24. British steamer *Sunda*, Reeves, 1,704, for Hongkong, Mails and General, despatched by P. & O. Co.
 Mar. 24. Japanese steamer *Hiogo Maru*, Thomas, 896, for Hakodate, Mails and General, despatched by M. B. Co.
 Mar. 24. Japanese steamer *Takachiko Maru*, Nye, 1,406, for Kobe, Mails and General, despatched by M. B. Co.
 Mar. 24. German schooner *Amoy*, Schade, 300, for Nagasaki, despatched by C. Seitz.
 Mar. 24. British steamer *Gordon Castle*, Warning, 1,348, for London via ports, General, despatched by Adamson, Bell & Co.
 Mar. 25. American steamer *City of Tokio*, Maury, 5,050, for Hongkong, Mails and General, despatched by P. M. Co.
 Mar. 24. Japanese steamer *Thuruga Maru*, Steadman, 661, for Kobe, Mails and General, despatched by M. B. Co.
 Mar. 25. Japanese barque *Kiushin Maru*, Nicol, 960, for Nagasaki, Ballast, despatched by M. B. Co.
 Mar. 26. Japanese steamer *Takasago Maru*, Young, 1,230 for, Shanghai and ports, Mails and General, despatched by M. B. Co.

PASSENGERS.

- Per British steamer *Sunda* for Hongkong:—Mrs. Muir, infant and servant, Dr. Liebscher and Mr. Ginsberg in cabin; 1 Indian and 8 Chinese in steerage.
 Per American steamer *City of Tokio*, for Hongkong:—Messrs. J. McEvoy and E. H. R. Manley; and 223 Chinese in steerage.
 Per Japanese steamer *Takasago Maru* for Shanghai and ports:—Rev. J. R. Hyke and wife, Mr. and Mrs. Oka, Miss Murdock, Miss Aok, Mrs. Mesawa, Mrs. Fuguchi, Mrs. Karasumaru, Mr. Godai, two ladies and child, General Soga, Messrs. Nozaki, Okazaki, Nagakura, Z. Oka, H. W. Hagart, Coates, Yanagisawa, Yamagishi, Hahuto, O. Voigt, Nampo, Sugimura, Kaneko, S. Sugimura, Yamagishi, Th. Wajah, Nakauchi, Takagi, Gutbrod, M. Blum, Parker, and Churchill; 1 Chinese and 1 Japanese in steerage.

CARGOES.

- Per Japanese steamer *Sumida Maru* from Amoy:—
 Treasure \$38,000.00
 Per French steamer *Menzaleh* from Hongkong:—
 General for Yokohama 2,786 pkgs.
 Hiogo 164 "
 Total 29,50 pkgs.
 Per Japanese steamer *Genkai Maru* from Shanghai and ports:—
 Treasure \$172,237.37

REPORTS.

- The Japanese steamer *Sumida Maru* reports:—Left Amoy 12th instant, strong N.E. winds to Kobe. Arrived Kobe 18th instant. Left on the 19th, arrived at Yokohama 20th.
 The German 3-masted schooner *Louisa* reports:—Experienced very heavy gales from all points of the compass throughout the passage.
 The American steamer *City of Tokio* reports:—Sailed from San Francisco March 1st at 12.10 p.m. To March 14th had light variable winds and fine weather; thence to March 12th strong westerly gales and head sea. Arrival at Yokohama March 23rd at 2.15 p.m.
 The Japanese steamer *Suminoye Maru* reports:—Left Hakodate 21st instant at noon; had very dirty weather throughout the passage; arrived Yokohama at 5.35 a.m. on the 24th instant.
 The Japanese steamer *Kiushin Maru* reports:—Left Kobe at 6 p.m. on the 23rd experienced light and moderate winds and fine weather throughout the passage. Arrived at Yokohama 11 p.m. on the 25th instant.

NATIVE CURRENCY QUOTATIONS.

(For Week Ending 26th March, 1881.)

	Discount on Yen Sats.			Gold Yen.	Nibus.	Silver Subsidary (Nrr.)	Silver Subsidary (Old.)
	A. M.	Noon.	Closing.				
1881							
Saturday	Mar. 19	77 ¹ / ₂	78 ¹ / ₂	78 ¹ / ₂	—	—	—
Monday	" 21	79	79 ¹ / ₂	79 ¹ / ₂	—	—	—
Tuesday	" 22	80 ¹ / ₂	80 ¹ / ₂	80 ¹ / ₂	—	—	—
Wednesday	" 23	79 ¹ / ₂	80	80	—	—	—
Thursday	" 24	81 ¹ / ₂	80 ¹ / ₂	80 ¹ / ₂	—	—	—
Friday	" 25	81 ¹ / ₂	80 ¹ / ₂	80 ¹ / ₂	—	—	—
Saturday	" 26	80	80 ¹ / ₂	—	—	—	—

YOKOSUKA STEAMERS TIME TABLE.

LEAVE YOKOHAMA.

DAILY:—8.30, and 9.45 A.M.; 12.00, 1.30, and 4.15 P.M.

LEAVE YOKOSUKA.

DAILY:—6.45 and 9.30 A.M., and 12.00, 1.30 and 4.00 P.M.

NEXT MAIL DUE FROM,

AMERICA	P. M. Co.	
AMERICA	O. & O. Co.	April 8th3
EUROPE, via HONGKONG	M. M. Co.	April 7th
HONGKONG	P. & O. Co.	Mar. 31st2
HONGKONG, via KORE	M. B. Co.	Mar. 28th
HONGKONG	P. M. Co.	April 18th
HONGKONG	O. & O. Co.	Mar. 30th1
SHANGHAI, HIOGO & NAGASAKI ..	M. B. Co.	Mar. 31st

- 1.—Left Hongkong, March 23rd, *Oceanic*.
- 2.—Left Hongkong, March 20th, *Malacca*.
- 3.—Left San Francisco, March 15th, *Belgia*.

NEXT MAIL LEAVES FOR,

AMERICA	P. M. Co.	April 20th
AMERICA	O. & O. Co.	April 2nd
EUROPE, via HONGKONG	P. & O. Co.	April 9th
EUROPE, via HONGKONG	M. M. Co.	April 2nd
HAKODATE	M. B. Co.	
HONGKONG, via KORE	M. B. Co.	April 2nd
HONGKONG	O. & O. Co.	April 8th
HONGKONG	P. M. Co.	
SHANGHAI, HIOGO, & NAGASAKI ..	M. B. Co.	Mar. 30th

The arrival and departure of mails by the "Occidental and Oriental," the "Pacific Mail," and the "Peninsular and Oriental" companies, are approximate only.

VESSELS EXPECTED IN JAPAN.

S A I L E D.

DATE.	NAME OF VESSEL.	FROM	FOR
July 17	Ste. Lucie	PHILADELPHIA	Yokohama
Aug. 7	Philip Nelson	HAMBURG	Yokohama
Nov. 18	Pakhoi (s.s.)	GLASGOW	Jap. via Manila
" 19	Ordovic	LONDON	Yokohama
" 22	Malacca	HAMBURG	Yoko. & Hiogo
Dec. 17	Marie	ANTWERP	" "
" 24	Mora	"	" "
" 4	Tamsui (s.s.)	GLASGOW	" "
Dec. 17	R. Robinson	NEW YORK	" "
Jan. 14	Bellerophon	LONDON	" "
" 15	Galley of Lorne	"	" "
" 27	Glamis Castle (s.s.)	"	" "
" 31	Huguenot	CARDIFF	" "
" 31	Frank Carvil	"	" "

LOADING.

DATE.	NAME OF VESSEL.	AT	FOR
Feb. 4	M. L. Stone	LONDON	Yoko. &/or Hiogo
" 4	Canton (s.s.)	"	" "
" 4	Coldstream	"	" "
" 4	Achilles (s.s.)	LONDON	" "
" 4	Viceroy (s.s.)	"	" "
" 4	Bothwell Castle (s.s.)	ANTWERP	" "
" 4	Cicero (s.s.)	"	" "
" 4	F. Vander Taelen (s.s.)	"	" "
" 4	Orestes (s.s.)	LONDON	" "
" 4	Teucer (s.s.)	"	" "

YOKOHAMA-TOKIO RAILWAY.

DOWN TRAINS LEAVE SHINBASHI.

A.M.	A.M.	A.M.	NOON.	P.M.	P.M.	P.M.	P.M.	P.M.	P.M.	P.M.
8.0	9.15	10.30	12.0	1.30	2.45	4.0	5.15	6.30	8.0	10.0

UP TRAINS LEAVE YOKOHAMA.

A.M.	A.M.	A.M.	NOON.	P.M.	P.M.	P.M.	P.M.	P.M.	P.M.	P.M.
8.0	9.12	10.30	12.0	1.30	2.45	4.0	5.15	6.30	8.0	10.0

Society Theatre.

THE

YOKOHAMA CHORAL SOCIETY,

Will give a performance of

H. M. S. "PINAFORE,"

—ON—

Tuesday, the 29th March, 1881.

Admission \$2.00.

Doors open at 8.30 p.m.: Performance to commence at 9 p.m.

Books of the words on sale at Messrs. LANE, CRAWFORD & Co.'s and KELLY & Co.'s

Yokohama, March 22nd, 1881.

SARGENT, FARSAI & CO.,

No. 80, Main Street.

JUST RECEIVED,

ENDYMION
TANCRED } By BENJAMIN DISRAELI.

THE YOUNG DUKE

SUNRISE, by WM. BLACK.

ASPHODEL, by Miss M. E. BRADDOCK.

UNDER LIFE'S KEY, by MARY CECIL HAY.

And many other late Novels, all Cheap Editions.

AROUND THE WORLD WITH GENERAL GRANT,
by JOHN RUSSELL YOUNG.

SATOW'S KWAIWA HEN—very scarce.

HUBNER'S PROMENADE AUTOUR DU MONDE.

SMITH'S MUSICAL ALBUMS—containing choice selections both Vocal and Instrumental. Nos. 1 to 6.
Price 40 cents each.

BRAINARD'S MUSICAL WORLD.

WINNER'S New School for PIANO, CABINET ORGAN, VIOLIN, FLUTE and GUITAR.

NEW SHEET MUSIC.

ELECTRO SILICAN for polishing Gold and Silverware, Glass, Tin, Steel, &c.

SHAWL and NURSERY SAFETY PINS.

Yokohama, March 25th, 1881.

NORTHERN ASSURANCE COMPANY.

FIRE AND LIFE.

THE UNDERSIGNED, on behalf of this Company, are prepared to accept FIRE RISKS on FIRST-CLASS GODOWNS and BONDED WAREHOUSES, at 1½ per cent. and LIFE RISKS on HOME TERMS, and settle all claims thereon.

W. M. STRACHAN & Co.

Yokohama, January 6th, 1881.

SHIPPING INTELLIGENCE.

VESSELS IN HARBOUR.

NAME.	CAPTAIN.	FLAG AND REG.	TONN.	FROM.	ARRIVED.	CONSIGNEES.
STEAMERS.						
Genkai Maru	Conner	Japanese steamer	1,917	Shanghai & ports	Mar. 24	M. B. Co.
Galley of Lorne	Branthwaite	British steamer	1,540	London via Hongkong	Mar. 24	Smith, Baker & Co.
Glenartney	Jacobs	British steamer	1,320	Nagasaki	Mar. 19	Jardine, Matheson & Co.
Meiji Maru	Peters	Japanese steamer	1,010	Kobe	Mar. 16	Lighthouse Department
Menzaleh	Homery	French steamer	1,273	Hongkong	Mar. 22	M. M. Co.
Sumida Maru	Hubonet	Japanese steamer	896	Amoy	Mar. 20	M. B. Co.
Volga	Guirand	French steamer	1,502	Hongkong	Mar. 11	M. M. Co.
SAILING SHIPS.						
Alexander	Carson	American schooner	52	Nagasaki	Nov. 3	J. E. Collyer
Anna Sieben	Paulsen	German barque	604	Antwerp	Mar. 11	Order
Cilurnum	Beadle	British ship	1,850	Hongkong	Nov. 8	Edward Fischer & Co.
Helena	Ewalt	German schooner	60	Kurile Islands	Oct. 31	Captain
Lottie	Hilts	German schooner	26	Kurile Islands	Sept. 4	Hohnholz & Co.
Louisa	H. Schmidt	Ger. 3-mast schr.	245	Takao	Mar. 20	Chinese
Maria	Jansen	German barque	280	Takao	Mar. 17	Order
Mary C. Bohm	Petersen	German schooner	55	Kurile Islands	Oct. 24	P. Bohm
Mary	Gubbins	Brit. 3-mast schr.	147	Takao	Mar. 15	Jardine, Matheson & Co.
North Star	Johnson	Russian schooner	42	Kurile Islands	Nov. 16	H. W. Hohnholz & Co.
Otome	Hardy	American schooner	72	Kurile Islands	Dec. 13	H. Snow
Otaogo	Isaacson	Russian schooner	46	Kurile Islands	Nov. 3	H. Cook
Pioneer	Maies	Russian schooner	72	Romo, via Hakodate	Jan. 17	Walsh, Hall & Co.
Stella	Werner	American schooner	30	Kurile Islands	Oct. 11	Captain

VESSELS OF WAR IN PORT.

NAME.	GUNS.	TONN.	H. P.	DESCRIPTION.	WHERE FROM.	COMMANDER.
FRENCH—Champlain	10	2,000	—	Corvette	Kobe	Captain Dubrot
RUSSIAN—Minia	16	5,300	6,300	Ironclad	Nagasaki	Captain Nazimoff
GERMAN—Vineta	19	2,000	—	Corvette	Kobe	Captain Zirzow
ENGLISH—Albatross	4	894	838	Sloop	Kobe	Frrington

VESSELS ON THE BERTH.

DESTINATION.	NAME.	AGENTS.	TO BE DESPATCHED.
Hongkong via Kobe	Kokonoye Maru	M. B. Co.	April 2nd, at 4 P.M.
San Francisco	Cilurnum	Edward Fischer & Co.	Unsettled
San Francisco	Oceanic	O. & O. Co.	April 2nd
San Francisco	City of Tokio	P. M. Co.	April 20th, at daylight
Hongkong	Volga	M. M. Co.	April 2nd, at 9 A.M.
Hongkong	Glenartney	Jardine, Matheson & Co.	About March 29th
London via Kobe Nagasaki and Hongkong	Bellerophon	Butterfield & Swire	Quick despatch
Hongkong via Nagasaki	Malacca	P. & O. Co.	April 2nd, at 1 A.M.
Shanghai and way-ports	Genkai Maru	M. B. Co.	March 30th, at 4 P.M.

COMMERCIAL INTELLIGENCE.

IMPORTS.—Small business only. *Yarns*; weak, especially 28/32's. Sellers seem anxious to be moving, and buyers try to get concessions at every turn. *Shirtings* are dull as usual at this time of year and best may be quoted 5 cents lower. Other *Cottons* nominally unchanged with but little passing. *Woolens* always in the same inanimate condition.

COTTON YARNS :—

Nos. 16 to 24, Common to Medium ...	per picul	\$29.50 to 31.25
" " Good to Best... ..	"	\$31.75 to 33.00
Bombay, No. 20 do.	"	\$29.50 to 31.25
Nos. 28 to 32, Common to Medium ...	"	\$32.75 to 33.50
" " Good to Best... ..	"	\$34.00 to 34.50
" 38 to 42	"	\$38.50 to 40.00

COTTON PIECE GOODS :—

Grey Shirtings :—7 lb. per piece 28½ yds. 39 in.	\$1.25 to 1.65
" " 8½ lb. " 38½ " 39 in.	\$1.50 to 2.00
" " 9 lb. " 38½ " 45 in.	\$2.10 to 2.50
T. Cloths :—7 lb. " 24 yds. 32 in. per piece	\$1.40 to 1.60
Drills, English :—14-15 lb. 40 " 30 in.	\$2.30 to 2.50
Indigo Shirtings :— " 12 " 44 in.	\$1.42½ to 1.52½
Prints :—Assorted " 24 " 30 in.	\$1.40 to 2.60
Cotton Italians & Sateens Black 32 in.	\$0.06½ to 0.12½
Turkey Reds : 2 to 2½ lb. 24 yds. 30 in.	\$1.40 to 1.60
Do. 2½ to 3 lb. 24 " 30 in.	\$1.55 to 1.70
Do. 3 lb. " 24 " 30 in.	\$1.70 to 1.80

COTTON PIECE GOODS :—Continued.

Velvets :—Black ... 35 yds. 22 in. per piece	\$6.75 to 8.50
Victoria Lawns ... 12 " 42/3 " "	\$0.70 to 0.75
Taffetas :— " 12 " 43 " "	\$1.70 to 1.90

WOOLLENS :—

Plain Orleans ... 40-42 yds. 32 in.	4.50 to 5.50
Figured Orleans ... 29-30 " 31 " ...	3.50 to 4.25
Lastings ... 29-30 " 31 " ...	10.00 to 11.00
Italian Cloth ... 30 " 32 " ...	0.18 to 0.30
Camlet Cords ... 29-30 " 22 " ...	4.50 to 5.50
Mousselines de Laines :—Crape 24 yds. 30 in.	0.16 to 0.17
do. Itajime 24 " 30 " ...	0.23 to 0.29
do. Yuzen 24 " 30 " ...	0.35 to 0.40
Cloths, all wool plain or fancy... 48 in. to 52 in.	0.80 to 1.50
Pilots... " 54 " to 56 " ...	0.30 to 0.45
Presidents... " 54 " to 56 " ...	0.45 to 0.55
Union ... " 54 " to 56 " ...	0.30 to 0.55
Blankets, green, 6 to 8 lbs. ... per lb. ...	0.37 to 0.40

SAIGON RICE.—Three thousand piculs sold. Stock none.

KEROSENE.—Stock is reduced to 370,000 cases. Sales 34,000 cases.

SUGAR.—Stock 72,000 bags.

Sugar :—Takao in bag New ... per picul	\$4.25
" " Old... ..	\$3.95
" Taiwanfoo in bag... ..	\$3.95
Ching-pak and Ke-pak ...	\$7.75 to \$8.50
China No. 4-5, Kongfun & Kook-fah...	\$6.50 to \$8.75

Japan Rice ... per picul	\$2.70 to 2.98
Japan Wheat ...	\$2.03
Saigon Rice [cargo] ...	\$1.80
Kerosene Oil... case	\$1.90 to 1.91

EXPORTS.

SILK.—During the past week our silk market has been rather quiet. The news from Europe has not been quite so encouraging; and this, in addition to the scarcity of good silk and the high prices demanded by natives, has checked business. Quotations remain unchanged, but they tend to be a trifle easier. Stock in Yokohama 1,100 shipping bales.

Quotations Hanks.—No. 2 ...	\$500	= 19/4	} Nominal.
" " 2½ ...	\$575	= 18/7	
" " 3 & infra.	\$530 to \$540	= 17/2 to 17/6	
Filatures.—No. 1 ...	\$670 to \$680	= 2/7 to 21/11	
" " 2 ...	\$645 to \$650	= 20/10 to 21/	
" " 3 ...	\$620	= to 20	
Kakedas—Best ...	\$660 to \$670	= 21/3 to 21/7	
Medium & Good ...	\$620 to \$650	= 20/ to 21/	
Re-Reels Medium to Best.....	\$615 to \$645	= 19/10 to 20/10	

TEA.—We have but little to report upon, the market being very quiet, settlements for the week reaching some 350 piculs only. The lower grades have received a fair amount of attention. Quotations remain nominally the same.

Common { ...	\$ 9 to 12	Fine ...	\$23 to 225
Good Common { ...	\$ 15 to 17	Finest ...	\$27 to 229
Medium ...	\$19 to 20	Choice ...	{ Nominal.
Good Medium ...		Choicest ...	

EXCHANGE AND BULLION.

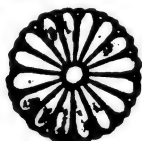
STERLING—Bank 4 months' sight ...	3/9	ON SHANGHAI—Bank sight.....	72½
" Bank Bills on demand.....	3/8½	" Private 10 days' sight.....	73
" Private 4 months' sight ...	3/9½	ON NEW YORK—Bank Bills on demand.....	89½
" " 6 " " "	3/9½	" Private 30 days' sight.....	90½
ON PARIS—Bank sight "	4.67	ON SAN FRANCISCO—Bank Bills on demand	89½
" Private 6 months' sight.....	4.83	" Private 30 days' sight	90½
ON HONGKONG—Bank sight	par.	KINSATZ	80½ dis.
" Private 10 days' sight	½ % disc.	GOLD YEN	380 nom.

SHIPPING.

SHIPPING.—Few or no vessels in harbour at present available for charter. Vessels on the berth :—The *Glurnum*, for San Francisco ; S. S. *Fleurs Castle*, for New York ; S. S. *Glenartney*, for Hongkong ; S. S. *Bel-lerophon*, for London.

MISCELLANEOUS.

[TRANSLATION]



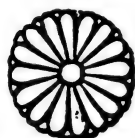
NOTIFICATION

No. 13 of Daijokwan.

IT IS HEREBY NOTIFIED that any Master, Mate or Engineer, holding a Certificate of Competency from any Foreign Government shall, provided the qualifications and requirements under which any such Certificate was issued are deemed to be in no ways inferior to the qualifications and requirements for a Certificate of a corresponding grade under Notification No. 82 of the 9th Year of Meiji, be entitled to a Certificate of Competency of a similar grade without undergoing any examination.

It is also further Notified that the regular examination of applicants for Masters, Mates or Engineers Certificates shall hereafter only be held during the 3rd, 6th, 9th and 12th Months of each Year, on such day and hour as shall hereafter be Notified by Yekitei Kioku.

(Signed) SANJO SANEYOSHI,
Daijō-Daijin.



NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that in accordance with Notification of Daijōkwan No. 13, the regular examination of Applicants for Masters, Mates or Engineers Certificates will, till further notice, be conducted at Tokio on the third Tuesday in every 3rd, 6th, 9th and 12th Month of each year, commencing at 9.00 a.m.

H. MAYESHIMA,
Chief Superintendent.

Yekitei Kioku, Feb. 24th, 1880.



NOTICE TO MARINERS.

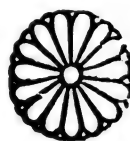
SHIMONOSEKI STRAITS BUOYS.

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN, that KANABUSE BUOY and MIDDLE GROUND BLACK BUOY, which were advertized as having broken adrift from their moorings, have been replaced.

Lighthouse Establishment,
Benten,
Yokohama, 17th January, 1881.

BY ORDER.

MISCELLANEOUS.



NOTICE TO MARINERS.

No. 1 of the 14th Year of Meiji, (1881.)

KAGENO SIMA LIGHTHOUSE.

ENTRANCE TO NAGASAKI HARBOUR.

THE GOVERNMENT OF JAPAN hereby gives notice that, on the night of the 1st day of the 3rd Month of the 14th Year of Meiji (1st March, 1881), and every night thereafter, from Sunset to Sunrise, a Fixed Red Light of the 6th Order will be exhibited from the tower built on the Northern point of Kageno Sima, at the Entrance to the harbour of Nagasaki, in the province of Hizen.

According to the Japanese Admiralty Chart No. 108, and the British Admiralty Chart No. 2415, the Lighthouse is situated in latitude 32 degrees 42 minutes 42 seconds North, and in longitude 129 degrees 49 minutes 37 seconds East of Greenwich.

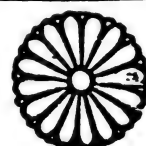
The Tower is built of stone, and is 15 feet 8 inches high from the base to the center of the lantern.

The Light will have an arc of visibility of 206 degrees, the cut off bearings being N. 81° 30' W. and S. 55° 30' E. Bearings true.

The total elevation of the Light above the sea will be 40 feet, and its range of visibility, in clear weather, about 8 Nautical miles.

YAMAO YOZO,
Minister of Public Works

Tokai, February 3rd, 1881.



NOTICE TO MARINERS.

No. 2 of the 14th Year of Meiji, (1881.)

BLACK BUOY OFF HANEDA LIGHTHOUSE.

BAY OF YEDO.

THE GOVERNMENT OF JAPAN hereby gives notice that the Black Buoy, which was moored off Haneda shoal, Bay of Yedo, before the erection of the Pile-Lighthouse in the 8th Year of Meiji (1875) on said shoal, and which has remained in same position ever since, will be removed on the First day of the Seventh month of the Fourteenth year of Meiji (1st July 1881), experience having proved that navigation is now safe without the Buoy.

YAMAO YOZO,
Minister of Public Works.

Tokai, February 22nd, 1881.

MISCELLANEOUS.

CHINESE
IMPERIAL GOVERNMENT

EIGHT PER CENT. LOAN OF
1878.

FOURTH DRAWING.

BONDS Drawn in Hongkong in February last, and the Fourth Coupon for 'Tis. 19.40 of above Loan, will be payable on and after this date, at the Offices of the HONGKONG AND SHANGHAI BANKING CORPORATION, where List of Dr wn Bonds may be obtained.

For the HONGKONG AND SHANGHAI
BANKING CORPORATION,

Agents issuing the Loan,

JOHN WALTER,
Manager.

Yokohama, March 21st, 1881.

H. MacARTHUR,
SHIP-BROKER AND CUSTOMS
AGENT,

NO. 70, Yokohama,

(Opposite the Old British Post Office).

Yokohama, 4th May, 1880.

"HIGHEST AWARD & PRIZE MEDAL PHILADELPHIA
EXHIBITION, 1876."

OAKEY'S
WELLINGTON KNIFE POLISH

PREPARED EXPRESSLY FOR THE PATENT KNIFE-
CLEANING MACHINES, INDIA RUBBER AND BUFF
LEATHER KNIFE BOARDS. KNIVES CONSTANTLY
CLEANED WITH IT HAVE A BRILLIANT POLISH EQUAL
TO NEW CUTLERY. PACKETS 3D. EACH; AND TINS,
6D., 1/-, 2/6 AND 4/- EACH.

OAKEY'S
INDIA RUBBER KNIFE BOARDS

PREVENT FRICTION IN CLEANING AND INJURY TO
THE KNIFE. OAKEY'S WELLINGTON KNIFE POLISH
SHOULD BE USED WITH HIS BOARDS.

OAKEY'S
SILVERSMITHS SOAP

[NON-MERCURIAL].
FOR CLEANING AND POLISHING SILVER, ELECTRO-
PLATE, PLATE GLASS, &c. TABLETS 6D. EACH.

OAKEY'S
WELLINGTON BLACK LEAD

IN SOLID BLOCKS—1D., 2D. & 4D. EACH, & 1S. BOXES.

JOHN OAKEY & SONS
MANUFACTURERS OF
EMERY, BLACK LEAD, &c.
WESTMINSTER BRIDGE ROAD, LONDON, ENGLAND.

July, 1879.

MISCELLANEOUS.

THE GREATEST

WONDER OF MODERN TIMES
HOLLOWAY'S PILLS.

Persons suffering from weak or debilitated constitutions will dis-
cover that by the use of this wonderful medicine there is "Health
for all." The blood is the fountain of life, and its purity can be
maintained by the use of these Pills.

SIR SAMUEL BAKER,
in his work entitled "The Nile Tributaries in Abyssinia," says, "I
ordered the dragoman Mahomet to inform the Faky that I was a
"Doctor, and that I had the best medicines at the service of the
"sick, with advice gratis. In a short time I had many applicants,
"to whom I served out a quantity of Holloway's Pills. These are
"most useful to an explorer, as possessing unmistakable purgative
"properties they create an unneniable effect upon the patient, which
"satisfies him of their value."

SIMPLE, SAFE AND CERTAIN!
HOLLOWAY'S OINTMENT.

Is a certain remedy for bad legs, bad breasts, and ulcerations of all
kinds. It acts miraculously in healing ulcerations, curing skin
diseases, and in arresting and subduing all inflammations.

MR. J. T. COOPER,
in his account of his extraordinary travels in China, published in
1871, says—"I had with me a quantity of Holloway's Ointment. I
"gave some to the people, and nothing could exceed their gratitude;
"and, in consequence, milk, fowls, butter, and horse-feed poured
"in upon us, until at last a tea-spoonful of Ointment was worth a
"fowl and any quantity of peas, and the demand became so great
"that I was obliged to lock up the small remaining stock!"
Sold by all Chemists and Medicine Vendors throughout the World
May 17th, 1873.

SAVORY & MOORE'S
ASTHMA,
FOR
DIFFICULT
BREATHING
&c
DATURA
TATULA
Cigars, Cigarettes or Tobacco, also Pastilles and Powder for Inhalation.
SAVORY & MOORE, NEW BOND STREET, LONDON.
And of all Chemists and Storekeepers throughout the world.
December 1880.

SUN FIRE OFFICE.

THE UNDERSIGNED are prepared to accept RISKS
AGAINST FIRE for periods

Not exceeding Ten days at.....1/8th,
" " Four days at.....1/16th,

of the annual rate.

WILKIN & ROBISON,
Agents.

Yokohama, June 24, 1879

MISCELLANEOUS.

**CROSSE & BLACKWELL'S
CELEBRATED OILMEN'S STORES.***Nine Prize Medals, Paris, Vienna and Philadelphia.*

PICKLES AND SAUCES,
JAMS AND JELLIES,
ORANGE MARMALADE,
TART FRUITS, DESSERT FRUITS,
PURE SALAD OIL,
MUSTARD, VINEGAR,
POTTED MEATS AND FISH,
FRESH SALMON AND HERRINGS,
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SUPPLEMENT TO THE JAPAN WEEKLY MAIL.

YOKOHAMA, SATURDAY, 26th MARCH, 1881.

ARRIVAL OF THE AMERICAN MAIL.

TELEGRAMS.

Berlin, February 21st.—In the upper House of the Prussian Diet, to-day, before the debate on the Local administration bill was commenced, Bismarck explained that the statement read by Rommell, yesterday, had been erroneously interpreted. It was only intended as an instruction to Rommell, and was to be read word for word. No real difference of opinion existed between him (Bismarck) and Count Van Eulenburg. There was, therefore, no ground for Ministerial change. Bismarck continued: "I assumed that the knowledge of my views would lead to an agreement between the two Houses. I could not have supposed the affair would take the present turn. The assumption that material differences of opinion exist in the State Ministry is incorrect." The House, by 59 to 45, then passed the paragraph of the bill in the amended form in which it was sent by the Lower House. Bismarck voted with the majority, thereby attesting his adhesion to the views of Count Von Eulenburg.

The Emperor has not accepted the Count's resignation, but negotiations with the object of inducing him to remain in the Ministry have been so far without result.

New York, February 21st.—Archbishop McAbee, of Ireland in his pastoral for Lent, thus refers to Parnell's conferences with Rochfort and Victor Hugo: "A calamity more terrible than any that has yet befallen us seems to threaten our people to-day. Allies for our country in her struggle for justice are sought from the ranks of impious infidels, who have plunged their own unhappy land into misery. Will Catholic Ireland tolerate such an indignity?"

London, February 21st.—Fifteen collieries in Yorkshire and 12,000 men are idle, and great distress exists.

London, February 21st.—The English members who voted in the minority on Gladstone's motion that at midnight the remaining clauses of and amendments to the Protection bill be put forthwith, are: John Holker, Conservative; John Hay, Liberal Conservative; Henry Tyler, Conservative; John P. Edwards, Liberal; MacDonnald, Liberal; Gorst, Conservative; Edward Clarke, Conservative; Alexander Hope, Liberal Conservative; Burt, Radical; Labouchere, Liberal; Bradlaugh, Radical; Cowen, Radical, and Lewis, of Ulster Conservative.

The House resumed the Protection bill. The Chair ruled four amendments out of order, but the Home Rulers insisted on dividing up the motion to report the bill and upon the motion that the Chairman leave the Chair.

Labouchere's amendment incorporating the Compensation for the Disturbance bill with the Protection bill was ruled out of order. The third clause was adopted—199 to 47.

The committee stage of the bill is now finished.

Paris, February 22nd.—The Agricultural Society adopted a resolution demanding the Ministry to commence negotiations with the United States for the revocation of the alleged decision of the United States forbidding the landing of French wines at American ports, on the pretext that they are injurious to health. The Society believes that the decision is simply a reprisal for interdiction by France of the importation of American warms.

Brussels, February 22nd.—In the Chamber of Deputies, to-day, the Minister of the Interior said there had been no case of trichinosis in Belgium. The Government consequently did not intend to take preventive measures.

Dublin, February 22nd.—Troops from Newcastle started this morning for General Colley's camp, and reached without opposition, Seán Hogan's plateau, the scene of General Colley's last reverse.

Havana, February 22nd.—Simon Cameron and party arrived at Nassau, N. P., on the 28th. They will remain for one night, and then go to Cuba. Cameron is in excellent health.

Paris, February 22nd.—The Chamber of Deputies, by a vote of 304 to 109, rejected the motion for an inquiry into the alleged promise of the Government to furnish 80,000 muskets to Greece.

Rome, February 22nd.—The Pope, in an address to the

Cardinals, expressed regret at the renewed attacks and insults heaped upon the Church in nearly all parts of the world. Therefore, an extraordinary jubilee would be inaugurated this year throughout Christendom, for the purpose of imploring the Almighty to bestow better times upon the Church.

Berlin, February 22nd.—Minister White celebrated Washington's birth day by giving a grand reception and ball at the American Legation. All the prominent members of the Anglo-American Colony were present, and there was a brilliant attendance of native celebrities in science, literature and art.

London, February 22nd.—Parnell and the other Irish members will address their constituents next Sunday.

The *Daily News* says: If the improvement of the state of Ireland continues, it is probable that the Government will not proceed with the arms bill.

Arrangements are making for a Land meeting in each county of Ireland, outside of Ulster, next Sunday.

London, February 22nd.—In the House of Commons, the Attorney-General stated that the objectionable parts of Parnell's speech at Clare would receive his careful attention. The announcement was received with cheers.

Gladstone said he could not give the details of the Land bill until he presents the bill in the House, with a clear prospect of proceeding therewith.

London, February 22nd.—The House of Commons to-night took up the Protection bill as amended in Committee.

After several clauses moved by Home Rulers had been rejected, the clause moved by Sullivan providing that no person be discharged at a greater distance than five miles from the place of arrest, was agreed to.

Forster's amendment limiting retrospective action to the 30th of September, 1881, was carried.

In course of the debate Parnell declared the Fenian organization in Ireland was never less active.

Paris was Stephen's residence, and he had merely returned thither from the United States, where he had been opposing the Land League. The Home Secretary said the Government had grounds for believing that Fenianism still existed, and still designed to carry out its objects by the most abominable and detestable means. He referred to O'Donovan Rossa's utterances, and the violent speech by John Devoy, formerly a political convict in America.

The debate was adjourned.

Dublin, February 23rd.—A meeting of the Land League was held to-day. Detectives noted all attending.

Parnell telegraphed advising the League to postpone the meetings called for Sunday, as it was desirable that the terms of the Land bill should be known before the meetings are held.

The small farmer reported shot dead near Bullevant, County Cork, Tuesday, was only wounded.

Two large farmers, members of the Land League, have been arrested.

Berlin, February 23rd.—Count Von Eulenburg insists on resigning. The report that the other Ministers intend to resign is untrue.

Paris, February 23rd.—The Directors of Armies have prohibited the selling of arms or ammunition or executing contracts, and Prefects of Departments are instructed to prevent arms for embarkation from leaving France. Recently Belgium bought a quantity of arms and ammunition for Greece.

London, February 23rd.—The Bey of Tunis had a stormy altercation with the French Consul, protesting against the arbitrary proceedings of France and the system of terrorism pursued toward him by the French Consul. The greatest excitement prevails, and demonstrations hostile to the French are feared.

London, February 23rd.—Thirty-six successive shocks of earthquake occurred at St. Michaels, in the Azores. One church and two hundred houses have fallen, and several persons have been killed.

London, February 23rd.—Parnell has written to the Secretary of the Land League at Clare, retracting his advice to plough up the land, because he has learned that unjust and barbarous laws make such acts punishable by seven years of penal servitude.

London, February 23rd.—The Home Rule members of the House of Commons are determined to exhaust the sittings to-day and to-morrow with amendments to the Protection bill.

London, February 23rd.—It is learned that the Government will interfere with Parnell's demonstration at Cork, next Sunday.

London, February 23rd.—Many Sligo farmers who have refused to pay rent higher than at Griffin's valuation, are now hastening to pay the landlords' terms.

London, February 23rd.—The private powder-magazine at Cork has been forcibly entered and the powder stolen.

London, February 23rd.—In the House of Commons, Gladstone gave notice that if consideration of the bill for the better protection of persons and property in Ireland, as amended, is not concluded to-day, he would move to have the amendments put forthwith, at 7 o'clock to-morrow evening, and for immediately afterward commencing the third reading of the bill.

London, February 23rd.—In the House of Commons consideration of the Protection bill was continued in a dilatory manner. Two Home Rule amendments intended to introduce the distinct provisions in the bill that prisoners be leniently treated and allowed to associate with each other, were rejected by majorities of 115 and 228, Forster merely saying that the Government would do its best to prevent hardship.

During the debate T. P. O'Connor was warned, and Healy silenced by the Speaker for irrelevancy and repetitions.

Consideration of the bill was not finished when the House was obliged to rise by the rule governing Wednesday's sittings, Gladstone's notice, therefore, that he would move for having amendments put forward to-morrow evening, holds good.

New York, February 23th.—The *Herald's* Dublin special says: At the Land League meeting held here, to-day, a letter was read from Egan, now in Paris, denouncing Shaw's manifesto as an audacious assumption of leadership, and asking, "Who, in Ireland, for a moment believe that a handful of renegades, who followed Shaw, represented the country?" He adds: "Do Shaws, Irvingtons, Blennerhassets, Colthurts, Martins, Henrys, Enys, and the rest of the traitors who basely deserted the Irish leader in the face of the enemy, think that they can drag the country back into the slums of corruption and whiggery, or that they will induce people to adopt a 'Bomb' Gladstone, to idolize Bright, the coercionist, or to offer thanksgiving for what is well described as a mixture of buckshot and good intentions which is being offered them by Chief Secretary Forster? He says that the cause of the League is receiving support from the press of all shades of opinion in France.

London, February 24th.—Rev. Benj. Speke, brother of the well-known African explorer, drowned himself in the Somersetshire river.

The Cape Government terms to the Basutos must be accepted in twenty-four hours.

Paris, February 24th.—In the Senate, Duke De Broglie declared the information furnished by the Government on Greek affairs was insufficient. Occult and underhand measures had been taken, under the shelter of certain high influence. He wished to know who investigated the Thomas mission, and made the promise of rifles to Greece.

Premier Ferry replied that the mission was an ordinary normal act, but the irreconcilables of the Right and Left had distorted its nature. De Freycinet, his predecessor, had previously ascertained that the despatch of French officers to Greece and German officials to Turkey was in no way calculated to disturb the concert of Powers.

Ferry reminded the House of the vote of the Duke De Cazes, wherein it was maintained that there were no restrictions on the sale of arms, provided war was not at the time declared. The Government, having heard of the sale of war material, had absolutely prohibited its exportation and, consequently, not a single cartridge had left the country.

The order of the day, pure and simple, was then adopted—166 to 112.

Berlin, February 24th.—The Reichstag to-day commenced the discussion of the budget. Privy Councillor Schbese, Secretary of the Imperial Treasury, said the

financial year of 1879-80 closed with a surplus of 23,000,000 marks. The present budget was somewhat altered in form. The increased receipts from the tobacco tax was estimated at 26,000,000 marks and from the matriculation contributions 24,000,000 marks, as compared with those of the last financial year. The permanent expenditure showed an increase of 22,000,000 marks, 17,000,000 being for the Army. The sums set aside for exceptional outlay are 6,000,000 marks less than last year, but 23,000,000 marks to be employed in defraying the cost of the changes in the formation of the Army were not comprised under this head. The permanent revenue showed an increase of 8,000,000 marks.

Herr Richter mentioned that no saving was effected in any department, and denied that Bismarck's customs policy had produced any good. Bismarck was drawing everything more and more under his personal direction. Germany was under a dictatorship. As soon as any of the chiefs of departments showed any independence they were suppressed and thus the Administration was thrown into a state of disorganization and vacillating character. This personal régime caused a confusion in Parliament and in Parliamentary parties.

Bismarck replied that no country could look forward to a future with such calm security as Germany. The Chancellor was answerable not to the Reichstag alone but above all to the Emperor. A timorous Chancellor who always waited for directions from the Reichstag, who had no opinions of his own, would be an entirely superfluous official. He declared that if his agreement with the heads of departments was ever disturbed, it should invariably be said, "Both of us can no longer remain in office." His sole guiding star was the question of, "What good does it bring to the Fatherland?"

The debate was adjourned.

London, February 24th.—Gladstone is able to attend to Government business.

Mount Prospect, Natal, February 24th.—General Colley reconnoitered the enemy's position, and obtained important information. The Boers are massing large bodies of troops.

Berlin, February 24th.—The Prince of Wales and the Duke of Edinburgh will be present at the wedding on Sunday next of the oldest son of the Crown Prince. Special envoy Viscount Torrington will represent Queen Victoria. Among others present in Berlin are: Prince and Princess Christian of Schleswig-Holstein, Grand Duke Alexis, Grand Duke of Baden, Grand Duke of Hesse, King and Queen of Saxony, Duke of Ansta, Archduke Carl Ludwig, brother of the Emperor Joseph, Prince Henry of Netherlands, Crown Prince of Sweden, Prince Arnulph of Bavaria, Prince August of Wurtemberg, and members of the royal families of all the German States.

London, February 24th.—At 5.30 Hartington moved that all the amendments to the Protection bill be put at 7 p.m. Adopted—371 to 42.

Nolan was speaking on the Protection bill when 7 o'clock arrived, and the Speaker put the amendment, and it and others were negatived.

Forster moved the third reading of the bill.

Justin McCarthy moved its rejection. The Government could not expect to counteract the alleged plots and conspiracies in America by coercing Ireland.

Harcourt, Home Secretary, after remarking on the absence of Parnell, read extracts from the report of the speech made by John De Voy, in the United States. He argued that men like DeVoy had their friends in England and Ireland, only kept down by the strong hand of the law. He also referred to the speech made by Davitt, in which the speaker warned the country against the wolf-dog, ready to bound in vengeance over the Atlantic.

"If," concluded the Home Secretary, "there were men who would use such language, it would be the duty of Englishmen to stamp upon them as if they were a nest of vipers."

A. M. Sullivan argued that it was cruelty to the Irishmen at home to punish them for what was done in America.

Hartington said it was intended on Monday to go into committee on supplies for explaining the Army estimates.

The Under Foreign Secretary said up to the time of his leaving the Foreign Office he had received no demand from the Bey of Tunis for protection. He had received a communication relative to the Boers' interview with the Dutch

Consul, but it is not of a nature to be presented to the House.

London, February 25th.—A farmer was found beaten to death at Cadanstown, King's County. He was one of a large number who had been going to various houses demanding arms.

The Irish demand for revolvers from Birmingham has completely subsided, probably owing to the Coercion bill.

The debate in the House of Commons on the Protection bill, Lord George Hamilton, Conservative, said he was in Ireland the greater part of last Autumn, and he was able to say that the condition of Ireland was rather underrated than otherwise.

Joseph Cowen, Radical, Reform and Home Rule member, denounced the bill.

Forster strongly defended it. He said it was time for the House to show its strength and deliver Ireland from the terrorism of unwritten law, and for Parliament to show itself strong enough to restore order. He hoped it would show itself strong enough to pass such measures as would render any future Coercion bill unnecessary, by making the people of Ireland contented and prosperous.

Arthur O'Connor replied in a warm speech. At 12.30 a.m. he sat down, whereupon, as no other Minister rose, the Speaker put the question on McCarthy's motion for the rejection of the bill. Defeated—321 to 57. Six English members voted with the minority.

O'Connor wished to move an amendment, but the Speaker could not accept it.

O'Donnell rose amid cries of "Divide!" The Speaker said: "It seems the general sense of the House that the question be now put." The bill was then read a third time by a vote of 305 to 46. Bill passed—281 to 45. The Speaker will announce on Monday that the business is no longer urgent.

London, February 26th.—The Financial Secretary of the Treasury intends to move in the House of Commons on Tuesday for a sessional order limiting the scope of amendments. It may be moved when the supply is the first order of the day on Monday. In the absence of this order it is possible on Monday for amendments to be moved on any subject. It is understood that the Home-Rulers intend to avail themselves of this privilege to an extent that precludes all hope of a vote for the number of men in the army being taken, and even threatens to defer the statement of the Secretary of War.

New York, February 26th.—A Dublin special says: Lord Ansoillya's threat to evict all tenants on his Longford estates and take into his own hands about one-third of the entire country, has directed attention to the black shadow of eviction which is looming over a vast number of farmers in Ireland. Tenants may at present be divided into three classes: First, those who are willing to pay, but are afraid to. Second, those who can pay, but will not. Third, those that are neither able nor willing to pay. The first class are very numerous: they already show signs, as Dillon says, of giving way. The second class, it is presumed, will follow the example of the first, but in respect to the third class it is feared a great difficulty will arise with those who cannot pay. Under the Coercion bill it will be impossible to resist eviction. The tactics which have worked so successfully heretofore will be utterly useless now, because every person resisting a process server or bailiff will be liable to arrest on the spot and imprisonment for eighteen months, without trial.

London, February 26th.—The following is the copy of the cablegram sent by Devoy to Lord Harcourt, mentioned in previous despatches: "To the Home Secretary, London: You say you will stamp us out. Two can play at that game of stamping out. The days when you can stamp out Irish people are passed forever. JOHN DEVOR."

Dublin, February 26th.—The amount of money invested by the Land League is considerably over £50,000, principally in American securities. A portion will be placed in French securities, but Gambetta's hostility has caused complications in that direction.

Athens, February 26th.—The European representatives separately interviewed Premier Comoundeuras, counselling Greece to refrain from disturbing the peace. Comoundeuras said he was willing to listen to the counsel of Europe, but hoped for a speedy execution of the decision of the Berlin Conference.

London, February 26th.—The election in East Cumberland to fill the parliamentary vacancy caused by the death of Musgrave (Conservative), resulted in the choice of Howard (Liberal), over Lowther, Lord Beaconsfield's Chief Secretary for Ireland—3371 to 3041.

Berlin, February 26th.—On the arrival of the Princess Augusta Victoria on the Parizer Platz, Burgomaster Furekenback read an address wishing, on behalf of the city, every blessing and happiness upon the marriage which the daughter of an ancient race of German Princes was about to contract. The Princess thanked the people from the bottom of her heart for the grand reception, saying that in return for the love displayed for her in such rich measure she would seek henceforth to be regarded by the Berliners as entirely one of themselves.

At the castle the Crown Prince escorted his bride up the staircase to the Swiss hall, where she was welcomed by the Royal Princess. She then proceeded to the Bradenburg Chamber, where the Emperor and Empress, with their guests, awaited her. The marriage contract was signed in the Chamber of Kurfurst, after which the Emperor, preceded by the dignitaries, accompanied the bride to her apartments. Illuminations to-night are universal throughout the city, and joyous crowds paraded the streets until a late hour.

The Emperor has accepted the resignation of Von Eulenburg as Minister of the Interior.

London, February 27th.—[Midnight].—General Colley, in a despatch sent previous to the engagement to-day says: "We occupied Majola Mountain Saturday night. It immediately overlooks the Boer position. The Boers are fighting us from below." Later he says: "The Boers are still firing heavily on the hill, but they have broken up their lines, and have begun to move away."

The War Office has the following telegram from Colonel Bood, commanding at Mount Prospect: "General Colley, with 22 officers and 627 men, infantry and naval brigade, proceeded on Saturday night to occupy Majola Mountain. The Boers attacked him at 7 o'clock Sunday morning; at 1 p.m. the firing increased; at 2.20 it became evident from the camp that we had lost the hill and our men were retiring under a heavy fire. There is no doubt that General Colley is killed."

General Wood telegraphs, corroborating the above, and says he will return to Newcastle Monday.

London, February 27th.—A despatch from Durban states that two companies of highlanders remained on the summit of Spitzkop after the retreat, throwing stones down on the advancing Boers, and subsequently received them at the point of the bayonet. The guns from Mount Prospect greatly checked the pursuit of the British. The enemy was largely reinforced by the Boers from the Orange Free State. The Boers were beaten off at Wakkerstroom after two hours' fighting. The British loss was slight.

Another account of the fight at Spitzkop says, when the ammunition failed, the slaughter was fearful. Finally, the British made a desperate, but unsuccessful rush. The 60th, on foot, fought their way back to camp. It is stated that only 7 men of the 58th survive. The camp is being fortified at every point.

Berlin, February 27th.—The religious ceremony of the marriage of Prince William and Princess Augusta was performed this morning in the chapel of the royal castle of the Chief Court Chaplain. There was a grand court reception afterwards in Whitehall, followed by a State banquet, at which the Emperor toasted the bride and bridegroom.

Paris, February 27th.—There was a great popular manifestation to-day, in honor of the birthday of Victor Hugo. A large number of the members of the Chamber of Deputies and other distinguished persons were received by Hugo during the reception. A deputation marched through the enormous crowd to the residence of the illustrious author, who saluted them from the window. Louis Blanc delivered a panegyric on Hugo at Trocadero.

Dublin, February 27th.—At a Land League demonstration at Borris, Okaue, Tipperary, Dillon advised the tenant farmers to "Boycott" those who violated the laws of the league, despite the Coercion Act.

Berlin, February 27th.—Herr von Potekamer, Minister of Worship, has undertaken the duties of Minister of the Interior, in place of Von Eulenburg.

Mount Prospect, Natal., February 27th.—Gen. Colley,

with six companies, has taken possession of Spitzkop, a position to the left of Laugsnek. Firing has been heard all the morning.

Newcastle, Natal, February 27th.—A severe engagement took place to-day between the Boers and Gen. Colley's force, and the latter was driven from its position at Spitzkop. There was great loss on both sides. Many British officers were killed and wounded.

A later telegram from Colley's camp says all the wounded coming in agree that Gen. Colley has been killed, and that only one hundred British escaped. The Boers charged up the hill four times and were about retreating when the British were forced to retire because the ammunition had had not been taken to the extreme summit.

London, February 28th.—General Colley was shot through the head.

The losses of the Sixteenth Foot are supposed to be light; all the officers escaped. The other regiments suffered heavily in both officers and men.

Commander Ramilly, of the Naval Brigade, is said to be dead. Sir Evelyn Wood has gone to the front. General Roberts succeeds General Colley.

London, February 28th.—The Colonial Secretary and the military authorities are completing arrangements while the former says would meet the situation in Transvaal.

London, February 28th.—In the House of Lords the Protection bill was read the first time. To-morrow is fixed for the second reading, and Wednesday the House will go into Committee on the third reading.

In the House of Commons Hartington asked urgently for the Arms bill and the army estimates. He said he would ask a vote to that effect to-morrow, when he will move the Arms bill. The statement was interrupted by cries from the Home Rulers.

London, February 28th.—In the House of Commons, Dilke said Peru asked England and France to mediate in the war between the South American Republics, and they agreed to do so, provided Chile is agreeable. England and France asked Germany and Italy to join the mediation. Italy accepted the proposal, but Germany declined.

London, February 28th.—The amount of bullion gone into the Bank of England is £90,000. The amount withdrawn is £363,000, all for America.

London, February 28th.—Carlisle bequeathed his Dumfriesshire estate to the University of Edinburgh.

New York, February 28th.—A Dublin telegram says: The Emergency Committee are taking steps to meet the wishes of a large number of anti-Land Leaguers, who are about to evict defaulting tenants, and who desire that the committee should supply them with Protestant tenants from Ulster and elsewhere. Lists will be opened for the names of those willing to accept farms from which tenants have been evicted, and doubtless there will be no lack of applicants, for exaggerated descriptions of the power which will be placed in the hands of the authorities by the Coercion bill, have already emboldened all who opposed the tactics of the Land League. Numerous evictions, many of the most distressing character, are taking place all over Ireland.

The eviction of Rev. Patrick Hurley, parish priest of Kilkoman, Kings county, has created no little consternation. The reverend father's predecessor took the house and farm of forty-two acres from a middleman landlord, and retaining the house and garden, sublet the land to three tenants at a rent of £67 and a valuation of £42. When the reverend gentleman was appointed to the parish he had to take up the land and work it at a loss. He had also held himself responsible for the rent of the sub-tenants, who fell into arrears. The priest then handed the land over to an energetic young farmer of the neighborhood. The middleman landlord refused to recognize this tenant, and took proceedings against Rev. Mr. Hurley, and the sub-tenants on the smaller portion of the farm. The County Court refused to grant a decree, but the case was taken to the Queen's Bench, and the result was that on Tuesday morning last, the parish priest was evicted, and his furniture put into the street. His sub-tenants were similarly treated.

In the recent evictions at Newton and Hamilton, County Armagh, on the property of the Rev. Mr. McGeogh, a woman stoned the Bailiffs and invoked curses on the landlord, while the aged and sick people were carried out and laid at the roadside. These are typical of what may

be expected when the great eviction wave sweeps over the country. The League has issued a circular to the Secretaries of Branch Leagues throughout Ireland, asking the details of all evictions since January 1st.

Durban, February 28th.—The vessels in the harbor are flying flags at half-mast for Gen. Colley.

Sir Evelyn Wood left Pietermaritzburg for the front.

Lieutenant Maud and Captain Morris were killed and Captain Singleton was severely wounded, in yesterday's engagements.

London, February 28th.—In the House of Commons, Lord Hartington said it was no fault of the Government that the Land bill was so long delayed, but it was the fault of those who had wasted time over the Protective bill. The supplemental vote for the Army and Navy, in connection with the Transvaal war, and for the Irish Constabulary, are very pressing, and it was necessary to pass them early. Harcourt would, he said, in the absence of the Secretary, Forster, move to-morrow for leave to introduce the Arms bill. Lord Hartington concluded by earnestly appealing to the members who had notices to allow the Secretary for War to make a statement.

Several members then postponed their notices.

Lord Hartington, replying to several questions, said it was impossible to name the day for the introduction of the supply.

O'Donnell, Home Rule member for Dungarvan, moved his amendment, that the conduct of the Irish magistrates, in refusing bail for bailable offences, was most unjust.

Several other Home Rulers supported the amendment.

The Attorney General for Ireland reminded the House that the duties of the magistrates, in regard to bail, were laid down by the Statutes, and were not under the control of the Executive.

After some discussion, O'Donnell's amendment was rejected.

McCone, Home Rule member for Wicklow county, called attention to the Constitution of the Irish magistracy, and to the whole body of County officials, and condemned them as operating inequitably against Catholics.

Johnson, Liberal from Mallow, stated that the appointments of the magistrates are made without regard to religion, and if the county officials are wrongly appointed the remedy must be found in the forthcoming County Government bill.

The Home Rulers continued the discussion, thus preventing Childers, Secretary of War, from introducing the army estimates.

London, February 28th.—A despatch from Mount Prospect says the Boers carried the British position on Spitzkop by a rush. The correspondent was taken prisoner, but afterwards released. He says the body of Gen. Colley is on the hill. It is quite clear the loss of the hill was not due to the failure of ammunition. Gen. Colley overestimated the strength of his position and left its most vital point, which the Boers attacked in force, but poorly defended. The squadron will immediately land a brigade of seamen and marines, with guns, at Durban, and they will be sent to the front. Orders have been sent to Jamaica for the despatch of a ship to Bermuda to order the troop-ship *Orontes*, due there on the 5th instant, to proceed to the Cape with the Ninety-ninth Regiment. The troop-ship *Euphrates* has been ordered to embark the Eighty-fifth Regiment at Bombay in a week hence, proceed to Colombo and embark six companies of the 102 regiment, and proceed to Durban, where she will arrive on the 22nd inst. These reinforcements number 2000 men.

Another correspondent estimates that two thousand Boers took part in the Spitzkop engagement. A private telegram states that three companies of the 58th Regiment were almost annihilated. General Wood, before leaving Pietermaritzburg, was sworn in as Governor of the colony.

Dublin, February 28th.—Hearne, land agent to the brother of the late Lord Montnorris, has been fired at by two men near his residence at Ballinrobe, and mortally wounded. He received six pistol shots.

The Secretary of the Land League received a communication from Parnell ordering the League to be ready to hold representative meetings on such Sunday following the introduction of the Land bill as the League may decide upon.

Two members of the Land League were arrested at Trillick, in connection with the raid of an armed band in Kerry.

THE Japan Weekly Mail,

A WEEKLY REVIEW OF
JAPANESE COMMERCE, POLITICS, LITERATURE, AND ART.

Vol. V. No. 13.]

Yokohama, April 2nd, 1881.

[\$24 PER ANNUM.]

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The Japan Weekly Mail.

'FAIS CE QUE DOIS; ADVIENNE QUE POURRA.'

NOTICE TO CORRESPONDENTS.

No notice will be taken of anonymous correspondence. Whatever is intended for insertion in the JAPAN WEEKLY MAIL must be authenticated by the name and address of the writer, not for publication but as a guarantee of good faith.

It is particularly requested that all letters on business, relating to Advertisements, Job-printing, or Accounts, be addressed to the MANAGER.

And that literary contributions of every description be addressed to the EDITOR.

YOKOHAMA: SATURDAY, APRIL 2ND, 1881.

JAPANESE ERA 2541, MEIJI 14TH YEAR, 4TH MONTH, 2ND DAY.

The Takasaki railway has, as we have stated in previous issues, been definitely sanctioned by the Government, and will no doubt be speedily commenced. More than this, however, is on the tapis, as will be seen from the following table:—

A line from Tokiyo to Takasaki, to be connected by the Nakasendo route with Tsuruga in Yechizen, thus forming a continuous line of communication between the Eastern and Western Capitals.

A branch of the Nakasendo line in the direction of Yechigo to be continued by Niigata to Dewa.

A line from Kokura in Buzen (Kiushiu) to Nagasaki in Hizen, with a branch to Kumamoto in Higo.

The Takasaki line to be continued to Awomori (in the extreme north of Japan) and to be divided into five sections viz. :—

Section I.—From Tokiyo to Takasaki.

Section II.—A branch of the above to Shirakawa.

Section III.—A line from Shirakawa to Sendai.

Section IV.—From Sendai to Morioka.

Section V.—From Morioka to Aomori.

The total cost of the above is roughly estimated at nineteen million yen, an amount probably much less than will really be required. The projectors propose to form a company entitled The Railway Company of Japan (Nihon Tetsudo Kuwaisha), all purchasers of stock to the value of five

thousand yen and upwards to be directors. Two million yen, that is to say about one-tenth of the total capital, to be subscribed within two years by the projectors and the money to be actually paid up as a token of good faith. As to the qualifications of a subscriber there will be no restrictions whatsoever.

The work being one in which the interests of the whole nation are concerned, princes, nobles, peasants, and tradesmen alike are invited to purchase stock, and the list of those who promote the scheme will be compiled, not according to social rank, but according to the amount of each shareholder's subscription. The Government on the other hand undertakes to purchase or provide the land required for the road, such portions as are the property of the State to be placed at the disposal of the Company *gratis*, and such portions as belong to private individuals to be acquired at a reasonable assessment. Further—and this is the one blot on the whole scheme—the State guarantees the shareholders *eight per cent.* on paid up capital, not only during the progress of the works, but for a period of ten years after their completion. Of this last item we cannot altogether approve. It will no doubt be argued that the proposed lines are certain to pay more than the guaranteed percentage, and that some protection from the State is essential to the consummation of the project. All this may be very true, and it is also indisputable that the development of her internal traffic is of paramount importance to the vitality of Japan, but has it occurred to the Government that eight per cent. is a rate of interest not often obtained on railway investments? Is it not more than probable that such a guarantee will render the Company virtually independent of the public, and that perfunctory management as well as a lack of enterprise, and a general disregard of passengers' convenience, will be the ultimate characteristics of men to whom a comfortably fat income is assured, however unfavorable the verdict of their constituents may be? Such, at any rate, was the experience in India, where the interest guaranteed by the State always proved to be more or less in excess of the profits actually realized by the lines. It might be useful also to enquire where the funds required for the payment of this interest are to be procured. They can only come out of the pockets of the shareholders themselves in the form of taxes, and the result is, that not only do the people lend the money on which they rely for reimbursement, but they also pay to the State for becoming their temporary shareholders, all the expenses incurred in assessing and collecting those taxes. Surely this is not very consistent with any acknowledged principle of political economy.

A circular lately forwarded to Italy by the Italian firm of Lotteri, Calcutta, contains matter of very great importance to the silk trade of Japan. The document sets out by declaring that a plan has been discovered by which either the Government or the merchants of Italy can immediately proceed to realize large profits by a method which, if developed, cannot fail to become a source of permanent wealth to the

country. This exordium is not calculated to enlist confidence, but for all that, the scheme propounded in the circular seems to bear very close inspection. The statistics, it says, of all nations interested in the silk industry, shew that for the past thirty years, various causes, chief among which is the impossibility of rearing silk-worms successfully, have united to render Europe a large pecuniary contributor to Asiatic coffers. The evidence of this fact says, when reduced to figures, that the average aggregate of yearly payments made by England, France, Germany and Italy to China and Japan for raw silk, cocoons &c., has for its maximum and minimum, five hundred, and two hundred and sixty millions of francs respectively. Great Britain indeed compensates herself in part by the sale of opium, but other European countries are compelled to disburse gold sufficient to supply material for the five hundred thousand looms that constitute the silk manufactory of the west. To devise some remedy for this commercial disadvantage has long been the desire of thinking men, and about two years ago the Italian Consul-General Gallian, sent to the Commercial and Industrial Department in Rome, specimens of a new kind of silk-worm called "Tusser." These were distributed to different Agricultural Societies throughout the country with directions as to the method of rearing, &c. Eight hundred samples were also divided between the Chamber of Commerce and certain other Industrial Institutes. Official reports of the results have since been furnished, but their import is not yet known to the public. Several manufacturers, however, who bought the "Tusser" cocoons, obtained an excellent outcome, more especially Messrs. G. Gaffari, Griffini and Co. of Codroipo, whose commendation is couched in very strong terms. A commission subsequently appointed by the English Government declared the silk equal to that of the worm nourished on mulberry leaves both in firmness, elasticity and clearness.

The "Tusser" worm thrives in the open air and may be fed with eighteen different kinds of food, but its favorite diet is oak-leaves, and the compilers of the circular under consideration, point out that there are in Italy fully three million hectares of uncultivated land, on which the oak family might be successfully grown both in northern and southern regions. Further, in order to demonstrate their own freedom from interested motives, the Messrs. Lotteri offer to supply cocoons gratis, to the first Italian Society under whose auspices a hundred thousand hectares of land are planted with the necessary oaks; the cocoons, with live chrysalides for producing eggs to be had on application to the the Consul-General for Italy at Calcutta. If cocoons with carbonized chrysalides for obtaining filature silk are desired, they can be procured direct from the writers of the circular, who having made a speciality of this article, are prepared to supply it, with directions for ungumming &c. The denominations of the different shrubs which serve as food for the worm "Tusser," living in the open air, are as follows:—All kinds of oaks especially *Quercus egilops*; *Terminalia Catapa, alata et tormentosa*; *Syzygium jambolanum*; *Zizyphus jujuba*; *Bombax malabaricum*; *Shorea robusta*; *Tectona grandis*; *Lagerstroemia pariflora*; *Ficus religiosa et indica*; *Sapini Schiferum*; *Jatropha curcas*; *Conocarpus latifolia*; *Pentaptera arjuna*; *Wrightia* and *Gnidia*.

There is no doubt something of the advertisement in the tone of this circular. It would probably pay Messrs. Lotteri to extend their generosity even beyond the limit of the hundred thousand hectares, provided they could thereby ensure a brisk demand for their carbonized cocoons in the interim between the cultivation of the waste lands and the maturity of the proposed plantations. Neither would their interest in the prospects of the "Tusser" worm be limited

to this stage of its career, unless indeed the stories of its hardy habits and valuable producing powers be greatly exaggerated; so that men who are disposed to be sceptical are not without grounds for regarding this circular as a clever device to attract clients. But it is least equally probable that the new discovery may justify its panegyrist's enthusiasm, and that the prospects of silk-producing countries in the Orient are likely to be seriously impaired by it. The difficulty of providing a sufficiency of mulberry leaves for the voracious "Yama-mai" has hitherto proved an important obstacle to its European nurture, and furnishes at the same time the only rational excuse for the export of silk-worm egg cards from Japan, for when the advocates of this pernicious trade point out that the eggs they send abroad are a surplus produce which must otherwise perish for lack of sustenance, their plea is not altogether frivolous. Of course an answer always suggests itself so long as any waste lands remain unplanted with mulberries, but in Europe the question of climate comes into consideration, and if a hardy worm has really been found, capable of thriving in the open air, and above all on many forms of nurture indigenous in the country, it were difficult to over-estimate the effects likely to be produced on the silk trade of Japan. At any rate we shall watch the career of the "Tusser" with keen interest, whether its introduction to public notice be the result of its own merits or of Messrs. Lotteri's speculative genius.

The unseasonably cold winds and chill showers that distinguished last month, depriving us of all faith in the presence of spring and banishing the recollection of plum-blossoms, have ill-befriended tea-house owners and that world of merry limpets that fatten on the frailty of mankind. Probably indeed under any circumstances fewer folks than usual would have gone a-Maying this year. The genial current of the soul "has been in too many cases frozen by something more bitter than lingering winter, and on rustics alone has the sun of prosperity shone for a season. While the cities are in mourning for the death of plenty, the shires are jubilant over its birth, and it is long since such a crowd of jovial pilgrims has travelled townwards from country hamlets and remote villages as that which is enjoying itself in and about Kiyoto at present. Tokiyo is less favoured, but in the Western Capital every inn is filled to overflowing, and extra trains each day scarcely suffice to convey the plethora of passengers. It is well for these people that they have time to take holidays, and money to purchase pleasure, but it is difficult to be more than tolerant of their debonnaire mood when one contrasts it with the financial troubles that beset their country. A purse that is open at both ends cannot be long full, neither can a Government feel quite at ease when its expenses are increasing constantly in the same ratio as its income diminishes. For the agricultural classes the depreciation of the currency is equivalent to a diminution of taxes; for the Government it represents a contraction of revenue and an expansion of liabilities. It is not to be supposed that this state of things can be permanent, but prophets of insolvency and disaster will do well to remember that the country is its Government's bank. This precipitate descent of paper money has a significance not without comfort, for it means that specie has attained a value far in excess of its purchasing power, and that men are buying and hoarding coin just as they would any other commodity on which popular fancy had resolutely fixed itself. How far this reaction may go it is difficult to foretell, but the result cannot be unwholesome. The Japanese are an impressionable people—almost romantic indeed in their likes and dislikes, as our own experience can testify. Com-

pared with the Chinese they are as mercury to lead, and if their easily excited impetuosity makes them capable of great efforts, it also largely enhances the difficulty of ruling them temperately. They have learned that rabbits, roses and swine are not essential to temporal well-being, and they are now on their way to the discovery that gold and silver have of themselves no more value than iron and tin. There will be some embarrassment in the Treasury and much aphorismic clamour among gazetteers before the lesson is universally committed to memory, but if we survive the interval, we shall have leisure to laugh in the issue.

Apart from the desirability of obtaining uniformity in the paper currency, and of substituting for notes now on the verge of destruction others of a more permanent and convenient nature, the new Treasury issue has, we understand, been undertaken for the purpose of ultimately determining the exact amount of paper in circulation. Considerable quantities are believed to have been burned or otherwise lost, and it is obviously a desideratum that the public should be accurately informed in such matters. It would appear, however, that official integrity is not thoroughly credited. People suspect, or pretend to suspect, that they are again to be subjected to a piece of financial finesse, and that somehow or other inflation will hereafter be found to have accompanied this exchange. Certainly if Japan's rulers be half so wily as their detractors pretend, they ought to occupy a very high place in the list of political strategists.

The foreign residents of Tokiyo will, no doubt, have been particularly pleased with the eleventh article of the new regulations for the conduct of the Japanese gendarmerie, which directs that any soldier in a state of intoxication or causing disturbance, etc., shall be immediately arrested and conducted to his barracks under escort. Whether cheap liquor or high pay has been the cause, the garrison of Tokiyo cannot be complimented on its sobriety. The streets of a city infested by inebriated Englishmen, in numbers equal to those one may see in Tokiyo on any gala day, would be indeed a pandemonium, but Japanese are fortunately much gentler in their cups than our own countrymen. Still, there have been not a few instances of insults offered to European ladies and gentlemen by soldiers, who, so long as they succeeded in staggering along without committing any violent assault, were left unmolested by the police. Indeed, the blue-coated myrmidons of the law have always been held rather cheap by the military, and it is not at all surprising that it should have been so. The mutual hostility of the two services is based upon a much stronger foundation than the senseless jealousy that engenders a similar, though less bitter, discord in the West, and the authorities have probably found that so long as men preserve any memory of the part taken by the police sword-bands in the Satsuma rebellion, constables will never be quietly suffered to exercise their functions where a soldier is the offender. The possession of his side-arms too, gives the military man an advantage of which he does not fail to make the most, finding himself opposed by a wooden staff, not always very skillfully wielded. In truth this pernicious regulation, which permits a soldier to wander about the wine-shops with his bayonet in his belt, is almost incomprehensibly injudicious. The one excuse assigned is that the Japanese military man inherits from his forefathers a romantic attachment to his sword, and that to deprive him of it would certainly cause serious disturbance. But surely the thing has been done already, not in the case of thirty thousand soldiers, half of whom are rustics that never handled a weapon before they donned the uniform, but in that of four

hundred thousand Samurai, who might justly have been expected to resent such an innovation. The soldier ought to be taught that his uniform, not his bayonet, is his badge of office, and that neat dress and a smart bearing will do more to insure respect, even with an empty belt, than shoes *en pantouffles*, dirty leggings, and a greasy great coat, accompanied by side arms. Perhaps, when this happy moral reformation is effected, peaceful citizens will be less jostled against and leered at in their goings and comings, but in the meanwhile this eleventh article of the Gendarmerie Regulations will, no doubt, serve to keep the misanthropic bias of inebriation in abeyance, a benefit for which we have to thank the good sense of the Japanese authorities, not less than the activity of H. B. M. Chargé d'Affairs, whose repeated representations on the subject have now at last borne good fruit.

The estimates for the service of the Gendarmerie for the remainder of the fiscal year—viz, a period of three months, April, May and June—have just been passed by the Privy Council. The amount is yen 150,400, which would represent a yearly expenditure of about six hundred thousand yen.

The trade returns of the new Japanese settlement at Ginsan in Corea, show that the total value of the exports and imports from the time of opening (May 1880) till the end of last year, amounted to three hundred and eighty three thousand one hundred and thirty one yen. Of this sum yen 135,827 odd represent the value of Corean produce exported from Gensan, and yen 247,250 odd, that of the merchandise imported by the Japanese settlers, foreign goods to the amount of no less than yen 234,439 forming an item of the latter total. The number of Japanese settlers is 209, of whom 46 are women. It thus appears that each member of the community, exclusive of females but including fifty-three officials—some of whom must have a tolerably easy time of it, seeing that they are in the proportion of about one to every three settlers—exports or imports goods to the amount of from four to five thousand yen per annum. On the 3rd of last November an exhibition of Japanese imports, after the fashion of that on the swamp in this Settlement, was inaugurated, but the Coreans, though they came and still continue to come there in tolerable numbers, have hitherto confined themselves to enquiring the price of a few insignificant articles, such as matches, soap, scissors and so forth.

It is confidently predicted that the regulations forbidding the export of rice from Fusan and Gensan will shortly be abolished, in which event a merry trade will probably be driven for a season, but in the meantime successful speculations are not uncommon; instance the case of a Japanese merchant who has just sold the Corean Government a small sailing vessel—its second—at a profit of four thousand yen.

After all it appears that we have been guilty of an injustice in attributing the recent scarcity of coal to Russian Squadrons and Chinese speculators. At Nagasaki the old rate—six yen per ton—has never varied throughout the season, and by adding about three dollars, we might have been supplied with warmth different from that begotten of the exorbitant prices we have lately been obliged to pay. Carriage is of course the trouble. Takashima cannot yet afford bags, and failing these the Mitsubishi freights are deterrent, so that we are dependent on chance steamers for our supply. This evil, however, is not likely to be permanent. Unless rumour be utterly unreliable the long contemplated transfer of the Takashima coal mine from Mr. Goto Shojiro's hands to those of Mr. Iwasaki Yataro, of the Mitsubishi S. S. Company, is

either consummated or on the verge of consummation. If this be so we are never likely to run short of coals again, nor will the Treasury have to wait long for its three hundred thousand yen.

General Kuroda, chief of the Colonization Commission, has forwarded a letter of thanks, together with the sum of five thousand dollars, to the family of the late Mr. J. G. van Gent, Junr., who died last winter in Yokohama. The terms of the letter are as follows:—"General Kuroda desires to express his deep regret for the misfortune which has deprived him of the services of Mr. van Gent. The deceased gentleman entered the service of the Colonization Commission in the year 1879, and after his arrival in the Hokkaido, exhibited the utmost zeal and ability in the discharge of his duties as civil Engineer, journeying from place to place and selecting suitable sites for the proposed works. Unfortunately, however, the preliminaries for these works had scarcely been fully completed, when he fell sick and died. General Kuroda now begs to enclose the sum of five thousand dollars to be handed to the family of the deceased gentleman, as a slight token of the esteem in which his valuable services were held. This sum also includes Mr. van Gent's passage money to Holland, to which he was entitled by the seventh article of his agreement."

While sincerely applauding general Kuroda's generosity, we cannot help wishing he had omitted the last paragraph of his letter.

It is said that when Riukiu was included among the Japanese prefectures, some twenty men, representatives of the old Chinese families residing at the village of Kume, left the island and, crossing over to Foochow, took up their abode in a building set apart for the reception of Loochooan envoys from the time of the Min dynasty. These seceders are still living at Foochow, and their presence in China does not conduce much to a peaceful settlement of the weary Riukiu question.

If we desire a contrast to this story of merry rustics trooping from the shrines of Ise to the cloisters of Koyasan and the Fane of Kumano Gongen, the God of oaths, it is furnished by the terms of a petition lately presented to the Municipality of Tokiyo by Mr. Iwahashi, on behalf of the Hokkaido Agricultural Society. The document states that owing to the unprecedented prices of the necessaries of life, and the repetition of disastrous fires during the past winter, great distress prevails among the poorer classes in Tokiyo. The measures of relief provided by the State are totally inadequate to the emergency, and the Poor-houses at Uyeno have already received more than their allotted complement of inmates. Under those circumstances the Society proposes to take charge of all the able-bodied paupers with their wives and families, and transport them to Yezo, where ample agricultural employment exists. A scheme more consistent with economical and charitable principles could scarcely be conceived, and it is to be earnestly hoped that no official obstacles may interfere with its consummation.

We have been requested to give publicity to the following facts which are of great interest at the present time:—

THE POLICE AND THE PUBLIC.

ACTION OF THE MUNICIPAL COUNCIL OF PARIS.

The Municipal Council of Paris, which was suppressed by the Emperor, but restored to the exercise of its important functions by the Republic, have lately had under consideration the question of the police services of the capital. As was the case in England when the police force was first organized, that

force is, in France, subject to Municipal control, and the budget of the expenses of the Services is voted by the Municipal Councils. So numerous, however, were the abuses which had been signalized in the management and conduct of the French police, since the comparative freedom of the Press which has followed upon the establishment of the Republic, that it had grown to be publicly admitted, that the population of Paris looked upon the Prefecture of Police as upon a hostile citadel elevated in their midst, while the Prefects of Police regarded themselves not as the servants, but as the masters of the citizens by whom they were paid.

After a series of important discussions upon the subject, the Council, on the 28th of June, 1880, appointed a Commission to enquire into and thoroughly investigate the whole question of the police services. That Commission has just issued its Report (drawn up by M. Yves Guyot), a document so exhaustive and complete as to merit careful study by every man and woman able to recognise the fact that true civil freedom demands not merely obedience to the law on the part of the citizens themselves, but also the rigid observance of the law on the part of those whose duty it is to enforce it, as well as a jealous maintenance of the publicity of all legal tribunals as opposed to secret espionage, denunciation, and the arbitrary rule of irresponsible officials.

As a first step towards the vindication of the above-named important safeguards of public liberty and order, the Municipal Council of Paris, after hearing the report of the Commission upon the Special Budget of the Prefecture of Police providing the funds for the maintenance of that branch of the police services known as the "*Morals' Police*" (*Police des Mœurs*), voted by a majority of 48 to 7 the suppression of that body on the grounds that the municipality who have no share in the appointment of the Prefect himself have no control over the personnel appointed by him, nor over the funds placed in his hands for the expenses of that service, whose functions they regard as illegal and arbitrary; and the Council add that the existence of the "*Morals' Police*" endangers individual liberty, without producing the results it was intended to realise in respect of the maladies incidental to prostitution, or in respect of the surveillance over violations of the common law and public order, or outrages against morality."

This decree of the Municipal Council is to take effect on the 1st January, 1882, at which date the "*Morals' Police*" of Paris will cease to exist.

This action on the part of the Paris Municipal Council, and the reasons for it set forth in the masterly report of the Commission, are well worthy the consideration of Englishmen at the present day. Mr. Stansfeld, M.P., has introduced a bill for the Repeal of the Contagious Diseases Acts. The passing of that Bill would involve the suppression of that special body of Metropolitan Police who are sent down from head-quarters into our garrison and seaport towns to perform their very objectionable duties of "espionage, denunciation, and arbitrary arrest," without uniform, after precisely the same fashion as the "*Morals' Police*" of Paris, and are as absolutely beyond the control of the local authorities.

During the reign of the Chinese Emperor Kien-long, when all the arts of civilization attained their highest degree of development, seventy-eight volumes, containing the most approved agricultural theories and processes of the age, were compiled under Imperial patronage by a society of savants and experts. The translation of these was undertaken some time ago by the Agricultural Bureau of the Home Department, and the first twenty-four volumes having been completed, a copy has been forwarded for the perusal of H. M. the Mikado. The farmers of Japan are certainly not wanting in skill or industry, but their enterprise is not equally conspicuous, and if official energy, which seems to have lately received a vigorous impulse in the direction of agriculture, can discover, in the Emperor Kien-long's library some scheme for bringing the waste lands of this country under cultivation, the national finances will not remain long unimpaired.

The star of Captain Celso Cesare Moreno is not, we perceive, altogether below the horizon yet. According to the *Diritto*, he has been received by General Garibaldi, to whom he presented a friendly letter from King Kalakaua of Hawaii. Whether the letter was one of recommendation or caution, it does not appear, but at any rate the General committed himself to nothing more than a promise to answer it.

Probably few, if any, foreigners in Japan, employing to some extent the services of natives, have not at one time or other had to invalid a domestic seriously ill of a trying and disagreeable malady. In the language of the medical profession, as expounded by Dr. Duane B. Simmons of this port, the disease, which occurs during the summer months, especially in the sea-port towns of the eastern and southern coasts of the empire, has "for its characteristic symptoms anæsthesia of the skin, hyperæsthesia and paralysis of the muscles, anasarca, palpitation, cardiac and arterial murmurs (in the wet form), præcordial oppression and abdominal pulsation." In lay terms, the patient's skin and muscles are more or less without sensation: he acquires a general dropsy, and suffers from trouble of the circulation, heart and stomach. The swelling of the body and the flabbiness of flesh which accompany the development of the complaint are familiar by sight and touch to many of our readers. The individual affected is a prey to a disease which is known to Japanese physicians as *kakke*, a word signifying weight and weariness in the legs. Recent investigations have established, apparently beyond room for doubt, the identity of this visitation with the *beriberi*, or waddling sickness, frequent in Malabar and the island of Ceylon, and the *morbus inanimatus* of the Brazilian doctor, Silva Lima. During the past twenty years the disease has received careful attention in Japan from many of the talented foreign practitioners who have resided in this country; and the subject is now gathering around it here and elsewhere a very respectable literature, to which Drs. Wm. Anderson, late of H. M. Legation, and Stuart Eldridge, of the Yokohama General Hospital, have recently made valuable contributions. Following in their wake, Dr. Duane B. Simmons has now published an exhaustive and carefully prepared monograph, in which his own experience and that of other workers in the same field are compared. The author's long residence in this locality; his extended term of directorship of the prefectural hospital in Yokohama; his connection with the police and prison hospitals of the same port; and his large private practice among Japanese, are all so many advantages which he has liberally used for purposes of useful observation of all kinds of regional hygienic conditions. In the present instance he has come to the conclusion that *kakke* is the result of "miasmatic or specific soil exhalation," and adduces a number of arguments in favor of his proposition, which differs from that of Dr. Anderson, inasmuch as the latter concludes that an atmospheric poison of local origin is the *materies morbi*. We do not propose, however, to make, here, a critical review of Dr. Simmons's work, which, naturally, is one of professional, rather than general, interest. Among medical men it should be received with respect and attention; and, indeed, it has already evoked favorable comment in western scientific journals. The peculiarities of the affliction analysed and described, and its known range, extending through these islands, New Guinea, Borneo and Sumatra, the Malay peninsula, India, Ceylon, the African shores of the Red Sea, and a large area in south America, render it a matter of moment to pathologists. We must not omit to commend the admirable manner in which Dr. Jamieson, and his staff in the Inspectorate General of Chinese Imperial Maritime Customs in Shanghai, turn out the work intrusted to their editorial and typographic care. Their office has long afforded an opportunity for the publication of important records of comparative medicine and surgery, which, confined in the diaries of their authors, would have been lost to the accumulated experience of practical science.

Mr. Kuinaya Sanjo, nephew of His Excellency the First Minister of State, having lately returned from England, has we understand, been appointed to a post in the Judicial Bureau.

The Choral Society gave its third performance last Tuesday night in the Gaiety Theatre, on which occasion this much anticipated operetta was produced under the direction of the President. As before announced every seat had been sold, and by nine o'clock the house was full to overflowing. We must again congratulate the society on a glorious success, the more so as we understand that several of the members who took principal rôles had never appeared upon the stage before. Looked at from this point of view the result must have been gratifying in the highest degree; and it betrays an amount of preparatory work which must have been immense.

The part of *Josephine* was taken by Mrs. Strome, and never has that lady's magnificent voice and finished style been heard to greater advantage. We may specially mention the song 'Sorry her lot,' the duet with Ralph, 'Refrain audacious tar,' and the grand *Scena* in the second act 'The hours creep on apace.' Not less marked was Mrs. Strome's success in acting and dialogue—the scenes in the first act with her father and her rival lovers being finely rendered, and more than once bringing down the house.

Mrs. Cope appeared as the '*Little Buttercup*' and a more successful debut it would be hard to imagine. Looking the part to admiration, everything, whether in word, song, or action, was well done: from her first entrance 'Hail men-of-war' men to the final expression of bliss and rapture:—'For he loves Little Buttercup.' We should also mention the duet with Captain Corcoran, 'Things are seldom what they seem' and the Baby-farming song, both given with exquisite humor. We have often said that the most difficult part of an actor's business is the expression of sentiment without speaking, and in this branch of the art Mrs. Cope succeeded marvellously, her facial expression being worthy of all praise.

The rôle of *Hebe* was well filled by Miss Fischer: the part offers little opportunity for display, but such little points as arise were made the most of. Carefully played all through, the interest culminated in the second act where she takes possession of Sir Joseph, against his will, and persists in soothing and comforting "his declining days."

The first Lord, *Sir Joseph Porter K.C.B.*, was filled by Mr. de Russett, who made a most admirable compound of pomposity and conceit. Occupying throughout the centre of the stage he was the observed of all and his weighty 'official' utterances were given with ponderous effect. He did not seem to be in good singing voice, but the great declamatory power made up for this.

Mr. Townley as *Captain Corcoran* was fairly inimitable. It would be inflicting too great a trial upon our readers' patience were we to enumerate all the good things he said and did. Especially good in 'asides' and by-play, he carried the audience with him throughout, the enthusiasm reaching its height in the second act where the gentle well-bred Captain 'who never uses a big D' storms and swears at Ralph in glorious style. The applause here was so great that the following chorus of surprised and shocked ladies was quite inaudible. We must not forget his duet with *Deadeye*, and above all his re-entry as a common sailor, and many other gems *quid nunc perscribere longum est*.

The part of *Rackstraw* was in the hands of Mr. Robinson, whose fine-toned voice gave excellent effect to the music of the part; notably in the finale to the first act where he pleads with Josephine and, stung to the quick by

her haughty rejection, proceeds to put an end to his life; and in the second act when he assumes the garb of the disgraced Corcoran, his performance came out with grand effect. We must congratulate Mr. Robinson on his first appearance and hope that we shall often have the pleasure of seeing him again.

Mr. Cope is no stranger to the Yokohama boards, but we think his incomparable performance of *Deadeye* last evening must have been a surprise to even his best friends. With a 'make-up' sublime in its hideous deformity, the noble sentiments appeared of the very deepest dye—and the acting of the meddlesome and envious A. B. was finely conceived and well carried out. Especially in the duet 'Kind Captain, I've important information,' and in the finale to the first act, *Deadeye* came out strong.

Master Thomas made the prettiest little Midshipman ever seen in any navy; while, Mr. Douglas made an A 1 *Boatswain* and Mr. Morse an efficient *Boatswain's mate*, the trio with Ralph and subsequent dance being vociferously encored, as was the trio and dance of the 'nobs' in the second act.

The chorus was given by about thirty members of the society and too great praise cannot be given to the ladies who so kindly and efficiently performed on the occasion. From the *barcarolle* behind the scenes and the 'Gaily tripping' chorus, down to the final notes of 'he is an Englishman,' everything went well and on this side of the stage the dressing, make up, and general appearance was delightful. The gentlemen made a brawny, swarthy crew, the scarlet tunics of the marines giving good coloring effect. If the stage-manager could manage to infuse a little more action into the chorus there would be nothing further whatever to wish for.

Needless to speak of the recall, bouquets and applause. *Cela va sans dire*. We are sorry to see that the repetition which had been circulated for Tuesday next has been postponed till Thursday, 7th April, in consequence of the interpolated Dramatic performance: but we hope the enterprising efforts of the Choral Society will be again rewarded with a full house.

By command of H. M. the Mikado, the national holiday on the 3rd inst.—commemorative of the first Emperors, Jimmu Tenno's death—is postponed till the 9th inst. This change has been made in deference to the memory of H. M. Alexander the Second, the period of mourning for whose death is not yet expired. The anniversary of the Emperor Jimmu's death used to fall on the 11th of the 3rd month according to the old Calendar, and that day happened to coincide with the 3rd of April in the year when the European style was adopted. This year, however, a comparison of the calendars shews that the 9th inst. corresponds with the old date, so that H. M. the Mikado is enabled to carry out his graceful desire without danger of doing any violence to national prejudices.

Rumours have lately been current to the effect that H. E. A. Mori, Minister for Japan at the Court of St. James,' will be recalled at the close of the current year. We believe that the statement is without foundation, or that, at any rate, nothing of the sort is definitely contemplated as yet, by H. I. J. Majesty's Government.

On Thursday last the obsequies of the late Mr. Sameshima, sometime Minister for Japan at Paris, were performed at the deceased gentleman's residence, Torizaka, Tokiyo. Mr. Sameshima's body lies in a French cemetery, but as it was impossible at Paris to carry out the forms

prescribed by the Shinto ritual, arrangements for a second ceremony were made by Madame Sameshima, on her return to Japan. The rites of last Thursday were simple enough, so far as the general public was concerned, being confined to a moment's reverence before an altar surrounded with a quantity of Japanese cypress, and supporting a casket in which the deceased Minister's hair was enclosed, but it is not too much to say that every person of note in the Capital, with the exception of the Emperor himself, repaired to that altar on the afternoon of the thirty first. Princes of the blood, Privy Councillors, Chiefs of Departments, Foreign Representatives, and an immense crowd of gentlemen by whom Mr. Sameshima was justly respected and beloved, assembled to pay a last tribute to his memory, and if the homage of his countrymen be in any respect a testimony, Mr. Sameshima's worth is amply appreciated by the nation he served so well.

A class for the study of the Korean language has been formed at the Chambers of the Kōakuwai (Society for the promotion of oriental literature), in Hirakawa street, Tokiyo. A Korean gentleman, by name Konseioi, has been employed as instructor, and twenty pupils have already placed themselves under his charge. No doubt when Li Hung Chang is informed of this fact, it will confirm his lately expressed opinion that Japan's designs upon Corea are of a ravenous character.

The fresh departure in a downward direction lately taken by paper money, gave rise to suspicions that the old gambling style of operations had been recommenced in Yokohama. Agents sent from the Treasury have confirmed this suspicion. They report that the rule limiting exchange operations to cases where money actually passes are disregarded, and that speculations in *nubius* are again in vogue. No doubt steps will be taken to remedy this abuse, but the result cannot be of much benefit. The real cause of the increased depreciation seems to be mistrust engendered by the Treasury issue of new notes. These latter are not only in bad odour owing to their unpleasantly foreign aspect, but an idea seems also to prevail that an inflation, and not a mere change of currency, is contemplated. At this rate a discount of cent per cent is considered imminent, and there is little room to question the correctness of the fore-cast.

The permanent Museum of ancient arms and armour in the park at Shokonsha, Tokiyo, of which we lately spoke in connection with the opening of the Military Club's new building, is in process of rapid preparation, and will probably be ready for opening at the great annual festival in May. The exhibits will be contained in six buildings. It will be called the Yū-jiu-kan, and the tablet over the vestibule will be written by H. I. H. Prince Arisugawa.

COREA AND THE DUKE OF GENOA.

JAPAN in her relations with Corea seems to be reaping pretty much the same experiences as she herself furnished to Western nations in the old times. Those who remember the history of our early intercourse with this country know that so soon as the idea of opening a new port at Hiyogo was understood to be definitely entertained by the Tokugawa Government, all the chiefs of the Joi (Barbarian expelling) party assembled at Kiyoto, and declared that if such a project received the Imperial sanction, its consummation must be subsequent to the deaths of themselves and their followers. Most vehement of all in his protestations was a soldier, by name Todoroki

Buhei, who carried his petition in person to the palace of the Regent Takatsukusa, and sat for five consecutive days and nights in the vestibule without food or drink, until an answer that he deemed satisfactory was vouchsafed. It does not appear that any equally sturdy patriot is making himself conspicuous in Corea, but a prejudice not less radical has been excited by a similar cause. The first treaty with Japan contained a clause by which the opening of a third port at Nisen (the two rivers) was guaranteed within a period of seven years from the date of the treaty. Subsequently the Japanese envoy, Mr. Hanabusa, succeeded in obtaining a reduction of this time from seven years to twenty months, so that the days of grace are now well-nigh terminated. The people of Corea, however, are growing, it is said, more and more perturbed at the prospect which is before them in the immediate future. Petitions are constantly pasted on the palace gates and deputations of country folk visit the capital daily, pointing out that if the Japanese ships are allowed to visit Nisen, the Corean capital will be exposed at any moment to foreign invasion. The Government of Corea does not seem disposed to yield to this clamour. Officials have been dispatched to Nisen with directions to point out to the people the groundlessness of their apprehensions, and it is very probable that nothing more will come of the demonstration. Should it, however, assume embarrassing proportions, Japan will not be without precedents for a tolerably peremptory remonstrance.

Meanwhile this attitude of the Corean people is a conclusive answer to those who may contemplate an appeal to Japan's assistance in treaty negotiations with the Government of the hermit country. The establishment of intercourse between Corea and Western nations would probably be regarded by Japan with hearty satisfaction. Not, indeed, that the latter country desires to be accounted a pioneer of civilization. She has other business on hand for the moment, whatever charges of vanity or presumption may have been preferred against her by men who forget that the faults of a model are often most conspicuous to its copier. There may have been a *souffron* of fanfare in the spirit that dictated General Kuroda's expedition in 1876, though many a graver appeal to arms has been justified on more slender pretexts than a persistent and contumacious refusal to receive ambassadors and the cannonading of a survey-ship's boats. Such considerations are now, however, beside the question. Let Japan's motives in the past have been what they may, we repeat our conviction that her present policy in the matter of Corea is essentially liberal. When the hedgehog, compassionating the sufferings of the not yet convalescent fox, inquired whether he should drive away the flies that were tormenting him, Reynard replied:—"By no means; for these flies which you see are full of blood and sting me but little, whereas if you rid me of these which are already satiated, others more hungry will come in their place, and will drink up all the blood I have left." There is a patient prescience in this answer which commands at once sympathy and admiration. We should be sorry to think that the parable is precisely applicable, but it may help to render Japan's attitude comprehensible to those who refuse to give her any credit for liberality. She may think it wiser to have stout partners whose community of interest will persuade them to protect the source of profit

permanently, than, by a selfish greediness, to incur the risk of utter spoliation at the hands of some unscrupulous marauder. It is for this reason that we cannot choose but regard the rumour circulated by some members of the Duke of Genoa's staff as an entertaining *canard*. Two months ago, the *New York Herald* published a detailed account of the *Vettor Pisani's* visit to Corea. The account was professedly compiled from the journal of a gentleman who acted as interpreter for the Duke, and it was consequently of a most detailed description. It has now been reproduced in a somewhat different garb by one of our local contemporaries, and will no doubt have been read with interest by those to whom American newspapers are inaccessible. To admit the accuracy of its inferences, however, would be to suppose the Japanese Consul at Fusan actuated by motives diametrically opposed to those that obtain with his Government. Mr. Kondo certainly failed to bring about an interview between the Corean authorities and their Italian visitors, and to conjecture immediately that he was an enemy, not an ally, was thoroughly consistent with the querulous suspicion so often displayed by Westerners in their dealings with the Orient. Had the charge gone no further than this, it might have merited some credence, but when we are asked to believe that the Governor of Torai was actually present in the Japanese consulate at the very moment his inaccessibility was stoutly affirmed by Mr. Kondo, and that he subsequently followed the Duke's party and scrutinized them with keen interest, we find ourselves in a region of romance where gravity is not easily preserved. It would probably surprise the authors of such sensational narratives not a little to hear that on two occasions—of which the Duke of Genoa's expedition was one—the Japanese Government, while introducing its persistent friends to its churlish neighbour, took the opportunity of explaining to the latter how impolitic and impossible its attitude towards western nations is, pointing out that *Japan herself had exhausted all her ability to preserve her ancient seclusion, but had failed completely*, and that a task which had been found to exceed the powers of one country, might scarcely be compassed by those of another precisely similarly circumstanced. Copies of the documents in which these arguments were set forth are among the archives of the Foreign Office in Tokijo, and the originals were seen by the Representatives of more than one Western State at the time of their despatch.

The fact is that the chronicler of the Duke's expedition recorded the impressions he carried with him to Corea rather than those he ultimately received there. That he was a very serious student of history, or that those into whose hands his journal fell have much the advantage of him in this respect, is a hypothesis we find difficult to entertain, when the fact that Japanese have resided in Corea since 1615 is put forward as a novel discovery. To be sure the general public is not suspected of ignorance so crass as that of Mr. Spence and his compilers. This antiquity of Japan's intimate relations with Corea is recorded as news only to folk who refer the origin of those relations to General Kuroda's convention, and we may be permitted to doubt whether any such sciolists exist outside the circle of Mr. Spence's immediate acquaintance. Indeed this portion of the information resulting from the *Vettor Pisani's* trip, as well as the stories of the Japanese Consul's obstructiveness and the Governor of Torai's

crafty promenade, are pretty much on a par with the statement, that Hideyoshi made his treaty with the Korean rulers in 1615, that is to say seventeen years after his death!

To us the impression conveyed by a perusal of the *Vettor Pisani* narrative, whether we consult the columns of the *New York Herald* or the version—identically the same in substance though of varied phrasology—given by our Yokohama contemporary, is that importunity, or rather the inertia of persistence, proved more efficacious with the Koreans than friendly intervention. So long as they thought it possible to get rid of the intrusive frigate by a simple refusal to receive its commander, they confined themselves to that line of policy, but when the Italian ship changed the venue to Yung Hing, and lay quietly at anchor for several days, while its crew explored the adjacent shores and held converse with the natives, the local authorities saw that a passive attitude might only aggravate their visitors' obstinacy. The old Prefect came out of his seclusion and visited the Duke on board the *Vettor Pisani*. This interview is in certain respects the most interesting incident of the whole affair. The veteran official's conduct is described as having been most "exasperating." Like the Irish members of the House of Commons he persistently refused to keep to the question and wandered off again and again to some frivolous side issue. He could not by any means understand why the Italians had come such an immense distance for the mere purpose of delivering a letter of thanks for kindness shewn to a solitary seaman. If Western Dukes and Naval officers had no more useful claims upon their leisure than quixotic enterprises of this nature, the veteran official probably thought they would be pleasantly diverted by a dallying catechism on the subject of age, personal appearance or varieties of uniform. He had not perhaps been instructed in those altruistic doctrines that constitute the creed of states which spend the greater part of their substance on agents and engines of mutual destruction, but being, as we should say, a "tricky oriental" with experiences altogether egotistic, he looked for a postscript to the letter of thanks and found—a proposal for a treaty of friendship and commerce between Italy and Corea. To conclude that this was the real purpose of the *Vettor Pisani's* visit, especially since the Italians declared their intention of coming back in the course of a few months for an answer, was no doubt an evidence of morbid suspicion peculiar to a semi-civilized Korean prefect. Such at least must be the opinion of those who now hold up the Duke of Genoa's enterprise as a "guide and a precedent to the promoters of similar attempts." Bombarding boats or butchering shipwrecked seamen have often supplied pretexts for extending the domain of commerce, and it is decidedly agreeable to find that a more genial subterfuge may be made to serve the same purpose. The solitary survivor of the unfortunate *Bianca Portica* is in a fair way to become a historical character, but it seems quite on the cards that the Koreans have ere this repented of the hospitality they extended to him. One thing, however, is very certain, that nothing ought to please Japan better, if she be not blind to her own interests, than to see intimate relations—relations worthy of being maintained at some cost—established between Corea and sundry

western powers, *e. g.* America, England, Italy, France, Germany, Austria and even Turkey. Others might follow, if the reclus peninsula offered sufficient inducement, but we can predict with tolerable confidence that neither Consul Kondo, nor any other intelligent official of the Mikado's government, will place many obstacles in the path of treaty-bearers from the States we have named, whether the preamble she employ be a letter of thanks, or a bullet and bayonet ultimatum.

THE COACHES OF THE CAPITAL.

CRUELTY may not justly be considered a distinguishing trait of character among the Japanese. That they are incapable of love or sympathy in the sense attached by Westerns to these words, is a doctrine not without supporters, though among men who have closely studied their lives and literature a very opposite idea prevails. Devotion deep enough to make the sacrifice of life easy does not differ much from the strong passion of which our poets sing, and of such a disposition there are instances without number on record. This only mars our appreciation of annals otherwise admirable, that if there be a woman in the case, the sacrifice is always on her side. It is her part to suffer unnoticed, and to win no praise for the truest heroism beyond an apathetic admission that she has done her duty. The sentiment which underlies this lack of chivalry—for we can call it by no gentler term—is discernible throughout all the relations of life. The further we descend in the social scale, of which woman occupies the grade immediately above four-footed animals, the more exacting does the code of duty become; duty which is always from the lower to the higher, and which, however scrupulously fulfilled, is still within the limits of the doctrine it obeys. The obligations imposed and the privileges conferred by the ties of fealty and consanguinity are recognised with the most punctilious severity, and men who will not brook interference with these rights in their own case, are careful not to meddle obtrusively in that of their neighbours. It is easy to see that a principle of this sort, though defensible under certain aspects, must ultimately have the effect of narrowing the sphere of human sympathies. Pity that is constrained to be passive is tolerably certain to merge at last into indifference, and that this apparent apathy is a common moral phase in Japan, nobody who has enjoyed opportunities of observation can doubt. Naturally, too, there is reaction as well as action in such a condition. If feelings are forbidden to find unsolicited expression beyond the circle of their legitimate exercise, they will be retractant to invite recognition from others similarly restricted, and the outcome of this is an ostentatious levity in the presence of sorrow that is one's own; a levity designed in reality to narrow the range of pain, but seldom intelligible, and often shocking, to men educated in a different school of ethics. Yet this mood is very far from an evidence of callousness:—

"Behind no prison-grate, she said,
"Which slurs the sunshine half a mile,
"Live captives so uncomfortable,
"As souls behind a smile."

The most feeling are generally capable of the greatest fortitude, and we cannot deny a place among the higher moral qualities to the sentiment which moulds a mask of

tranquility for unobtrusive sorrow. Even while admitting this, however, it is difficult to escape the conviction that the aspect of suffering has comparatively little power to excite sympathy in Japan. Public charity has indeed received a large access of vitality since the Reformation. Institutions for the relief of the poor and associations for the promotion of benevolent objects have been called into existence, but these things are apparently the result of intelligence newly awakened to a sense of the obligations civilization imposes, rather than an inspiration of spontaneous beneficence. We do not base this assertion on the facts that the condition of women is still little mended; that children are still bought and sold to relieve their parents pecuniary embarrassments; that large numbers of the population are still suffered to derive their means of sustenance from the exercise of functions fitted only to beasts of burthen, and that of those numbers women form a fraction—for incredible as it may seem, jinrikisha's drawn by females and containing statwart males are to be seen to-day not many miles from the metropolis. All this is lamentable enough, but signs of amelioration are not wanting, and great social reforms must of necessity be slow. What we especially allude to at present is the terrible cruelty daily practised in the streets of Tokiyo, without arousing the people to any show of remonstrance, or the authorities to any idea of interference. Horses in the last stages of disease and decrepitude are yoked to heavy overloaded coaches and scourged into a momentary semblance of vitality. Sometimes, indeed, as we happen to have lately observed, perpetual blows from a thick plait of leathern thongs fail to effect any improvement in the wretched animals' halting gait, for the simple reason that every quivering nerve is already strained to the utmost limit of its power, and that even the tardiest motion is the outcome of an effort entailing agonies to which the merciless lash can scarcely add another pang. Language is powerless to convey any appropriate conception of the greivous brutality perpetrated day after day in the main thoroughfare of the metropolis, and yet the passers by, so far from attempting to interpose, do not even turn their heads or give themselves the smallest concern about the matter. Can it be possible that men with reasoning faculties are insensible to such harrowing spectacles? We have had our own creatures of horror in modern England. Men that kicked their wives to death; dwarfs that pitted themselves to fight with mastiffs; women that passed a moiety of their existence in the foul twilight of deep mines, where yoked to coal-trucks, and without any covering save a canvas apron, they crawled upon their hands and knees from morning to night, dragging loads than which their own hearts were little lighter. We have had all these things and others not less shameful, but the public never condoned them, never suffered them to continue a day longer than the secrecy in which had once been shrouded. It is not so here however. The most devilish barbarity is allowed to pass unheeded, and not even the meagre excuse of ignorance can be pleaded on their behalf whose duty it is to see that the minds of their subjects are not brutalized by familiarity with cruelties worthy of any punishment the law can devise. The matter has been commented on over and over again in the public journals; has been even brought directly to the Government's notice, yet no remedy

has been attempted nor does any seem to be in contemplation. Once more then, and in terms which, though they be as strong as we can command, are yet impotent to convey a tithe of the feeling such spectacles excite, we appeal to the representatives of a nation that has won for itself a high place in the world's esteem and ask them to consider whether this shameful inhumanity is no stigma upon the progress they are honestly striving to promote. They will not be content to find hereafter that ruthless cruelty is accounted one of the salient features of the Japanese disposition; neither can they plead, in excuse of their own inaction, that legislation would be here dealing with a habit hard to eradicate. Nowhere in the provinces are horses similarly treated. The driver of a pack-pony carries neither stick nor whip; his animal is always sleek and well-fed, and one cannot fail to see that he wins from it willingness to work by persuasion rather than by menace. The Tokiyo coach-owner is guided by principles altogether different. He has discovered that it pays better to buy cattle whose infirmities make them valueless for any humane purposes, and to work them to death at the paltry cost of goad and thong. The operation may be a little painful to his own feelings at first: so is vivisection, but human nature's powers of self-adaptation unfortunately have a much wider range in the downward than the upward direction. Men will do very gross violence to their better sentiments under the persuasion of profit and impunity. There is no reasonable hope that a repugnance to this iniquity will emanate from its authors' proper motion. The law, whose penalties are their only guide, is silent; and their fellow men, whose protests might be supported by something stronger than homilies, remain, if not indifferent, at least inactive, because, as we have pointed out above, the social creed of Japan teaches its disciples to walk with eyes averted from everything beyond their prescribed sphere of sympathy. From the legislature alone can any effectual action proceed. It is true that among ourselves the machinery of the law has been found insufficiently powerful, and that without the aid of benevolent men, banded together to prevent and punish cruelty, the very abuse we now complain of would probably be practised daily in the streets of our great cities. But private energy will not exist apart from legal sanction. We may not confidently hope that the two will coöperate here so stoutly as they do in England, but there can be no doubt as to which must take the initiative, and although we do not for a moment pretend that our own escutcheon has been long freed from similar stains, the people of Japan may rest assured that the merciful treatment of dumb animals is a not less vital sign of civilized progress in the eyes of Europeans than the spread of education or the extension of railways.

REVIEW.*

SO far as our experience goes it is not usual to acknowledge assistance in writing a review. In the present case, however, we shall ask permission to be unusual, for we have received some very valuable aid, not to confess which were an injustice both to the public and to Messrs. Satow & Hawes.

It has been our good fortune then to be present on an occasion when the merits of this Hand-book were discussed by

* Handbook for Central and Northern Japan. By Satow and Hawes.

a party of gentlemen, of whom many were old residents of Japan, and all, tolerably competent to express an intelligent opinion. They were ten in number and they cited three faults which they had discovered in the volume: first, the festival of Atago Jinja lacks an asterisk, or in other words, being really a monthly festival, it appears in the list as a yearly one; second, the Engineering College is not included among the lions of Tokiyo, and third, the book is not thoroughly reliable because some of the places mentioned may, and probably have, been burned while it was in the press. We have therefore one error of fact, another of opinion, and a third of fiction; the impression conveyed by the total being, that a work against which so little can be said must be comparatively perfect. Such an impression, however, would be unquestionably erroneous for two reasons; great breadth of design is not compatible with perfection, and the stock of knowledge at present accessible does not nearly suffice to supply complete material. What we are at liberty to say, and what we may be quite sure we shall not err in saying, is, that a book has been produced of which, its authors excepted, no one is in a position to form a just estimate. Dr. Hepburn's dictionary is at the foot of the steps by which Western research has crept slowly up to a knowledge of Japan; this Hand-book occupies the summit. We shall not get much further for a long time—probably not till a second edition is published—but in the meanwhile we may congratulate ourselves on having made a stride which has carried us completely out of sight of the mists until yesterday our companions. In future a trip into the country will assume a totally different aspect. It will no longer be a perpetuity of poring over incomprehensible maps, and wringing from crass guides information they never possessed by means of pidgin Japanese they do not understand. Everything will be the plainest sailing over the clearest depths of information and amusement. Our pleasure will be redoubled as well as our profit, and we shall come back with a store of happy memories, always renewable by reference to the Hand-book, but—not to be written. This latter, though not the most palpable, is by no means the least appreciable benefit conferred upon the community by Messrs. Satow and Hawes. They have provided for us a future protection against that impertinent crowd of snikin authors who trespass upon our hospitality, pilfer our brains, and then insult the world by pawning off upon it a perversion of everything they have heard and a distortion of everything they have seen. Sir E. Reed's work is interesting because it is by Sir E. Reed; Miss Bird's is charming because everything she writes has the ring of genius and geniality, but after these—the deluge, the inundation of niminy-piminy itineraries and candles-corkscrew-and-salt tales of travel, from which and all other like evils this Hand-book has at last happily delivered us. When the compilers of such impositions have acquired half the knowledge now provided for them, they will be constrained to resign themselves to utter plagiarism or to an honest confession of their own incompetence.

We have spoken so far in general terms, for a reason our readers will readily divine, inability to particularize. Among foreigners resident in Japan there is no knowledge sufficient to review this book thoroughly. All that we can do is to take some portion describing places with which we are especially familiar and submit it to a close examination. Choosing therefore Kamakura, because repeated visits there have enabled us to exhaust its lions after a fashion possible only to delirious antiquarians, we have followed our authors from the tombs of Yoritomo and Shimadzu, past the temple of Hachiman, up the valley which leads to the sepulchre of the Hōjō Regents, until at last we reach the monastery of Yengaku. Now among the treasures preserved in this building are three not mentioned in the Hand-book, but well worthy of the closest examination. They are, the five hundred disciples of Shaka, a series of wonderfully skillful bronze castings by the celebrated Gidō; sixteen pictures of Buddha's chief disciples painted by Chodensu, and eleven paintings by the Chinese artist Rinon who flourished under the Tang dynasty (618—907). These last represent the judgments of Yemao (Pluto) and are among the very finest things of the sort we have ever seen. Against this omission, however, we have to set a vast quantity of information altogether new, which obliges us to confess that carefully as we have explored Kamakura, Messrs. Satow and Hawes have been yet more careful, nor do we for a moment doubt that the same untiring accuracy has accompanied them into every nook and corner of the numerous places they

describe. Their index indeed is somewhat faulty. This very temple, Yengakuji, is omitted, with several other names which occur in the text, but such errata only affect the value of the book for purposes of reference. It remains an encyclopedia of Japanese history, tradition, superstition and art. After twelve years residence here we should no more think of going hereafter into the country without it than we should attempt the ascent of Fujiyama barefoot. Even those who do not propose to travel cannot afford to leave the Hand-book unstudied, unless they are content to remain far beneath the standard of information it has so incalculably augmented, and we do not congratulate the authors on their great success any more than we felicitate ourselves on the possession of such a treasure.

A GENERAL VIEW OF FINANCIAL POLICY DURING THIRTEEN YEARS.

The Reports on the Estimates and on the Final Accounts as well as the Annual Reports of the Minister of Finance which have been from time to time presented supply sufficient detailed information with respect to the national finance to give a complete idea of what it has been during the thirteen years which have elapsed since the Restoration. Most of these Reports, however, deal only with a single financial year or some special measure, and the explanations they contain are confined within these particular limits, so that they do not present a connected account of what has preceded or followed. Any one therefore, who desires to understand the character of our financial policy since the Restoration must take the trouble of consulting all the Reports which have appeared during the whole of this period. Having been honoured at one time with the post of Minister of Finance, and since then presided over the direction of our financial policy as a member of the Cabinet, I have been induced to compile a short history of what has been done since the Restoration, adding at the same time some scattered observations on the principles upon which various measures were adopted, to which I have given the title of "General View of Financial Policy during Thirteen Years." This I now have the honour to lay before your Excellency, in the hope that it may be found of use in forming a clear idea of the measures carried out during that period.

November, 1880.

(Signed) OKUMA SHIGENOBU,
Councillor of State.

H. E. SANJO SANEYOSHI,
Prime Minister of State.

The national finances are not only necessarily influenced by every reform initiated by the government, but also receive a shock from every calamity which befalls the country. They are in fact intimately affected by everything which happens. It is of importance, therefore, in seeking to understand the character of our financial policy during the thirteen years which have elapsed since the Restoration, to look back upon the reforms made in our institutions and the numerous misfortunes which have befallen us during that period. Amongst the former the three most important reforms carried out by the government have been the abolition of the Shogunate and the establishment of the Sovereign's authority, secondly the abolition of the feudal system and the creation of a central administration, thirdly, the release of the hereditary military class from the functions hitherto attributed to it, and the conversion of their pensions into government bonds. By these reforms institutions which dated from six centuries back were removed, and in the space of little more than ten years a revolution was accomplished to which the history of no other country can furnish a parallel. On other hand three grave misfortunes have befallen us during the last thirteen years, firstly the war of the Restoration against the *Daimiōs* of the East and North of the country, secondly, the Formosan expedition and the complications with China, thirdly the insurrection in Kiushin. The influence of these reforms and misfortunes was not confined to the period which gave each of them birth, but extended over two or three subsequent years. In addition to them, if we reflect on the many smaller reforms

and smaller troubles which have taken place, we shall perceive that no year has been without disturbing effect upon our finances.

In order to convey a clearer idea of the character of our financial policy during the last ten years, I will divide the subject into seven headings, namely Revenue and Expenditure, Paper Currency, National Debt, Taxation, Banks, Government Assets and the general condition of the country dealing with them each in turn. If the facts set forth be carefully considered, the character of our financial policy during these ten years and more of disturbing influences will be rendered evident, and it will be seen that, in spite of the difficulties that have constantly beset us, no efforts have been spared to apply effective remedies.

I.

REVENUE AND EXPENDITURE.

The final accounts have been made up for the years beginning with 1868 down to the 9th financial year 1876. The accounts of receipts and disbursements have been closed for the financial years 1877 and 1878, and the final accounts of actual income and expenditure can be roughly determined, but as the date for the closing of the books for 1879 has not yet arrived, we cannot arrive at the totals, and we shall not take this year into our calculations for the moment. I proceed therefore to give a table showing the comparative Revenue and Expenditure for the period beginning with 1868 and ending in 1879.

Year.	Revenue.	Expenditure.	Surplus.	Deficit.
1868	33,080,000	30,500,000	2,580,000	.....
1869	34,430,000	20,780,000	13,650,000	.....
1870	20,950,000	20,100,000	850,000	.....
1871	22,140,000	19,230,000	2,910,000	.....
1872	50,440,000	57,730,000	.....	7,290,000
1873	85,500,000	62,670,000	22,830,000	.....
1874	73,440,000	82,260,000	.....	8,820,000
1875	86,320,000	66,130,000	20,190,000	.....
1875-76	69,480,000	69,200,000	280,000	.....
1876-77	59,480,000	59,300,000	180,000	.....
1877-78	52,440,000	48,530,000	3,910,000	.....
1878-79	61,860,000	59,610,000	2,250,000	.....

Totals 649,560,000 596,040,000 69,630,000 16,110,000

Leaving a surplus of 53,520,000 for the 11½ years.

The object of the present memorandum being merely to give the salient facts of our financial history, all figures below 10,000 yen have been omitted. They can be learnt by referring to the original Reports.

It will be seen from the preceding table that during this period of 11½ years there are only two years, namely 1872 and 1874, which show a deficit, while during the other nine the Revenue constantly exhibits a surplus, so that at the end of the period there is a total surplus of 53,520 yen. This sum has been transferred to the Reserve, in accordance with the established regulations, to form a fund for the redemption of the National Debt.

A reference to the Report on the Final accounts for the period beginning with 1868 and ending with the first half of 1875 will show that during each of the first five years, namely from 1868 to 1872 an issue of paper currency took place. It must be remembered therefore that the surpluses shown in the foregoing table are due to the fact that the actual revenue during those five years being insufficient, paper currency was issued to meet the deficiency.

During the years 1868 and 1869 the whole machinery of government had to be organized, while the war in the North and East was still raging. Although the year 1870 was on the whole quiet, the following year was marked by a great reform, the abolition of the *Han* and the division of the country into prefectures, and the business of the Executive enormously increased in consequence, the influence of which was still felt in 1872. Thus the first five years were years of much difficulty and labour for the State, and there was little time for considering whether the revenue was sufficient to meet all requirements. In 1872, too, the issue of paper money was stopped, and no addition was made to the currency from that time until the insurrection of 1877.¹

(1) NOTE. Although an issue of paper money was made in connection with the insurrection in Kiushiu, the accounts of the suppression of the insurrection have been made up separately and the paper money issued at that occasion was not included in the income

For these reasons if we try to learn from the facts of Revenue and Expenditure whether the government has been wise or extravagant, we ought to look at the Revenue and Expenditure of the 6½ peaceful years which succeeded.

As appears from the foregoing table, five of the six and a half years which succeeded to 1873 showed a surplus of Revenue over Expenditure, and the year 1874 was the only one in which there was a deficit. The cause of this was not the ordinary business of government, but, as was explained in the Report on the Final Account for that year, an extraordinary expenditure took place, consisting of the grant of 7,650,000 yen to persons who had voluntarily surrendered their hereditary pensions, the payment of 1,500,000 yen on account of the Shimonoeki Indemnity and 3,180,000 yen the cost of the Saga insurrection and the Formosa expedition, together amounting to 12,330,000 yen.

Summarizing, then, the results of the finance of these 6½ years, we find that, deducting the 8,820,000 yen of extraordinary expenditure incurred in 1874, there is still a balance of 40,820,000 yen to the good, or an annual average surplus of 6,280,000 yen.

In the beginning of 1877 the land tax was lowered by Imperial decree to 2½ per cent upon the assessed value, yielding at the present assessment a sum of 41,060,000 yen, so that by this abatement of taxation the revenue of the government was diminished to the extent of over 8,200,000 yen. Nevertheless the year 1877-78 and 1878-79 showed surpluses of 3,910,000 yen and 2,250,000 yen respectively. So that if that abatement had never been made, the average surplus of those two years would have been over 11,000,000 yen.

The causes which enabled the Government Revenue, in spite of the repeated calls made upon it by the gradual extension of the administrative system, to show such elasticity during the 6½ years following 1873, were on the one hand the rigid economy practised by all departments of the administration in the performance of the services assigned to them, and on the other the annual growth of the yield of other taxes, in spite of the fact that no new ones of any importance were imposed and no addition made to those which already existed.²

As shown already, the total surplus from 1868 down to the end of June of 1879 amounted to 53,520,000 yen, while the Reserve Fund at the beginning of July 1879 stood at 50,900,000 yen. The surplus for the year 1876-77, amounting to 180,000 yen, 3,000,000 yen of that of 1877-78 and 1,380,000 yen of the Reserve, were appropriated to the fund for redeeming paper currency (the amount involved being deducted). The balance of the year 1877-78, amounting to 910,000 yen, and that of 1878-79 had not yet been added to the Reserve, and deducting these from the total surplus of the 11½ years, the Reserve at the beginning of 1879-80 ought to have stood at 45,800,000 yen. The reason of its being stated at 50,900,000 yen is that the capital appropriated for the industries carried on by various government departments, hitherto included in the year's expenditure, the temporary loans made to various companies, and the profits made on the Reserve Fund, were all placed to its credit.

II.

PAPER CURRENCY.

For some years after the Restoration, when the subjugation of the North and East, reforms in the system of government, foreign relations and the gradual organization of different branches of administration, demanded constant outlay, the government was unable to collect the whole of the taxes due from the former dominions of the Shōgunate, now under its own direct rule, and even had it been possible

of 1877, and does not concern this table of Revenue and Expenditure. This is the reason, and discussing the foregoing table, for saying that no paper money was issued after the year 1872. If the Expenditure on the suppression of the rebellion had been included under Expenditure for that year, it would have become necessary to set down under the head of Revenue the paper money issued and the loans contracted. In that case the Revenue of the year in which this insurrection took place would show an additional surplus of 440,000 yen, but it has been thought better to adhere to the form of the Annual Budgets and Reports of Final Accounts, and to omit the cost of its suppression from both sides of the Account.

2 NOTE. The fact that no great addition was made to the schedule of taxes during these 6½ years is fully explained in the chapter on taxation.

to obtain all the arrears, the whole would not have sufficed to meet even its ordinary expenditure alone. As the territorial nobility still continued to exercise the powers of government within their own districts, the Central Government was not able to obtain from them more than an annual contribution of about 700,000 yen for military purposes. There was moreover a deficiency of capital in the country, and as only a very short time had elapsed since the Restoration it would be impossible for the government, during the first five or six years of its existence, to raise sufficient by way of internal loans to defray its expenditure. Under these circumstances, it being unable either to increase the taxation or to contract a domestic loan, while it at the same time desired to meet both the ordinary and extraordinary charges to which it was put both by the existence of civil war and the necessity of organizing for the first time a whole administrative system, a resort to the issue of a paper currency became absolutely unavoidable. The following table shows the amount of paper money in circulation during each year from 1868 to 1880 inclusive, and the cause of its increase or decrease from time to time:—

Year.	Total amount in Circulation	Amount not due to issues of the govt.	Amount issued by the govt.	Increase in amount issued by the govt.	Decrease in amount issued by the govt.
Yen					
1868	24,030,000	.....	24,030,000	.....	.....
1869	48,000,000	.....	48,000,000	23,970,000	.....
1870	53,350,000	.....	53,350,000	5,350,000	.....
1871	80,430,000	24,930,000	55,500,000	2,150,000	.....
1872	99,360,000	26,040,000	73,320,000	17,820,000	.....
1873	97,660,000	25,190,000	72,470,000	.....	850,000
1874	95,940,000	24,240,000	71,700,000	.....	770,000
June of 1875	94,800,000	23,720,000	71,080,000	.....	620,000
" of 1876	94,050,000	23,130,000	70,920,000	.....	160,000
" of 1877	94,650,000	23,130,000	70,920,000	.....	.....
" of 1878	120,920,000	23,000,000	97,920,000	27,000,000	.....
" of 1879	113,420,000	22,920,300	90,500,000	.....	7,420,000
" of 1880	108,680,000	22,910,000	85,770,000	.....	4,730,000

It will be observed, on considering the figures above given, that while there was a gradual increase in the amount issued by the government during the five years beginning with 1868, until at one time it reached something over 13,000,000 yen, there was a gradual annual decrease during the four succeeding years (1873-1876), and that though it suddenly rose in 1878 over 97 millions, the years 1879 and 1880 show a decrease again. From this it can be seen that though the government under the pressure of unavoidable emergencies has for the moment issued fresh paper money, it has always applied itself, the emergency once passed, to reducing the amount again, and that it has never made an addition to the currency for the purpose of meeting its ordinary requirements.

I will now briefly recapitulate the chief state necessities which caused the issue of paper money by the government. The largest issues during these 13 years took place on three occasions namely, firstly in 1868 and 1869, secondly in 1872 and thirdly in 1877-1878. In 1868 when our institutions were being established amid the din of civil war, the whole of the Revenue from ordinary sources amounted to no more than 3,660,000 yen and the government was driven to add to its income by borrowing from native and foreign merchants. The loans thus obtained, together with the monies handed over by the Shōgunate, and fines or gifts from the *Daimiōs*, amounted barely to 5,380,000 yen, or a total from ordinary and extraordinary sources, of about 9,040,000 yen. On the other hand, its extraordinary expenditure during this year reached the enormous figure of 25,000,000 yen, leaving a deficit of 15,900,000 yen.³ This was the cause which forced them to have recourse to the issue of paper money.

In 1869 the civil war was still proceeding, and the ordinary revenue was only 4,660,000. By loans from native and foreign merchants, and the recovery of sums left in the treasury of the Shōgunate, the whole revenue ordinary and extraordinary was brought up to 10,470,000 yen, while the total of ordinary and extraordinary expenditure was 20,780,000 yen, showing a deficit of 10,310,000 yen. It was this that rendered necessary the

further issue of paper money. The year 1872 was the year after the abolition of the *Han* and the re-division of the country into prefectures, and the administrative sphere was correspondingly extended, causing the ordinary and extraordinary expenditure to be increased to 57,730,000 yen in all. It was not found possible, however, to collect all the revenues which had hitherto been enjoyed by the *Daimiōs*, and the income from ordinary and extraordinary sources did not exceed 32,610,000 yen, leaving a deficit of 25,200,000 yen, partly met by an issue of paper money to the amount of 17,820,000, which still left a deficit of 7,280,000 yen. In 1877-78 when the rebellion in *Kinsai* took place the ordinary revenue was of course insufficient to defray the extraordinary expenditure. The revenue of that year was 52,440,000 yen and the ordinary expenditure 48,530,000 yen, giving a surplus of 3,910,000 yen, but the charges for the suppression of the rebellion reached the enormous figure of 41,560,000 yen, and thus a further issue of paper money became imperative.

In considering the history of the several issues necessitated by the causes stated above, it must be remembered that the largest amount first reached, namely 73,320,000 yen, took place when the districts under the direct rule of the government were confined to what had been the territory of the Shōgunate, the *Han* not yet having been abolished, and secondly, just after the abolition of the *Han*, before the government was able to collect the revenues previously paid to the *Daimiōs*. After the year 1873, when the government, having abolished the *Han* and subdivided the country into prefectures, had more or less perfected the administrative system, no paper money was issued, except during the rebellion year. The year 1872 is therefore the year of the first maximum, and 1877-78 that of the second maximum.

When the first paper money was issued, it was the intention of the government to redeem the whole in 13 years, but owing to the continuance of the war in the North and East during 1868 and to the inhabitants of the chief cities being unaccustomed to the use of paper money, as well as to other causes, it fell to an abnormal discount (as compared with gold and silver), being depreciated at one time as low as 55 per cent. The government was therefore forced to establish a fixed rate at which it would be accepted in payment of taxes concurrently with coin. In 1869 the government determined to take effectual measures for bringing it up to par, and in June of that year rescinded the decree making the paper currency redeemable in thirteen years, announcing that it should either be redeemed in coin by the end of 1872, or if that were not done, that interest at the rate of 6 per cent should be paid upon the whole amount in circulation. It further notified its intention to abandon the issue of a further large quantity of paper money which had been contemplated, and to destroy the machinery that had been erected for that purpose, and further that any one found offering a discount upon paper money should be fined. From this time the credit of the currency increased with the stability of the government, and no one hesitated to accept it. The 13 years during which it was to be in circulation having thus been diminished to five, its stability constantly improved, until in the year 1873, the five years' term having been passed, the government in fulfilment of its promise, and with the object of contracting the circulation, issued the "Bonds in Exchange for *Kinsatsu*," by which they undertook to pay 6 per cent interest on all amounts of paper currency which might be offered in exchange for these Bonds. But as the credit of the paper currency was daily improving, while there was a general need of capital for carrying on business, there was a very small demand for these Bonds. During the next four years, that is up to 1876, a constant decrease took place in the amount of paper money in circulation, until the outbreak of the Satsuma rebellion in 1877 necessitated the additional issue of 27 millions of yen. In 1878 a scheme was adopted for the amortization of every species of public debt in 28 years, the redemption of the entire paper currency included.

The "Bonds in Exchange for *Kinsatsu*" bear interest at the rate of 6 per cent per annum payable in gold, and they are to be redeemed within fifteen years at par, also in gold. The plan was intended to combine two advantages; firstly, when the rate of interest fell below 6 per cent in gold owing to an excess of paper-money in circulation, the holders would be at liberty to exchange them for public

³ Note. The amount of this deficit was arrived at years after, when the final accounts were made up, but does not represent the actual state of the exchequer at the time, which was actually far worse, and thus the ascertained deficit does not exactly correspond to the figures above given of the amount of paper money issued in that year.

bonds, while the government would be enabled to withdraw enough paper money to maintain the circulation at an amount suitable to the requirements of the country; and secondly, whenever the paper currency fell below par, the holders would be able to obtain Bonds of which the interest was payable in specie. But owing to the fact that the rate of interest since the Restoration has averaged over 10 per cent, the first advantage sought for by the creation of these Bonds was not attained, and the number of applicants for them was so few, that the amount issued scarcely exceeded 2,200,000 yen. Of late years, owing to the depreciation which has taken place in the value of the paper currency, the number of applicants has increased, and Bonds have been issued to a further amount of somewhat over 2,700,000 yen.

The history of the issue of paper money since the Restoration, with the causes that led to it, has now been narrated. It now remains to inquire, by comparison with the expenditure of all kinds, whether this paper money issued during the last 13 years, and now forming a part of the liabilities of the government, is to be looked upon as having been employed to meet ordinary charges, or whether it has been applied to the payment of war expenses. This question will be fully discussed with the aid of figures under the next heading, that of National Debt.

III.

NATIONAL DEBT.

The first instance of the issue of Bonds by the government for the purpose of raising a loan was the Foreign Loan contracted in 1870, although it had borrowed money on temporary loan from both natives and foreigners as early as 1868. In that year it borrowed from its own subjects 8,830,000 yen, and from foreigners 890,000, making a total liability of 4,720,000 yen. In 1869 it borrowed from the Japanese people 810,000 yen and from foreigners 100,000 yen, a total of 910,000 yen, thus incurring in the course of those two years liabilities to the amount of 5,630,000 yen. But all of these were repaid by the year 1871. In addition to this, the government repaid by the end of 1875 over 5,700,000 yen of foreign debt and 2,000,000 yen Domestic debt, amounting in all to 7,700,000 yen, liabilities incurred by the Shōgunate and the *Daimiōs*. The amount of national debt repaid by the government between 1868 and 1875 which is consequently excluded from the statement of the actual liabilities of the country at the present date, is no less than somewhat over 13,300,000 yen.

The following table shows the variations in the total amount of the outstanding national liabilities from year to year (exclusive of the paper currency).

Year.	Amount of unredeemed liabilities.
Dec. 1870	4,880,000
" 1871	4,880,000
" 1872	4,880,000
" 1873	31,540,000
" 1874	37,410,000
June 1875	47,480,000
" 1876	54,870,000
" 1877	242,170,000
" 1878	254,320,000
" 1879	249,890,000
" 1880	249,360,000

The maximum was reached in 1878, since which year there has been a gradual decrease. The great increase during the years 1873 to 1876 is due to the new Foreign Loan, and to the recognition of the liabilities known as the "Old" and "New" "Domestic Debt." The increase in 1877 is owing to the creation of the "Pension Bonds" and the loans contracted to meet the expenses connected with the suppression of the Satsuma rebellion, that of the year 1878 to the "Industrial Works Loan" and the issue of Bonds to former Shintō priests in place of their pensions.

The Amounts given in the foregoing table are obtained by adding together the public debts of all kinds, the designations, amount raised and objects of which are briefly stated as follows:—

1. Old Domestic Debt, issued in 1873 10,970,000 yen.
2. New Domestic Debt, issued in 1873 ... 12,410,000 yen.

Total..... 23,380,000 yen.

These were debts incurred by the *Daimiōs*, the responsibility of which was assumed by the government after the abolition of the *Han*, when the government undertook their liabilities as well as the administration of their territories.

3. Voluntarily Capitalized Pension Bonds ... issued from 1874 and after 16,560,000 yen.
4. New foreign Loan 1873 11,710,000 yen.
5. Capitalized Pension Bonds 1877 173,630,000 yen.
6. Bonds issued to ex-Shintō priests 1878 420,000 yen.

Total..... 202,320,000 yen.

These liabilities arose out of the commutation of the hereditary pensions formerly enjoyed by the nobles, the military class and Shintō priests. Had this reform not been effected, the annual expenditure must have continued to be forever burdened with a charge for pensions much larger than the interest which has to be paid on the foregoing descriptions of public debt. By it these perpetual hereditary pensions were converted into a public debt redeemable at a fixed period, and the interest does not constitute any addition to the annual charges for which the Government is liable.

7. Bonds in exchange for Kinsatsu from 1873..... 4,960,000 yen.

As has been explained in the preceding chapter, these were issued for the purpose of contracting the paper currency.

8. Old Foreign Loan issued in 1870 ... 4,880,000 yen.
9. Industrial Works Loan issued in 1878 12,500,000 yen.

Total..... 17,380,000 yen.

These loans were raised for domestic improvements, such as the construction of railways, the improvement of harbours and roads, the dredging of rivers and other reproductive undertakings.

10. Loan for the suppression of the Satsuma rebellion } contracted 15,000,000 yen.

Amongst the above-enumerated descriptions of public liabilities, some are debts incurred by the former *Daimiōs*, and others, for which the government has become liable, are the consequence of institutions bequeathed to it by past ages, and some again were contracted by the government itself in order to carry on the administration. The whole may be divided into two classes, the first being debts which it has inherited from the past, the second debts actually incurred by the present government, as follows:—

Inherited from the past.	Yen	Incurred by the present govt.	Yen
Old Domestic Debt	10,970,000	Bonds in exchange for Kinsatsu.....	4,960,000
New	12,410,000	Industrial Loan ...	12,500,000
Voluntarily Capitalized Pension Bonds	16,560,000	Old foreign Loan	4,880,000
Capitalized Pension Bonds	173,630,000	Loan for suppression of rebellion...	15,000,000
Bonds given to ex-Shintō Priests.....	420,000		
New foreign Loan	11,710,000		
Total	225,700,000		37,340,000

The two classes of Bonds, A and B, 263,040,000 yen in all, represent the whole amount issued from time to time up to June 30th, 1880, the maximum amount held by the public at any time being 260,910,000 yen, on the 30th June 1878. The amount redeemed up to that date was 6,590,000 yen; subsequently a further issue of 2,130,000 yen took place and Bonds to the amount of 7,090,000 yen were redeemed.

Class A includes six descriptions. Class B four, and while the total of the former is 225,700,000 yen, that of the latter is but 37,340,000 yen, Class B bearing the proportion of about 16½ per cent to Class A. Class B, the amount of which was expended by the present government, divides itself into two categories, namely, Liabilities incurred for improvements, and those incurred in order to supply deficiencies in Revenue. Under the first category come the industrial works Loan of 12,500,000 yen and the Old Foreign Loan of 4,880,000 yen, while the second comprises the Loan made for the suppression of the Satsuma rebellion, 15,000,000 yen, and the Bonds given in exchange for kinsatsu, 4,960,000 million yen. It appears therefore that the amount actually spent by the government is limited to these last two items, which come to but

19,960,000 yen out of a total of 263,040,000 yen of public debt, or about 7.6 per cent of the whole. To resume these figures in a few words, it appears, then, that the debts inherited by the present government from their predecessors are 85.8 per cent of the whole, and the proportion actually incurred by themselves is but 14.2 per cent, of which 6.6 per cent has been devoted to reproductive improvements, the absolute irrecoverable expenditure being but 7.6 per cent.

I have thus stated the causes of the contraction of all public liabilities and the manner in which the proceeds have been employed, with the exception of the paper currency. I will now proceed to discuss the nature of the purposes to which this paper currency, which also forms a part of the national liabilities, has been put, and demonstrate that it may be regarded as having been issued solely to meet an extraordinary military expenditure.

A certain portion of the whole amount still remaining in circulation can be cancelled by means of the Reserve Fund accumulated in the national treasury, and this quantity must first be deducted. Secondly, the paper currency now in circulation, which was issued in exchange for the paper of the *Han*, constitutes a *Han* debt inherited by the present government, and not an addition to the circulation for which it is itself responsible. This amount therefore must also be deducted.⁴ The balance remaining, after these deductions have been made, alone is to be considered as having been issued by the government, and on inquiry whether it exceeds the extraordinary war expenditure during these 13 years, we find the following results:—

Amount of the reserve June 30th, 1880...51,320,000 yen
Han Satsu for which the government became liable.....19,460,000 yen⁵

The total of these two items, 70,780,000 yen, represents paper money not issued by the government, and when deducted from the amount in circulation June 30th, 1880, namely 108,680,000 yen, leaves the amount actually issued by the present government at 37,900,000 yen. The extraordinary war expenses incurred by the government from 1868 down to 1880 are as follows:—

From 1868 to the first half of 1875.....12,940,000
 1877, Satsuma Rebellion.....27,000,000⁶

39,940,000

The total of the war expenditure is 39,940,000 yen, and comparing this with the amount of paper currency after the Reserve and the amount of *Daimios* paper money have been deducted, we find that the war expenditure exceeds the issue of paper currency to the following extent:—

War expenditure 1868-1880.....39,940,000 yen
 Paper currency in circulation which may be regarded as of purely govt. issue.....37,900,000 yen

Excess of war expenditure over issue of paper ...2,040,000 yen

It may fairly be said therefore that the paper currency which forms part of the public liabilities, issued by the government during the last 13 years, has been applied to meet an extraordinary war expenditure, and has not been put forth at random to supply deficiencies in the revenue and to meet the normal expenditure.

The following table severally shows the increase and decrease of the Domestic and Foreign Debt:—

Year.	Domestic Debt. (exclusive paper currency)	Foreign Debt.
Dec. 1870	"	4,880,000 yen.
" 1871	"	4,880,000 "
" 1872	"	4,880,000 "
" 1873	15,440,000 yen.	16,100,000 "
" 1874	21,800,000 "	15,610,000 "
June 1875	33,000,000 "	14,480,000 "
" 1876	40,710,000 "	14,150,000 "
" 1877	228,770,000 "	13,390,000 "
" 1878	241,690,000 "	12,620,000 "
" 1879	238,070,000 "	11,820,000 "
" 1880	238,350,000 "	11,010,000 "

It will be seen from the foregoing that the Domestic Debt reached its maximum in 1878, and has since shown a tendency to decline, while the Foreign Debt attained its highest point in 1873, the year when the New Loan was contracted, and that it has decreased with every succeeding year. This is owing to the efficient measures taken by the government for preserving its credit by providing for the amortization of Debt. Deducting the Reserve maintained by the government for the purpose of redeeming the public liabilities and various loans made by it to private undertakings, we find that the total of the public liabilities, including the paper currency as well as the debt proper, has varied from year to year in the following manner:—

Year.	Total National Debt.	Reserve and Loans.	Debt Minus Reserve & Loans.
Dec. 1870...	58,230,000	.....	58,230,000
" 1871...	85,310,000	.....	85,310,000
" 1872...	104,240,000	26,280,000	77,960,000
" 1873...	129,200,000	32,730,000	96,470,000
" 1874...	133,350,000	28,910,000	104,440,000
June 1875...	142,280,000	37,540,000	104,740,000
" 1876...	148,920,000	37,720,000	111,200,000
" 1877...	363,220,000	47,090,000	316,130,000
" 1878...	375,250,000	59,360,000	315,890,000
" 1879...	363,320,000	58,390,000	304,930,000
" 1880...	358,040,000	58,630,000	299,410,000

This table shows that the maximum of public indebtedness was reached in 1877, and that during the three succeeding years of peace a decrease took place to the extent of 16,720,000 yen, and that since the scheme for the diminution of debt was adopted in 1878, with the intention of totally extinguishing it in 28 years, this plan has been strictly adhered to, while every effort has been made to practise economy in expenditure.

IV.

BANKS.

When at the Restoration the policy of maintaining relations of amity and commerce with foreign powers was frankly adopted, and the public mind became re-assured, one of the first facts which struck those who gave their attention to the development of production and trade, was the deficiency of circulating capital, and it was found absolutely necessary, owing to a variety of circumstances which shall be briefly touched upon, to establish banks as a means of facilitating the circulation of money.

The effect of the political reforms made after the Restoration was not confined to the administrative systems, but their influence was generally felt throughout the social fabric, and chiefly in commerce and manufactures. Under the old regime there had existed guilds which enjoyed a monopoly of trade, and these were at once abolished as being opposed to the principles of political economy. A spirit of free competition at once arose, and the old merchants and manufacturers suddenly lost their credit, so that for a time all dealings on credit came to an end, and purchases could only be made for ready money. An immense pressure upon the circulation of money was the result, and the want of capital became seriously felt. In consequence also of the abolition of the *Han* and subdivision of the country into prefectures, the *Samurai* ceased to hold their former offices; and the trade and manufactures which had hitherto profited by the institutions thus done away with, lost credit in consequence, which was an additional cause of the pressure thrown upon the circulating medium. The effects of these changes were felt in a lively manner from 1868 down to 1873.

Although under the old system money could be

4. The reserves kept by the *Han* to meet their paper-currency were handed over to the present government and the amount of these reserves must of course be deducted, the balance being what the government has become responsible for.

5. NOTE. 22,910,000 yen of *Han Satsu* in circulation, minus the reserve handed over to the govt., amounting to 3,450,000 yen gives this remainder.

6. NOTE. The expenditure for the Suppression of the *Satsuma* rebellion was something over 41,000,000 yen, but part was defrayed by means of a loan, which has been already accounted for in the Chapter on National Debt, and only that proportion of the expenditure which was defrayed by the issue of paper currency need here be stated. The war charges during these 13 years were by no means limited to the amount here given, but spread into many other branches of expenditure, and I have merely summed up what appears under that heading in the general expenditure of each year.

Date	On bank of 10,000 yen and upwards.	per cent
1868	14	"
1869	13½	"
1870	13.8	"
1871	14	"
1872	13½	"
1873	12.8	"

9 Note. The number of varieties of tax in 1880 is 1345 less than it was in 1874. The number of varieties here given is taken from the statement in the notification by which the miscellaneous taxes were abolished, but some amongst them were the same under the different names. Supposing however that this was the case with one half, we have still 700 or 800 for the number of different kinds of taxes under the old regime.

they were being oppressed. These were the reasons that led to the abolition of the miscellaneous taxes in 1875.

At the present time there are 49 varieties of tax, which may be classed under 19 principal categories, as follows:—

Customs Duties.
Land Tax.
Mining „
Companies „
Shooting Licences.
Licences to Horse and Cattle dealers.
Tax on Weights and Measures.
Copyright fees.
Passport & other licence fees.
Druggists' licences.
Attorneys' licences.
Ship and boat tax.
Vehicle tax.
Tax on Produce of the Hokkaidô.
Tax on alcoholic Liquors.
Tobacco excise.
Stamps.
Postage Stamps.
Stamps on ruled paper for petitions.

Out of these 19 species of tax the land tax is the most important, bearing to the whole taxation of the country the following proportion; in the financial year 1879-80 the whole amount of taxation was.....54,550,000 yen of which the land tax yielded41,900,000 yen or a trifle less than 8 tenths. This shows that the principal revenue from taxes is derived from the land. As I have before observed, previous to the abolition of the *Han*, every *Daimiô* had his own system of levying taxes, and there were astonishing differences between the rate at which the land tax was levied in different parts of the country. The heaviest rate was $\frac{1}{10}$ of the annual quantity harvested by the peasant,¹⁰ the lightest being $\frac{1}{20}$ of the produce. Between these there were various other rates, such as $\frac{1}{10}$, $\frac{1}{15}$, $\frac{1}{20}$, so that there was a great want of uniformity in different localities. The land was measured by *chô* and *tan*, but the area of these measurements also varied more or less in different places. These variations were perhaps unavoidable under the feudal system, but when the whole country was brought under the authority of a single government, it was impossible to continue to subject the people to these inequalities. This was the reason why in 1873 the government undertook the reform of the land tax.

The principle of this revision was as follows:—The average was taken of the actual yield during 5 years, and valued at the average price obtained during the same period. This being taken as the profit on the land, furnished a basis for calculating the capitalized value of the land itself, and the land-tax was fixed at 3 per cent on this value. It was also enacted that a resettlement should take place every six years.¹¹ If this arrangement be translated into the language of the old system, it would be equivalent to " $\frac{1}{10}$ to the lord and $\frac{1}{20}$ to the cultivator," so that compared with the heaviest rates under the old régime it amounts to an abatement of $\frac{1}{10}$ or $\frac{1}{15}$.¹² But apart from the care taken to assess the value of the land with exactness, differences of opinion with regard to the value arose out of various complicated circumstances, and, in conformity with

¹⁰ Note. It may perhaps seem that with a division of the produce in the rate of $\frac{1}{10}$ to the lord and $\frac{1}{20}$ to the cultivator, the latter could hardly be able to exist, but there were various counterbalancing facts, such as the measurement of the land being underestimated (*sanabô*), so that the hardship was not so great as this proportion might lead one to suppose.

¹¹ Note. Full details can be learnt from the "Land Tax Revision Law."

¹² Note. It must be remembered that the average price of rice upon which the revision of the land tax was based was about 4 yen 20 sen a *shû*, whereas the price to-day is over 10 yen. If we were to take the average present price to be 9 yen, and the rate at which it was taken for the revision to be 4 yen 20 sen, and compare the actual amount realized by the cultivator with that which he pays to the government, we should find the proportion to be about " $\frac{1}{15}$ to the cultivator and $\frac{1}{15}$ to the lord." In the comparison made above of the old and new systems, the benefit of the unassessed lands and lax measurement of the old system was taken into account, and the real proportions taken by the lord and the cultivator were stated; the nominal division of $\frac{1}{10}$ to the lord and $\frac{1}{20}$ to the cultivator was not made the basis of comparison. If this be done, and allowance be made for the unassessed lands and lax measurement, then the $\frac{1}{15}$ to the lord and $\frac{1}{15}$ to the cultivator would come in reality to about equal shares for each.

human nature, no great amount of gratitude was felt by the peasants for this lightening of their burden, while those on whom the taxes happened to bear a little heavier than before grumbled loudly and angrily and even to this day peasants now and then present complaints of the assessment being unfair.

Although the landtax had been revised in this manner, the government still felt that it was unjust to make the peasant alone bear the burden of heavy taxation, and recognizing the fact that he was restrained from fully developing his productive powers, they adopted the principle of gradually abating the land tax, while increasing other taxes, so as to remedy the unequal incidence of taxation. In 1877 they consequently made a further reduction in the land tax to the extent of one sixth.

In consequence of this abatement the loss to the revenue was about 1,200,000 yen. But faithful to the principle of lightening the land tax and increasing other species of tax at the same time, they have made an annual increase in the latter, as is shown in the following table:—

Year.	Customs Duties.	Tax (not land nor customs).
1868	720,000	420,000
1869	500,000	540,000
1870	640,000	450,000
1871	1,070,000	430,000
1872	1,330,000	460,000
1873	1,680,000	2,720,000
1874	1,490,000	4,390,000
1875	1,710,000	7,120,000
1876	1,980,000	6,710,000
1877	2,350,000	6,110,000
1878	2,350,000	8,670,000

Although the amount produced by taxation has increased year by year, no addition has been made to the number of species of tax since the abolition of the *Han*, but on the contrary a decrease has taken place, as shown below.

Year	No. of smaller species of tax
1871	1575
1872	1573
1873	1593
1874	1594
1875	42
1876	48
1877	48
1878	49
1879	51
1880	49

As shown here, no great addition has been made to the kinds of tax, while an increase has taken place in the amount raised by taxation, which may lead to the supposition that the rate of separate taxes may have been raised. This, however, with one or two exceptions, is not the case, but the increased yield is the result of a gradual tendency towards development of manufactures, intercommunication and trade.

Irrespective of the decrease in the land tax, the gradual annual increase in the government revenue derived from taxes, is shown in the following table:—

1877-78 rough final acct.....	47,910,000 yen
1878-79 do	50,900,000 "
1879-80 estimate	51,280,000 "
1880-81 do	54,550,000 "

We may conclude from these figures that the revenue derived from taxation is not decreasing, but on the contrary is on the increase. And from the fact that the principal classes of taxes are no more than 19 in number, it can be seen that the government firmly adheres to the principle of sparing and nursing the national resources.

VI.

GOVERNMENT ASSETS.

I have now recounted the measures carried out by the government during the last 13 years and described its financial position during that period, and through on the 30th June, 1880, the national debt for which it is responsible, including domestic and foreign liabilities and paper currency (and deducting the amount of the reserve and of advances made to private undertakings) amounted to about 299,400,000 yen, its assets are worth a large sum. A part also of the annual expenditure and public debt has been

converted into government property, as for instance the railways, telegraphs and factories of all kinds. The following is a rough statement of the government assets:—

Govt. Forests (excluding the Hokkaido)	4,672 Square Ri.
" Building Lands	19 do
" Agricultural Lands	2 do
" Prairie Lands	126 do
" Trees	2,226,650,000
" Ship Building Yards	3
" Arms Factories & Powder Mills	5
" Ships	51
" Factories	52
" Lighthouses	35
Govt. Telegraphs	3,658 Ri.
" Railways	30 do
" Mines	10

Besides the above there are a quantity of houses and godowns, to say nothing of the Hokkaido, having an area of 5860 square *ri*, the number of immigrants to which island increases annually, while its productions tend to develop in a corresponding ratio, though it is still far from being completely brought under cultivation, as the following statistics show. If its present rate of growth receives no check, it will one day rival the old country in the amount of its productions.

Total area of the Hokkaido	5,860 Square Ri.
Area of cultivated ground and building land	10 do
Population	211,304

Although the government has calculated that the whole of the national liabilities can be paid off in 28 years from 1878 out of the annual revenue alone, it is evident that if a fair price were placed upon the above enumerated assets, they would easily suffice to redeem the 299,400,000 yen of debt.

VII.

CONDITION OF THE COUNTRY.

In the foregoing account of our financial policy I have frequently referred to the condition of the country as advanced by the undertakings of these thirteen years, and though the three great reforms briefly noticed at the commencement of this paper, the reform of the laws and the encouragement of industries have been by no means insignificant or few, I will merely cite those matters of which we can obtain a clear idea from numerical statistics.

At the time of the Restoration there was no such thing as a telegraph in operation, and for expresses the only available means were men or horse, but immediately after that event the government set to work to construct telegraphs, and the nation speedily availing to its advantages, the total distance connected by telegraphs was increased by 1880 to 1600 *ri* (4,000 English miles). All the most important towns in the country are now able to communicate with each other instantaneously. In 1879 we joined the International Telegraph Convention, and telegraphic communication with all parts of the world has since become an easy matter. Compared with the state of things 10 years ago, when the ignorant people cut down the telegraph poles and severed the wires, we seem rather to have made a century's advance.

Previous to the Restoration, with the exception of the post sent by the *Daimiōs* from their residences at the Capital to their territories, there was no regularly established post for the general public and private convenience. Letters had to be sent by any opportunity that occurred, and a single letter cost over 25 *sen* for a distance of 150 *ri*. But since the Restoration the government for the first time established a general postal service, and in 1879 the length of postal lines was 15,700 *ri* (near 40,000 English miles), and a letter can at any time be sent for 2 *sen* to any part of the country. In 1874 we entered the International Postal Convention, and have thus obtained great facilities for communicating with foreign countries.

It was also this government that, after the Restoration, for the first time constructed railways, and connected the chief open ports with the cities in their immediate neighbourhood. In 1879 over 30 *ri* (75 English miles) of railway were opened, and further extensions have already been undertaken, while many of the people have come to recognize the conveniences they afford.

Although there were lights upon the most important headlands previous to the Restoration, their construction was extremely primitive, and their illuminating power extended but a short distance. Their number, also, was small. But since the Restoration European and American models have been taken, and 35 additional lighthouses have been constructed, besides buoys and beacons, to say nothing of the numerous harbour improvements carried out.

Japanese vessels of native build are inferior to those of European build in the facilities they afford for navigation. In 1871, 4 years after the Restoration, the number of ships of foreign build was no more than 74, but the government encouraged their construction, and by 1878 they reached 377. The government has two shipbuilding yards, one yard for the repair of ships, besides which there is one yard for the construction of ships of the foreign model aided by government, and 2 or 3 private establishments of the same character. The number of vessels of native build in 1876 was 450,000, and in 1873 had reached 460,000.

From the time preceding the Restoration until 1875 the coasting trade was entirely in the hands of foreigners, and Japanese had to travel by foreign mail steamers. But in the latter year, by the aid of the government a mail ship company was formed, and the coasting trade fell into the hands of our own people. This company now runs lines of steamers to Hongkong and China, and is daily extending its business.

Before the Restoration the employment of wheeled vehicles was extremely limited, but after that event their use was widely developed, and the number of carts &c. has increased year by year. In 1875 the number that paid the tax was 220,000, and in 1878, 340,000.

Since the Revolution the use of steamers has daily increased, and the Inland Sea, the lakes and larger rivers are now constantly navigated by small steamers employed in the carrying trade.

As regards foreign trade, in 1869 the total amount of imports and exports (1868 being a year of war, we take the figures for 1869) was 33,680,000 *yen*, and in 1879 64,120,000 *yen*. Imports had grown from 20,780,000 *yen* to 36,290,000 *yen*, and exports from 12,909,000 *yen*, to 27,830,000 *yen*, in the one case showing an advance from 2 to 3½, in the other from 2 to 5.

In Education, up to the Restoration the schools supported by the *Daimiōs* and private schools were few in number, but since that epoch the educational system has been vastly improved, with a resulting increase in the number of schools. In 1878 of High, Middle and Primary Schools there were altogether 27,600, with 68,000 teachers and 2,319,000 pupils.

Before the Restoration no progress had been made with the colonization of the Hokkaido, but since that event that duty has been entrusted to a Commission endowed with absolute powers, and the productions now exhibit a daily growing tendency to develop; postal communication has been established, fisheries and agriculture are encouraged, the number of immigrants has annually increased, and native merchants from the mainland, gradually appreciating the advantages, are extending their trade with the Island.

In conclusion, I am convinced that if we reflect upon the facts, we shall not fail to admit that considering that the government has broken down the prejudices of centuries, abolished the Shōgunate, resumed the fields of the *Daimiōs*, released the military class from its hereditary functions, commuted their pensions, organized the army and navy, reformed the laws and institutions, and accomplished the numerous other results to which I have briefly alluded, all in the space of 13 years, the financial condition which I have described in the foregoing pages is not a bad result after all.

REUTER'S TELEGRAMS.

LONDON, 28th March, 1881.

Cape of Good Hope.—The Colonists are discontented with the conditions of peace offered by the British Government to the Boers.

The Greek frontier question has assumed a threatening aspect.

[SUPPLIED TO THE "HONGKONG DAILY PRESS."]

LONDON, 15th March.

The assassin of the Czar has been arrested; he is a mining student twenty-one years of age.

The Grand Duke Alexander, the Czarewitch, has been inaugurated and has issued a Manifesto upon his accession.

London, March 17th.—The motion for urgency has been carried in the House of Commons against the Government.

The House of Commons has finally passed the Arms Bills.

The Orange Free State has joined the Boers. Peace negotiations continue.

AN EASTERN FANCY.

From the Japanese.

O far, fair Moon,
White-orbed in Heaven of amethyst,
Caught in a mesh of silver mist,
And deeply holden,
As gleams some precious gem whose blazo,
Breaks the translucent silken mazo
Around it folded,—
So shine thy mist-enmingled rays
In spring-time splendor,
Softly tender!

A WESTERN FANCY.

1.

O white-browed Goddess crescent-crowned,
The night-dews silver hill and lea,
And all the world doth wait for thee—
Thy chariot lingers and no sound
Of its swift coming floats to me.

2.

The air is hushed and but the breath
Of leaves low-murmuring is heard,
As though Dodona's oaks were stirred
To prophesy of woe and death,
Or as the note of wandering dove,
Were telling grief instead of love,—
"Lean down thou fairer than the morn,"
This is their prayer, O Heaven-born!

3.

This is my prayer, for all unseen
I see Endymion's pillowed head—
The dew-drops kiss his brow instead
Of thy soft breath, O veiled Queen!
Descending in thy stainless grace,
Dawn with thy love-illuminated face,
Mild maiden-moon, on him alone,
And make his heart for aye thine own;
But let thy diadem of Light,
Irradiate our world of night!

4.

Now e'en the laurel-leaves are still,
The nymphs have ceased their sylvan dance,
And left the sleeping youth in trance
Of star-like beauty on the hill;
But roses bloom in sleepless gloom—
They watch and wake for thy sweet sake,
Yet slow-of-ear, they cannot hear
Thy words meant for Endymion's own—
Where art thou flown?

But look and hark!

Adown the dark

With star-dust strewn,

Afar the milk-white steeds appear—

O white-browed Goddess crescent-crowned,

Draw near! Draw near!

F. B. H.

MISCELLANEOUS NEWS.

The Yokohama Cricket Club held its Annual General Meeting on the 30th ultimo in the rooms of the Chamber of Commerce, kindly lent for the occasion. Present—Messrs. Barlow, Milne (Hon. Sec.) F. A. Cope, W. B. Thomson, J. d'Almeida, Wood, Stephens, E. J. Moss, Warne, G. Hodges, Talbot, Litchfield, Dodds, C. D. Moss, Harris, Kilby and Powes.

Mr. Barlow was voted to the chair: the accounts, as given below, were taken as read, and the Hon. Secretary then read the report of the last season.

THE YOKOHAMA CRICKET CLUB IN ACCOUNT WITH A. MILNE,
HON. TREASURER.

RECEIPTS.

Entrance fees	\$ 75.00
Subscriptions	521.00
Gear sold to Tokio Cricket Club	21.22
Base Ball Club for use of ground	95.00
Foot Ball Association ditto	45.00

DISBURSEMENTS.

March 11th, 1880.	
Balance due Hon. Treasurer	\$ 29.18
Momban, coolies, advertising and sundry expenses.	114.77
Levelling and turfing eastern, southern and part of western sides of the grounds	330.02
Moving and painting flag-staff and cost of flag ...	16.50
Box for gear, lawn tennis balls, &c.	17.80
Match expenses	40.13
Insurance on pavilion and gear \$600, a 2 per cent	12.00
Balance due on pavilion fund	16.67
Ground rent to 31 Dec., 1881	215.76
Balance	35.61
	<hr/> \$792.83 \$792.83 <hr/>

March 28th, 1881.

To Balance due Hon. Treasurer \$35.61

E. & O. E.

A. MILNE,
Hon. Treasurer.

Yokohama, 28th March, 1881.

Examined and found correct.

E. D. MURRAY,
G. C. WOOD.

It was proposed by Mr. Dodds and seconded by Mr. Litchfield that the accounts should be passed, and the motion was carried unanimously.

The next business was to ballot for a Committee, which resulted in the following gentlemen being elected:—

Mr. Barlow.

" Milne.

" F. A. Cope.

" W. B. Thomson.

" Dodds.

" Wheeler.

Mr. Dodds wished to retire in favour of Dr. Wheeler, but it being explained that the latter had expressed his inability to serve, Mr. Dodds consented to act, if he might be allowed to withdraw should his time prove too much occupied.

A general conversation next followed, resulting in some slight alterations to the existing rules, and some suggestions for improving and regulating practice during the forthcoming season; after which the meeting terminated with a vote of thanks to the Chairman of the Chamber of Commerce for his kindness in granting the use of the room, and to the retiring Committee, especially the Honorary Secretary, to whose indefatigable energy no small share of the success of the Club is due.

A calm, clear afternoon and an attractive programme of Dynamite experiments gathered to the shores of Mississippi Bay a goodly sprinkling of the public of Yokohama last Saturday. Many ladies, too, made bold to witness the power of this terribly destructive agent, and fearlessly mingled with the crowd of sightseers. The experiments were conducted according to the programme issued by Messrs. Mollison, Fraser & Co., under whose auspices the trials were made, and were, without exception, successful. The experiments to "show the harmlessness of dynamite as cargo" having been gone through without undue delay, the interesting trials, "to show its strength as an explosive," were begun. At this stage of the proceedings, seeing the various ways in which dynamite could not be exploded—set on fire, ignited by a fuse, crushed by a block of iron, blown up by gunpowder, all without explosion—one would have

been inclined to ask how on earth it *could* be exploded? He would soon have been enlightened. A huge boulder, immovable "by such men as live in these degenerate days," was broken to pieces by a little loose dynamite exploded on its surface. A strong wire-rope, tightly twisted, was cut by the explosion of some dynamite tied to it, and presented to view the jagged, broken end of each wire, clearly showing how potent was the force employed. And then came an experiment which proved more than any the terrific power of the explosive. A massive block of iron had a circular aperture pierced through its centre, in which a charge of dynamite was exploded; one half of the piece of iron arose to a considerable height in the air, visible to all, taking a curved direction towards the beach. Having described a curve, not dissimilar in form to the outline of the hill at whose foot it imbedded itself, it plunged into the water close to an overhanging cliff. Strange to say, many spectators had selected as a standpoint the hill which it approached, presumably for the excellent view it afforded and perhaps with the notion that at such a distance there could not possibly be any danger, if danger existed. Another illustration of the old saying "*in medio tutissimius ibis*." A train of dynamite cartridges was next exploded by a single detonator; they were laid in contact, one after another for a few feet along the ground, and exploded with a single report. The rapidity of such an explosion is 28,000 feet per second; in other words, if cartridges were arranged in a similar manner along the ground for that distance, they would all successively explode in a single second.

The two last experiments were very interesting. A torpedo charged with dynamite was exploded in water beneath a raft. It remains to be told what answer the winds would accord if they had been asked the whereabouts of the raft. An enormous column of water was raised to a great height, in which various foreign bodies could be seen descending, to sink or float upon its surface according to their specific gravity, and that was all. This column travelled towards the beach, borne thither by the breeze until all watery particles again returned to their allegiance "in the deep." The last experiment was similar. A charge of dynamite was exploded under water and an aged sampan came to grief, quite as extensively dismembered as the raft. With this these amusing and instructive experiments terminated, and the spectators returned after having passed an agreeable afternoon. Large numbers of natives, in their parti-coloured garments, lined the beach, and clinging to the steep cliffs around, watched the spectacle with fixed attention, rendering the scene more picturesque by their presence.

The Vela company gave its second performance in the Gaiety Theatre last Thursday evening before a spare audience. The excellent style and singing of Madame Vela was again the chief attraction, and although at first the house seemed very frigid, her attractive rendering of Godfrey's old *Mabel Waltz* brought an irresistible encore. The ice once broken re-calls were the order of the day, and the performers one and all were much applauded in the second part of the programme. Mademoiselle Cobi-anchi and Mr. Gozzolini also contributed some well-chosen numbers, while Mr. Vela himself performed with great neatness and dexterity a fantasia on portions of Gounod's *Faust*. The small pianoforte used was quite insufficient to display the performers' abilities, and we are at a loss to understand why so inferior an instrument should be used while the grand piano belonging to the Theatre stood untouched in the orchestra. In the second part M. Vela played some excerpts from a fantasia for Violin by De Beriot, accompanied on the pianoforte by one of our local amateurs, and the concert wound up with a capital duo from *Norma* by the two ladies of the troupe.

Information has been received to the effect that the new Secretary of State is the Hon. James G. Blaine, U. S. senator from Maine. Mr. Blaine was a candidate for the presidency in 1876, but was defeated by Mr. Hayes.

Until further notice, the hour of departure of all Hongkong and Shanghai steamers of the Mitsu Bishi Mail Company will be 6 o'clock p.m.

JAPANESE ITEMS.

[The following Notes on various Japanese matters are chiefly derived from the native papers, occasionally supplemented from original sources of information, and are carefully collated and edited, so as to make them readable and intelligible.]

COURT, POLITICAL AND OFFICIAL.

The *Mainichi Shinbun* states as a rumour that Mr. Mori, the Japanese Minister at London, will return on or about August next, and will then be transferred to another office. The paper, as usual, does not vouch for the truth of the above report.

The same paper states that heretofore the number of Japanese police in Korea were, in Gensan-shin, 30, and in Fusan 10, but that as commerce is becoming more and more prosperous, the number of those in the latter port will, it is said, be doubled.

The *Hochi Shinbun* says that the Regulations for dealing with kerosine oil will shortly be issued.

The *Mainichi Shinbun* states that the draft of the commercial laws, which were being compiled in the Legislative Section of the Privy Council Office, is completed, and therefore it will shortly be submitted to the Senate. The paper says that these laws will be put in force on and after the 18th year of *Meiji* (1885), according to current rumour.

Another paper states, as a rumour, that Their Majesties the Emperor, the Empress and the Dowager Empress will visit the National Exhibition on the 7th instant.

The same paper says that all those officials who, were appointed the special committee for entertaining His Majesty the King of Hawaii when he was in the Capital, received donations of money from the Imperial Household Department on the 28th ultimo.

We learn from the same source that the French Minister at Tokio intends giving an entertainment to several Japanese high Military officers, at the Legation.

The *Mainichi Shinbun* states that His Majesty the Emperor, on the termination of his mourning for the late Czar of Russia, will give a congratulatory entertainment in honour of the accession to the throne of the new Emperor. Similar festivities will be observed at the Russian Legation.

The same paper says that His Majesty the King of Hawaii arrived at Nagasaki on the 20th ultimo. Messrs Hachisaka, Ishibashi and several other Japanese officials, who were specially despatched by the government as the committee for entertaining the royal guest, accompanied him. On his arrival a salute was fired, and Messrs. Kanai and Uyemura, secretaries of the local government, with their subordinates, received him and escorted him to a residence prepared at Kojima. About 2 p.m. next day (the 21st ult.), he went to the public gardens to an entertainment given in the *Kiogyotei* restaurant at Chikugomachi, when several Japanese songs and dances were performed. He was to leave there for Shanghai that night, but owing to bad weather his departure was postponed. He again visited the public gardens on the afternoon of the 22nd ultimo, when he planted a camphor-tree as a memento of his visit. On his return he visited the dockyard at Tachigami, and the iron works at Inasa, leaving for Shanghai at 5.30 the same afternoon.

His Majesty before leaving Tokio made a present of a foreign bred dog, valued at about \$80, to His Imperial Highness Higashi Fushimi no Miya, and a valuable gold watch to His Imperial Highness Kita Shirokawa-no-Miya.

We have it on the most reliable authority that the statement made by the *Hochi Shinbun*, in its issue of the 19th ultimo, that the Chinese Legation had been singular in not displaying its flag at halfmast, in respect to the memory of the late Czar of Russia, was utterly incorrect. On receipt of the sad news the flag was hoisted halfmast for three days, and also on the day on which the obsequies of the Czar were performed.

The *Hochi Shinbun* writes as follows:—It has been announced by the Minister of the Imperial Household Department that the Shiunki-Korei-Sai (Spring festival for the Emperor's ancestors), which was postponed owing to His Majesty the Emperor being in mourning for the late Czar of Russia, will be performed on the 4th instant. The Jimmu Tenno-Sai (anniversary of the death of the first Emperor of Japan) which is celebrated

on the 3rd April every year, has, owing to the same reason, been postponed till the 14th instant.

A vernacular journal states that on the 28th ult., His Excellency Iwakura, Third Minister of State, invited to his private residence the Princes of the Blood, Ministers of State, Privy Councillors, Ministers, and Vice-Ministers of the Government Departments, and held a long conference about the proposed construction of railways.

We learn from the same source that great reforms will be shortly made in the Finance Department shortly; and that they will be first introduced in the National Debt Bureau, from which many officials are to be dismissed.

A native contemporary states that the prefect of Okinawa has lately applied to the Central Government urging that his prefecture, unlike other cities and prefectures, has only been established a short time and that the local taxes &c., are not in perfect order yet; he asks therefore that a sum of 2,950 yen, the estimate for public works in that prefecture in the 14th fiscal year of Meiji, may be specially disbursed. The application was granted on the 30th ult.

The *Hochi Shinbun* gives it as a rumour, that it has been decided that privy councillors are to visit the Government factories and schools in future, and adds that, if this be true, it will act as a stimulus both to workmen and scholars.

This paper also says that a special envoy was to have been despatched to be present at the obsequies of the late Emperor, but, as the funeral occurred so soon this was found impracticable, and a telegraphic message was sent to Mr. Yanagiwara, the Japanese Envoy Extraordinary and Minister Plenipotentiary for Russia, directing him to attend the funeral ceremony, in the capacity of a special Envoy.

We learn from the *Mainichi Shinbun* that the question of providing positions for the unoccupied Shizoku has occupied some attention in the cabinet lately. The late Mr. Okubo, when privy councillor, raised this question, but it had apparently fallen through until now.

The *Nichi Nichi Shinbun* says that with reference to affairs connected with fire insurance, a meeting is to be held in the Finance Department on the 2nd instant. Their Excellencies Okuma, Privy Councillor, Sano, Finance Minister, and several other officials will attend.

NAVAL AND MILITARY.

A native paper says that a telegram has been received stating that the *Rinjo-kwan* which left sometime ago for Australia, arrived safely at Sydney on the 25th ult.

Another paper states, that in the Arsenal at Tokio, great numbers of Martini rifles are being manufactured.

The same paper says that the rifles in present use by the Army, are to be replaced by Murata rifles, but the latter being not yet manufactured in sufficient quantity, the deficiency will be made up by those of the Martini-Henry pattern. a dockyard at Honda, Osaka.

A vernacular journal states that some time ago a foreigner made a good thing of buying worn out fire-arms from the Naval Department and reselling them. The authorities, however, now refuse to sell those articles under three times the price previously paid for them.

INDUSTRIES, TRADE AND FINANCE.

A native paper states:—In Yokohama the silk market has suddenly changed from what it was some days ago. No transactions are made; buyers it seems, are keeping back, and consequently prices have fallen about \$20, compared with those of a week ago. On the 23rd ult. a telegram was sent from Yokohama to Lyons enquiring the market price of the Shimonitta silk. The reply, received next day, stated that the first grade was \$575.

Another paper informs us that Mr. Godai, who has been staying in the Capital some time, returned to Osaka on the 26th ult. He will again come to Tokio on or about the middle of June next. His sudden departure for Osaka is, it is said, owing to the fact that the establishment of a direct trading company in that city, under the name of the *Boyeiki Shokukai*, has been decided upon.

The *Hochi Shinbun* says that about 15 ri in a north-easterly

direction from Aitoya, in Takusoku Island, Hokkaido, there is a group of Islands called Urutsupu-jima. This group abounds with otters, so that it is sometimes called Rakko-jima (otter Island). In consequence, however, of its having been called Urutsupu or (salmon) by the Ainos, a vessel was despatched there by a Japanese company formerly engaged in the fishery business in Karafuto, to see if salmon were really abundant there. On landing it was found that the island was uninhabited, and that in the south there was a vast lake teeming with salmon, so much as to appear like a vast artificial nursery for them. This news was so very satisfactory that operations on a more extensive scale are to be undertaken this year.

The *Bukka Shimpō* gives the following commercial summary of the Yokohama market:—Silk remains as announced in our issue of the 23rd ult., buyers and sellers awaiting favourable terms; no change has occurred in its price. Owing to the recent rise in silver, sellers seem anxious to conclude sales, but purchasers are holding back for this very reason, taking into account the charges on bills of exchange from Europe, so that the market is comparatively inactive. Transactions however are on the increase and arrivals are constant. At present stocks on hand amount to about 2,350 bales. No change has occurred in tea, and there is little doing. Sugar, owing to the rise in silver, is not moving, buyers and sellers holding aloof, but the unrefined sugar has, in consequence of its scarcity, risen one per cent. in price. Foreign cotton (white) is a little more active. Red is higher by one or two per cent. There is some business doing in yarn. No appreciable change has taken place in imported iron-ware &c., but they seem to be on the decline. Kerosene oil is about the same price as before, but owing to the rise in bullion, is almost unsaleable.

The *Choya Shinbun* writes:—"It has long been asserted by public lecturers that to encourage the agricultural products of the country, and to facilitate their transportation, nothing can be more efficacious than railways. We now hear that many energetic *kaizoku*, and *shizoku* have lately resolved, in due course of time, to construct railways throughout the Empire, and that as a commencement rails will be laid down between the Capital and Takasaki. This is indeed a praiseworthy enterprise. As to the method to be adopted for the work, and the number of the shares, further reports will be given whenever we hear them. The statement made by a contemporary some days ago to the effect that the railway will be constructed by the government, is, we believe, quite erroneous.

A native journal informs us that in the Yokohama Bourse paper slightly improved on the 26th ult. On that day the market opened at 181; later quotations were 180.65, 181, and at the close of the morning market 180.8. No change occurred in quotations of paper against other specie.

The *Mainichi Shinbun* gives the following details about the railway extension:—It is said to be the proposal of the *Nippon-Tetsudo Kaisha* (Japanese Railway Company), which is about to be established by many men of enterprise, with a view to undertake the great work of railway extension, that the railway shall be laid on from Tokio to Takasaki, and another line, commencing from some part between these two places, as far as Awamori, Mutsunoku. From Takasaki the line, running along the highway of Nakasendo, will be connected with that at Tsuruga, Echizen province, and a branch line, originating from the Nakasendo line, will run to the province of Utsu via Niigata. In Kiushiu a similar line will be built from Ozato, Buzen province, to Nagasaki via Kokura, and a branch line to Kumamoto, Higo province. As a beginning, works will be undertaken for the line between Tokio and Awamori. The line will be divided into five parts:—the first, from Tokio to Takasaki; the second from the middle part of the first line, to Shirakawa; the third from there to Sendai; the fourth from the latter to Morioka; and the fifth from the latter to Awamori. The expenses required for the five sections are estimated to be about 19,000,000 yen. Imported materials are expected to be used for the construction as little as possible, and the works will be commenced on the first named line first of all, which, it is estimated will require an expense of about 2,500,000 yen. According to the approximate calculation of Mr. Crawford, a foreign employé in the Colonization Commission, the line is

expected to be completed to Takasaki within 18 months from its commencement, and to Awamori within three years, but these being works of a magnitude never before undertaken in our country from the earliest times, it is anticipated they will be completed, the former, in two and the latter, in six years. As regards finances, the projectors are themselves to disburse 2,000,000 yen, that is little over ten per cent of the 19,000,000 yen, which is required for the line to Awamori, and the rest is to be raised by issuing shares. Those who subscribe money even for one share may be called projectors, but as it is too troublesome a process to enumerate them all, only those who subscribe more than 5,000 yen are to be publicly declared as projectors. According to what we have heard the following arrangement is proposed to be made with the Government:—That to both projectors, and shareholders interest of 8 per cent per annum will be paid by the Government on the money invested by them from the day of investment till the railway are opened for traffic. That if the nett gain, and dividends during ten years after traffic has been commenced, prove insufficient to give 8 per cent. on the money invested, the balance will be made up by the Government. That the grounds necessary for the railways, platforms, stations, etc. will, if Government property, be lent without any rent, and if private property, will be purchased at a suitable price by the Government, and be sold to the company. That the ground for the lines will be free from tax. That some officials will be despatched by the Government to manage and inspect necessary affairs connected with the railways.

Government permission to this arrangement is not yet obtained, but as the state of affairs has so fairly progressed that 2,000,000 yen has already been subscribed, the Government will, it is said, grant the request at once.

The *Nichi Nichi Shinbun* contains a similar paragraph and adds that the Government have highly approved of the enterprise; and that the Regulation for Railway Companies will shortly be issued.

A vernacular journal states that from the middle of February last up to the 15th ult. the old copper coins of one *ris* denomination were exported from Osaka to China to the enormous amount of 87,200 yen. Moreover, on the 22nd inst., 35,000 yen of the same coins were also exported by the *Choyosha* company, but owing, it is supposed, to the old two *ris* coins being abundant in that city no effect on circulation is apparent.

The *Nichi Nichi Shinbun* writes:—Messrs. Sudanki Yasuroku, and Watanabe Hisashi, have started a Lloyds Company named *Nippon Roido-sha*, at Takekawa-cho, Tokio. Branches will be opened at every open port. This company will deal in all affairs connected with shipping. It will compile a work explaining the methods of constructing steamers and sailing vessels and undertake the inspection of ships for intending purchasers (both natives and foreigners). It also will publish a monthly periodical under the name of *Kokai Shimpō*, containing any interesting and important items in maritime matters. The first number of the paper has already been issued.

The same paper writes as follows:—It is said that as the telegraph lines are not completely laid throughout the Empire, the construction of the telegraphic branch offices will be made with less expensive material than hitherto, and that by the saving thus effected the lines will be prolonged. By this plan it is expected the lines will be completed to every important part of the country before the end of the 16th year of Meiji (1883).

The *Hochi Shinbun* states that work done in the Foreign Umbrella frames factory at Nagatsuka-cho, Honjo, Tokio, has improved so much that even what was at first found very difficult to be made, is now easily manufactured. Such being the case, it is expected that export of the manufactures will be made to China and Australia on a grand scale, apart from the supply for the home market. On the 26th ult., His Excellency Okuma, Privy Councillor, Mr. Yoshiwara, Vice Minister of the Finance, and several other high officials visited the factory.

The same paper states that a National Exhibition of water products (fish, seaweeds &c.) will be opened next year.

The *Aikebono Shinbun* says there is a rumour that the recent scarcity of coal is considered attributable to its being exported

to China from Nagasaki in considerable quantities, and that therefore its export has recently been prohibited by the authorities, who add that even in Japan, coal should be used as little as possible, except for the railways and similar necessary purposes. The paper asks, why is this?

The *Meiji Shinshi* contains the following Yokohama Market report. During the ten days ending on the 20th ultimo the Exports and Imports in Yokohama were as follows:—

Date.	Imports.	Exports.	Difference.
March 11th.....	\$ 44,000.00.....	\$ 45,615.05.....	Inc. \$ 1,616.05
" 12th.....	58,000.00.....	27,830.11.....	Dec. 30,169.89
" 13th.....	None.		
" 14th.....	77,000.00.....	186,930.10.....	Inc. 9,930.10
" 15th.....	11,006.02.....	23,432.32.....	" 12,431.70
" 16th.....	81,906.00 ..	45,288.51.....	Dec. 34,020.90
" 17th.....	87,881.50.....	83,817.90 ..	" 4,063.60
" 18th.....	56,393.00.....	38,912.52.....	Inc. 82,519.52
" 19th.....	71,195.00.....	27,890.58.....	Dec. 43,304.48
" 20th.....	None.		

Total..... 587,281.52 579,718.09... { Inc. 106,497.37
Dec. 111,558.87

Excess of Imports..... 5,061.50

During the ten days ending on the 10th inst.:—

Imports.	Exports.	Differences.
240,042.47.....	628,207.60.....	{ Inc. 224,265.81 Dec. 125,501.68

Excess of Exports..... 98,765.13

The unfavourable condition of commerce in the ten days ending on the 20th ult., compared with that in the corresponding period ending on the 10th ult., is due to the fact that in the first mentioned period silk was not active and consequently the exports were less; but still there was a sum of 93,703.63 yen in our favour, subtracting the excess of Imports in the last period, from that of Exports in the previous period.

During the same period the arrivals and sales of silk were as follows:—

ARRIVALS.

Date.	Raw Silk.	Waste Silk.	Pierced Cocoon.	Floss Silk.
March 11th.....	—	—	—	—
" 12th.....	48	16	12	—
" 13th.....	99	89	21	11
" 14th.....	10	78	—	—
" 15th.....	56	23	—	—
" 16th.....	101	61	—	—
" 17th.....	65	67	2	—
" 18th.....	61	59	1	—
" 19th.....	75	155	—	—
" 20th.....	7	5	—	—

Total..... 522 553 33 11

Do. in the previous ten days 498 667 — 31

SALES.

March 11th.....	14	7	—	—
" 12th.....	181	92	33	52
" 13th.....	14	86	—	—
" 14th.....	117	182	—	—
" 15th.....	57	97	—	—
" 16th.....	118	43	—	—
" 17th.....	139	92	75	—
" 18th.....	101	—	—	—
" 19th.....	70	185	—	—
" 20th.....	—	3	—	—

Total..... 811 787 128 52

Do for the previous ten days 9,875 1,097 — 80

The general state of the commerce of Yokohama may be judged greatly by the sales of silk being great or small. In the period mentioned not only was the market inactive, but at the same time the arrivals were many, as the table shows, notwithstanding the small amount of sales. The present condition of the market is due to this excess of supply over demand. It is reported from Europe that the market is quiet and business inactive. The American market is however reported to be improving.

Arrivals and sales of tea from the 10th to the 20th inst. were as follows:—

ARRIVALS.			
Date.	Tea	Dust tea	Black tea
March 11th	8,470 Catties.	—	—
" 12th	1,260 "	—	3,750
" 13th	5,670 "	—	—
" 14th	4,900 "	—	—
" 15th	11,890 "	—	—
" 16th	24,500 "	—	—
" 17th	12,810 "	1,750	—
" 18th	2,100 "	—	—
" 19th	—	—	—
" 20th	7,280 "	—	—
Total	88,880	1,750	3,750
Do. in the pre- vious ten days.	84,280	—	3,750

SALES.			
Date.	Tea	Dust tea	Black tea
March 11th	50	500	—
" 12th	3,000	8,700	—
" 13th	—	—	—
" 14th	5,000	5,000	—
" 15th	15,800	2,500	—
" 16th	24,500	31,500	—
" 17th	12,800	—	—
" 18th	2,100	1,000	—
" 19th	—	4,500	—
" 20th	7,280	3,000	—
Total	70,530	65,700	—
Do. in the pre- vious ten days.	—	63,950	—

Another vernacular journal writes as follows:—The construction of the proposed port at Hiakwan koku, Akuta-gori, Kumamoto prefecture, is expected to confer very great benefits on the districts of Akuta, Takuma, and the town of Kumamoto, and therefore the men of enterprise in these places have subscribed a special fund for the work, apart from the local taxes, with a part of which the port is to be constructed. Furthermore they have made their best efforts to stimulate others to follow their good example, and therefore about 8,000 yen have already been subscribed, in the above named two districts alone.

We take the following from a native source:—In Yokohama no appreciable change has occurred in paper. On the 30th ult. the market opened at 181.8, improved to 181.4 and then receded to 181.55. Quotations against all other specie are the same as before. In silk there has not been any activity for some days past, only re-reels and filatures being demanded, and that on a small scale. At present, although the market seems dull, holders refuse to sell, being hopeful for more favourable terms, while buyers do just the same. A telegram received by the *Boyeiki Shokwai* from London, dated the 28th ult. at 9.30 p.m., quotes *Shinshiu* re-reels, 19/6 (\$588); *Tomioka Hanks*, 17/3 (\$519); *Shinshiu Hanks*, 17 (\$510); *Mayebashi*, 16/6 (\$498).

It is stated in the same paper that Mr. Nakamura Toki, a *shizoku* in Sendai, Miyagi prefecture, who was elected by the carton manufacturers in that place as their deputy, retired from his position lately, and has come to the capital to raise a loan of 100,000 yen, with a view to establish an extensive carton factory to carry out the manufacture on a grand scale.

The same paper announces that it has been decided for certain to open the port of Jinsen, Korea, and that therefore all who desire to engage in commerce will, it is said, be permitted to reside there.

The Customs Bureau of the Finance Department furnishes the following return of Exports and Imports during February last:—

Exports	yen 2,452,595.968
Imports	" 2,224,115.406
Excess of Exports	" 228,480.562
Custom duties and miscellaneous collected...	" 189,497.698
Exports of specie and bullion	" 996,193.774
Imports " " "	" 82,390.000

The *Hochi Shinbun* contains the following report from Naga-

saki:—People say that the merchants are waiting in enterprise, but the port being the father of our foreign commerce the merchants have, through long experience, found out the disadvantage of remaining passive and many of them determined to engage in direct trade, their destinations being at first, Corea, and Windiwoostock. Unfortunately, however, instead of combining for the support of their mutual interests, each one looks out selfishly for his own ends alone, and consequently the profits accruing to each individual are but small. Coal is the principal item of commerce in this port, shirtings coming next and rice third. All other articles occupy a very minor position.

The *Nichi Nichi Shinbun* states that the National Agricultural Meetings are to be held in the Agricultural College at Komaba, Tokio, for one week, beginning on the 10th instant.

The *Mainichi Shinbun* states that the nett gains of the General Telegraph Office, from the time of its establishment up to the present year, are said to be over 600,000 yen.

The same paper also states that Mr. Sahata Nobuyuki, superintendent of the branch engineering office at Kobe, intends retiring from office, and purposes, in company with a gentleman name Akidauki and two foreigners, to establish

The same vernacular journal has it that the woollen cloth factory at Senju, Tokio, has been purchased by Messrs. Okura & Co. lately, for the price of 220,000 yen, to be paid in 22 annual installments of 10,000 yen.

This paper also reports that the Second Exhibition of ancient fine-art Articles will be open for two months from the 1st of May next, in the *Kaisenji* temple, at Matenbacho, Asakusa, Tokio.

The *Hochi Shinbun* says the losses sustained by foreign merchants in Yokohama and Kobe during last year amounted to four million dollars; that this year has commenced still more unfavourably for them, and that, with the exception of three or four firms, all have suffered more or less. The banks, it says, are pressing for payment of the loans advanced, and these loans are no less than \$2,000,000. There is no demand for imports, and the merchants are selling their goods at a loss. Native merchants are even endeavouring to cancel contracts for purchases already entered into.

The same paper informs us that four or five gentlemen in the capital, intend establishing a company under the name of *Shogio Kuaisha*. The object of the company is said to be that when anyone wishes to borrow money on the security of manufactures, the company will, if satisfied with an inspection of their goods, go security for the amount to the money-lenders.

MISCELLANEOUS.

The *Nichi Nichi Shinbun* says that in a small village named Sakada, Sauuki province, reside two men, who were always on very intimate terms, but that suddenly a rupture for some unknown reason, has occurred. Appeal was made to the police magistrate but, *pendente lite*, their wives made an attempt to arbitrate the matter by exchanging husbands. A mediator was appointed and a compromise effected, but the wives have not returned to their respective spouses and, at the mediator's suggestion, any intention of so doing has been abandoned. Our contemporary says that daily in the exchange market, we hear of dealing in paper, and among farmers, in cereals, but that exchanges in wives is a decidedly novel item.

The same paper gives the following extract from the *Shinano Nippo*:—Mr. Ogi Hichiro, one of the teachers in the primary school at Aizome-mura, Adzuchi-Kori, Nagano prefecture, has written a memorial, the main points of which are that he earnestly desires that all the *Daijin*, and *Sangi*, should be dismissed, a general reform in the constitution effected, and a National Assembly opened so as to entrust some of the political power to the people; and, in accordance with the government Notification No. 53 of last year, he presented it to his local authorities to be sent up to the Senate, but they refused to receive it, saying that a memorial suggesting the dismissal of the *Daijin* and *Sangi* could not be received by them to be forwarded to the Capital. Mr. Nogi argued that there was no reason why the memorial could not be received, and it was finally agreed by the authorities that the Senate should be consulted on the matter: the reply is expected daily.

A Tokio journal announces that a fire broke out in a vacant house in Matsutomi-cho, Kanda, Tokio, at about 6 a.m. on the 25th ult. Twelve houses and one godown, were consumed, and three houses damaged. In the house next to that in which the fire originated, a man of 24 years of age, who owing to sickness could not escape, perished in the flames.

The same paper states that during the week ending 26th ult. the visitors to the National Exhibition reached the following numbers. On the 20th inst. (Sunday) 7,988; 21st 1,340; 22nd 2,509; 23rd 4,685; 24th 4,146; 25th 5,683; 26th (Saturday) 12,608.

Another paper contains the following statistics:—In Osaka Fu both population and houses have greatly increased lately, owing to the Sakai prefecture being now included in it. The population of the city is 291,086, and of the rural districts 1,250,370, a total of 1,542,456; and the houses, in both the city and districts, 367,716. In the whole prefecture of Kanagawa, according to the statistics collected on the 1st of January last, the houses amount to a total of 154,485, and the population to 780,306, of whom 407,000 are males and 373,306 females of the total 55,692 males, and 45,288 females, are farmers; 2,312 males and 1,049 females, artisans; and 3,423 males, and 1,480 females merchants.

The *Nichi Nichi Shinbun* writes as follows:—His Majesty the Shah of Persia has been highly satisfied with Messrs Yoshida Masaharu, an *attache* of the Foreign Department, Lieutenant Furukawa, Yokoyama Magoichiro, a member of Okura & Co., and some other Japanese who visited that country for the purpose of opening commercial intercourse between it and Japan. He has therefore, presented Persian orders to them, and sent also a very high decoration to His Excellency Enomoto, Minister of the Navy. Having heard of the establishment of the *Ko-a-kwai* (Asiatic Society), some of the Persians have been greatly pleased, and many of them have desired to become members. Mahomed Ali Rahmon, one of the Privy Councillors of the country, has presented to the society an ancient history of Persia. This history, which is said to have been compiled about 200 years ago, is a manuscript in Persian, with pictures drawn by Hindu artists.

The *Hochi Shinbun* says that a foreign merchant, residing in Yokohama, has lately visited the exhibition at Tokiyo several days in succession, and appeared to be particularly fascinated with a large cloisonné flower pot, valued at 700 yen, an exhibit in the Fine Art gallery by the Aichi prefecture. He used continually to handle this article, and at last by some mishap, broke one of the handles. The agent in charge of it requested him to pay the full value for it, but the foreigner refused to give more than 400 yen. The matter is not yet decided.

The same paper contains the following:—In the Hokkaido the old style of breeding horses was simply to turn them loose in the fields and on the mountains but, since the Restoration, reclamation industry has been developed more and more, which has consequently tended to check this: moreover, several new rules have been put in force. Those therefore who preferred the old style of free breeding, have emigrated to Muroran, Horobetsu, Shiro-oi, Toma, Komaki and the neighborhood, one after another, where each owns breeding farms ranging from 50 to 200 horses. In these places snow was never anticipated, and the animals could be left to breed in the open, even in winter time, without any trouble. In spite of this, however, extraordinarily heavy snowfalls visited these localities last season, which war, indeed, an unexpected occurrence. No provisions for the live-stock had been prepared, and consequently as many as 100 or 200 head have died daily from starvation. The owners are said to entertain fears of losing their whole stock. In Ema and its neighbourhood, all horses, except those employed for transport and agricultural purposes, are generally fed in the open fields also, and considerable numbers of them are also reported to have died from starvation.

Another paper says:—On the 31st ultimo, at 1.30 a.m. a fire broke out in an upstairs room of the *Kogioku-juku* (a private boarding school) at Shinsenji, Shiba, Tokio, six houses were burned, and one of the scholars perished. Another fire occurred in the store room of a waste-paper dealer at Hatago-cho, Kan-

da-ku, at about 3 p.m. the same day. Owing to the fact that there was a strong breeze at the time, it was not got under until over 330 houses had been reduced to ashes. There was another fire at Ogawa-machi, at 8.40 p.m. the same evening, and about 70 houses were consumed.

We learn from the same source that on the 31st ult. the funeral ceremony for the late Mr. Sameshimu, formerly minister at Paris, took place, and that one of the Imperial Chamberlains attended from the palace, bringing a gift of money.

According to the same authority 5,696 exhibits were sold in the National Exhibition during seven days ending on the 28th ult., whose aggregate value was 12,532,877 yen; of which 9,782,362 yen worth were purchased by natives, and the balance by foreigners.

The *Mainichi Shinbun* gives the following continuation of its Korean correspondent's letter:—There is a rumour that in reply to the credentials presented by the Japanese Minister, another Korean Envoy will be sent to Japan, but that it is not settled yet. However, we think that as the sluggish mechanism of the Korean Government has at last commenced to move, we shall see the departure of an Envoy in the course of time. The Korean government seems likely to be separated into two parties; one of which is the party of Tai-in kun (the uncle of the King), and the other that of Biushi (the wife of the King). The former is conservative, and the latter liberal, or to speak more properly, progressive. Amongst the latter party the best known are Kingiokkin, and Jokohan. Kinkosliu, who lately came to Japan as Envoy, was said to have been cleverly balancing himself between these two parties, but lately it is rumoured that he has quite lost the favour of the former (conservative) one. In the Japanese Legation at the Capital, provisions have become so scarce that the officials are said to be suffering great inconvenience. The weather is so bitterly cold that last January the thermometer stood below zero for two days, a degree of cold never yet experienced by Japanese. The prohibition of the export of rice and other cereals has been a subject of negotiations between Japan and Korea for several years, but it is now said that a favourable conclusion has been arrived at, and the exportation will shortly be permitted. With reference to the customs, the Korean government is still insisting on ten per cent., and our authorities on five per cent., and therefore no agreement has been arrived at.

The same paper contains the following report from Gensan-shin, Korea:—Korean cash is extraordinarily scarce of late, and in consequence the quotation for one yen of Japanese paper currency is at present 333½ *mon*, that is 300 of the former to 100 of the latter. This quotation is however nominal, and those who do exchange at that rate are very few. In spite of the port of Gensan being one of the leading commercial markets in Korea, almost all dealings are made by barter, no money being used in the transactions, and therefore it is surmised that none of the Koreans in the native town of Gensan have much cash on hand. In addition to this, cereals, being very much cheaper there than in Japan, are eagerly sought for by Japanese merchants, who purchase them by selling their own goods even at a loss with a view to gain a profit on exporting these staples and consequently cash has steadily advanced. It is said to be quite impossible to exchange paper for cash to the amount of 10 *keummo*, even at the quotation of one yen to 250 *mon*. This is a proof how scarce cash is. Such being the state of things the inconvenience caused to those who are not engaged in mercantile pursuits is indeed greater than that felt by the merchants, because the latter can carry on their business by barter. From May (when the port was first opened to commerce) to December, both inclusive, of last year, the total value of the exports and imports was 383,131.462 yen.

During the same period, nine merchant ships arrived and the same number left: their tonnage amounted to 2,370 tons. The Japanese residents in the settlement were 209, of which 163 were males and 46 females; 73 are officials and their servants, of which 53 were males and 20 females.

No appreciable change has taken place in commerce; gold-

dust and ox-hides are brought in continually. On the 7th of November last, goods valued at 137,747.105 yen were imported by the *Tomai-Maru*. They were at once sold off and traders were waiting for the next mail, when the above correspondence left.

The *Choya Shinbun* announces that the Koreans having found out the utility of the Japanese water-wheel machines, have sent a request to the Japanese Government, stating their desire to employ a manufacturer of the wheels to instruct them, and, it is said, some one will shortly be despatched.

IMPERIAL GOVERNMENT RAILWAYS.

TOKIO AND YOKOHAMA SECTION.

Statement of traffic receipts for the week ending Sunday 27th March, 1881.

Passengers, parcels, &c.	Yen 10,413.88
Merchandise, &c.	" 1,067.57
Total	" 11,481.45
Miles open, 18.	
Corresponding week last year.	
Passengers, parcels, &c.	Yen 9,510.57
Merchandise, &c.	" 761.95
Total	" 10,272.52
Miles open 18.	

KIOTO KOBE AND OOTSU SECTION.

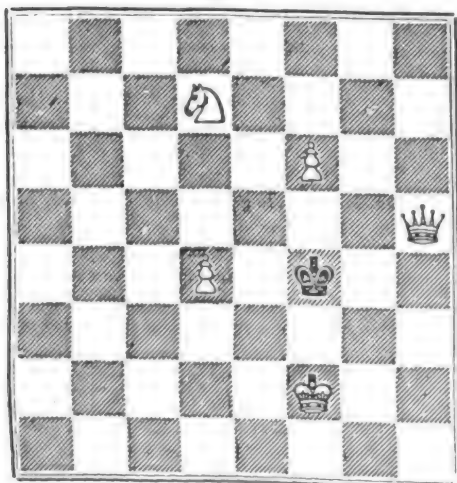
Statement of traffic receipts for the week ending Sunday, 27th March, 1881.

Passengers, parcels, &c.	\$ 18,148.18
Merchandise, &c.	" 3,343.86
Total	\$ 21,492.04
Miles open, 58.	
Corresponding week last year.	
Passengers, parcels, &c.	\$ 17,999.31
Merchandise, &c.	" 2,170.09
Total	\$ 20,169.40
Miles open, 55.	

CHESS PROBLEM.

BY REV. J. VINCENT.

BLACK.



WHITE.

White to play and mate in 3 moves.

SOLUTION OF CHESS PROBLEM OF MARCH 26TH, BY
J. B. OF BRIDPORT.

White:

- 1.—B. to K. Kt. 4.
- 2.—B. to K. 6.
- 3.—Mates

Black:

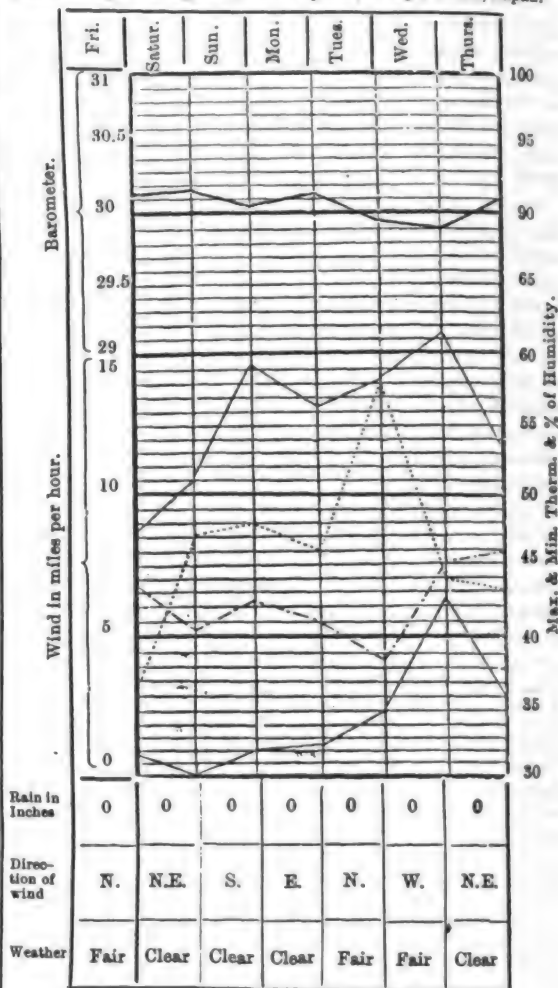
- 1.—Kt. to K.'s 5.
- 2.—Kt. takes R. or B.
- 1.—Kt. to K. B. 4.
- 2.—Anything.

No correct solutions received.

METEOROLOGICAL REPORT

FOR WEEK BEGINNING FRIDAY, MARCH 25TH, 1881.

Observatory of Daigaku, Moto-Fujicho, Hongō, Tokio, Japan.



REMARKS.

Heavy line represents barometer.

Light continuous line—max. & min. thermometers.

.....represents velocity of wind.

.....percentage of humidity.

Max. velocity of wind 31.0 miles per hour on Sunday at 4.20 p.m.

The barometer is reduced to the freezing point and to the level of the sea.

The highest reading of the barometer for the week was 30.293 inches on Saturday at 10 a.m. and the lowest was 29.821 inches on Wednesday at 6 p.m. The highest temperature for the week was 61°.9 on Wednesday and the lowest was 30° on Saturday. The maximum and minimum for the corresponding week of last year were 66° and 30°.5 respectively.

No rain fell during the week. The total amount for the corresponding week of last year was 2.303 inches.

SHIPPING INTELLIGENCE.

I N W A R D S .

- Mar. 27, German barque *Black Diamond*, Baade, 601, from Nagasaki, Coals, to P. Bohm.
- Mar. 28, American sloop *Alert*, Huntington 1,020, 4-guns, from Kobe.
- Mar. 28, Japanese steamer *Kokonoye Maru*, Dithlefsen, 1,133, from Hongkong, Mails and General, to M. B. Co.
- Mar. 28, Japanese steamer *Wakanoura Maru*, Christensen, 1,300, from Kobe, Mails and General, to M. B. Co.
- Mar. 28, Japanese steamer *Shinagawa Maru*, Walker, 908, from Kobe, Mails and General, to M. B. Co.
- Mar. 28, British steamer *Malacca*, H. Weighell, 1,709, from Hongkong via Nagasaki, Mails and General, to P. & O. Co.
- Mar. 29, British steamer *Oceanic*, Metcalfe, 2,440, from Hongkong, Mails and General, to O. & O. Co.
- Mar. 30, British steamer *Bellerophon*, T. W. Freeman, 1,397, from Hongkong, March 23rd, General, to Butterfield & Swire.
- Mar. 30, Russian ironclad *Minin*, Captain Nazinoff, 5,740 tons, 22-guns, from a cruise.
- Mar. 31, Japanese steamer *Hiroshima Maru*, Haswell, 1,870, from Shanghai and ports, Mails and General, to M. B. Co.

Mar. 31, Japanese steamer *Shario Maru*, Kilgour, 800, from Hakodate, Mails and General, to M. B. Co.
 Mar. 31, Japanese steamer *Seirio Maru*, Franck, 626, from Hakodate, Mails and General, to M. B. Co.
 April 1, Japanese steamer *Tamura Maru*, Carrew, 559, from Kobe, Mails and General, to M. B. Co.
 April 2, Japanese barque *Kanagawa Maru*, Eckstrand, 1,184, from Nagasaki, Coals, to M. B. Co.

PASSENGERS.

Per Japanese steamer *Wakanoura Maru* from Kobe:—Mr. Kitch and 27 Japanese in cabin.

Per British steamer *Malacca* from Hongkong via Nagasaki:—From Hongkong: Mrs. Gray, Messrs. J. W. Fisher, Surgeon R.N., B. H. Chamberlain and two Chinese in Cabin. From Nagasaki: Mr. A. Glover.

Per Japanese steamer *Kokonoye Maru* from Hongkong via Kobe:—From Hongkong: Major and Mrs. Hales, in cabin; and 7 Chinese in steerage. From Kobe: Mrs. Nagano, Messrs. Morita, Nakamura, Yabu, Kashima, and Tsukishiba, in cabin; 3 Chinese and 168 Japanese in steerage.

Per British steamer *Oceanic* from Hongkong:—For Yokohama: Messrs. D. B. Taylor, E. Fischer and D. P. Hubbell in cabin. For San Francisco: Dr. F. M. Gunnell, Messrs. R. S. Sloan, W. A. Thoms and W. S. Ryan in cabin; and 931 Chinese in steerage.

Per British steamer *Bellerophon* from Hongkong:—Mrs. Burridge and child in cabin; one Chinese in steerage.

Per Japanese steamer *Hiroshima Maru* from Shanghai and ports:—Dr. and Mrs. Barchett and four children, Dr. Jas. Johnstone, Mrs. Wallace, Revd. H. Stout, Mr. and Mrs. Kolvig and child, Dr. Franz, Messrs. F. E. Lewis, Lunig, J. M. McIntyre, H. Symons, E. C. Kirby, W. Joest, A. Chambers, and 14 Japanese in cabin; and 4 Europeans, 1 Chinese and 302 Japanese in steerage. For San Francisco: Captain Simmons, Mr. Chester Holcomb, and Mr. Beyrich in cabin.

OUTWARDS.

Mar. 26, British steamer *Fleura Castle*, Kidder, 1,622, for New York via Kobe and China, General, despatched by Adamson, Bell & Co.

Mar. 26, Japanese steamer *Tauruga Maru*, Cheatham, 661, for Kobe, Mails and General, despatched by M. B. Co.

Mar. 23, Japanese steamer *Meiji Maru*, Peters, 1,010, on a cruise, despatched by Lighthouse Department.

Mar. 23, British schooner *Mary*, Cabbins, 146, for Kobe, Ballast despatched by Jardine, Matheson & Co.

Mar. 29, Russian Ironclad *Alisim*, Nazimoff, 5,300, 16-guns, for Nagasaki.

Mar. 29, British steamer *Glenartney*, Jacobs, 1,399, for Nagasaki, General, despatched by Jardine, Matheson & Co.

Mar. 29, Japanese steamer *Shinagawa Maru*, Walker, 908, for Kobe, Mails and General, despatched by M. B. Co.

Mar. 29, Japanese steamer *Kinshin Maru*, Davison, 690, for Kobe, Mails and General, despatched by M. B. Co.

Mar. 30, Japanese steamer *Suminoye Maru*, Frahm, 852, for Kobe, Mails and General, despatched by M. B. Co.

Mar. 30, Japanese steamer *Genkai Maru*, Conner, 1,917, for Shanghai and ports, Mails and General, despatched by M. B. Co.

Mar. 30, Japanese steamer *Sumida Maru*, Hubenet, 896, for Kobe, Mails and General, despatched by M. B. Co.

Mar. 30, British steamer *Galley of Lorne*, Branthwaite, 1,349, for Kobe, General, despatched by Smith, Baker & Co.

Mar. 30, German barque *Marie*, Hundewadt, 428, for Newchwang, Ballast, despatched by Chong Wo Tye.

Mar. 31, German schooner *Lottie*, Hiltz, 206, for Kurile Islands, despatched by H. W. Hohnholz & Co.

Mar. 31, Danish schooner *Helena*, Ewart, 60, for Kurile Islands, despatched by Captain.

April 1, Japanese steamer *Wakanoura Maru*, Christensen, 1,300, for Kobe, Mails and General, despatched by M. B. Co.

April 2, British steamer *Malacca*, Weighell, 1,709, for Hongkong, Mails and General, despatched by P. & O. Co.

April 2, British steamer *Oceanic*, Metcalfe, 2,440, for San Francisco, Mails and General, despatched by P. & O. Co.

April 2, French steamer *Volga*, Guirand, 1,502, for Hongkong, Mails and General, despatched by M. B. Co.

April 2, Japanese steamer *Kokonoye Maru*, Dithlefsen, 1,133, for Hongkong via Kobe, Mails and General, despatched by M. B. Co.

PASSENGERS.

Per British steamer *Fleura Castle* for New York via Kobe and China:—Messrs. William H. P. Crocker, Thos. W. Gulick, and J. W. C. H. Pemberton.

Per Japanese steamer *Genkai Maru* for Shanghai and ports:—Mr. and Mrs. Remington, Mrs. Howe, two children and servant, Miss Sandford, Mr. and Mrs. Marshall, Mr. and Mrs. Heimann, Dr. Geerts, Messrs. Conner, C. J. Strome, M. Angus and 28 Japanese in cabin; 8 Chinese in steerage.

Per British steamer *Malacca*, for Hongkong:—Messrs. P. Falque, and W. A. Covington, R.N. in cabin; and 2 Chinese in steerage.

Per British steamer *Oceanic*, for San Francisco:—Messrs. W. S. Ryan, W. A. Thom, U.S.N., Mrs. V. C. Hart and 3 children, Mr. and Mrs. Erdmann, Captain Chs. E. Simmons, Le Rey, M. Garrett, U.S.N., C. H. Harlow, U.S.N., G. W. Brown, U.S.N., F. Culbertson, Horace P. Fletcher and wife, Mr. and Mrs. Sato, Chester, Holcombe, M. C. Willard, Mrs. Willard, Mrs. J. B. Gibbs and 2 children, Miss Gibbs, S. Miyatauka, Capt. P. Hubbell, Master R.

N. Worster, W. Culbertson, George Lewis, W. H. Moore, Dr. Barenet, wife and 4 children, John M. McIntyre in cabin; 12 European and 925 Chinese in steerage. For New York: Mr. R. W. Beyrich. For London: Revd. R. S. MacLay. For Liverpool: Messrs. G. Peters, A. Radcliffe, Edward Kinch, W. R. Brett, A. G. Beale, T. H. Harbottle, Dr. James Johnston, in cabin.

Per French steamer *Volga* for Hongkong:—Mr. and Mrs. Favre Brandt, three children and servant, Mr. and Mrs. Hepburn, Mr. and Mrs. Kolvig and children, Messrs. J. A. Wong, Aganoor, Ch. Boudon, K. Fokoda, C. Nakayama, Achée, O. and Yoshi in cabin.

Per Japanese steamer *Kokonoye Maru* for Hongkong via Kobe:—Mr. and Mrs. D'Iffanger, Miss Boudan, Messrs. Burchard, Uchida, and Iwasaki Yanoski, in cabin.

CARGOES.

Per British steamer *Malacca* from Hongkong:—

Sundries 1,717 pkgs.
 Sugar 948 "

Total 2,665 pkgs.

From Nagasaki:—

General 182 pkgs.

Per Japanese steamer *Hiroshima Maru* from Shanghai and ports:—

Treasure \$60,000.00

Per British steamer *Oceanic* for San Francisco:—

TEA:

From	San Fran.	N. York.	Other Cities.	Total
Shanghai	—	247	—	247
Nagasaki	—	—	—	—
Hio-go	—	—	773	773
Yokohama	1,086	507	28	1,621
Hongkong	—	—	—	—
Total	1,086	754	801	2,641

SILK:

From	San Fran.	N. York.	Other Cities.	Total
Shanghai	8	266	—	274
Hongkong	1	347	—	348
Yokohama	—	141	—	141
Total	9	753	—	763

Per French steamer *Volga* for Hongkong:—

Silk for France 689 bales.

" " London 53 "

Total 742 bales

REPORTS.

The German barque *Black Diamond* reports:—Experienced very heavy gales from different quarters with high cross sea during the whole of the passage.

The Japanese steamer *Kokonoye Maru* reports:—Left Hongkong on the 19th instant at 1 a.m. Fresh N.E. wind, heavy sea and cloudy weather: arrived at Kobe at 4 p.m. 25th instant, left next day at 6 p.m., moderate northerly winds and fine weather throughout. Arrived Yokohama 28th instant, at 6.45 a.m.

The British steamer *Oceanic* reports:—Left Hongkong March 23rd, at 2 p.m. Up Formosa channel moderate N.E. winds and fine weather, thence to port light variable winds and very smooth. Arrived 29th instant at 4.30 p.m.

The British steamer *Bellerophon* reports:—Moderate N.E. winds and fine clear weather into port.

NATIVE CURRENCY QUOTATIONS.

(For Week Ending 2nd April, 1881.)

		Discount on Yen Satz.			Gold Yen.	Nipon.	Silver Subsidary (New.)	Silver Subsidary (Old.)
		A. M.	Noon.	Closing.				
1881								
Saturday	Mar. 26	80 ¹ / ₂	80 ¹ / ₂	80 ¹ / ₂	—	—	—	—
Monday	" 28	80 ¹ / ₂	81 ¹ / ₂	81 ¹ / ₂	—	—	—	—
Tuesday	" 29	80 ¹ / ₂	80 ¹ / ₂	80 ¹ / ₂	—	—	—	—
Wednesday	" 30	80 ¹ / ₂	80 ¹ / ₂	80 ¹ / ₂	—	—	—	—
Thursday	" 31	80 ¹ / ₂	80 ¹ / ₂	80 ¹ / ₂	—	—	—	—
Friday	April 1	80 ¹ / ₂	80 ¹ / ₂	80 ¹ / ₂	—	—	—	—
Saturday	" 2	81 ¹ / ₂	80 ¹ / ₂	80 ¹ / ₂	—	—	—	—

YOKOHAMA-TOKIO RAILWAY.

DOWN TRAINS LEAVE SHINBASHI.

A.M.	A.M.	A.M.	A.M.	NOON.	P.M.	P.M.	P.M.	P.M.	P.M.	P.M.	P.M.
7.0	8.15	9.30	10.45	12.0	2.0	3.15	4.30	5.45	7.0	8.15	9.30

UP TRAINS LEAVE YOKOHAMA.

A.M.	A.M.	A.M.	A.M.	NOON.	P.M.	P.M.	P.M.	P.M.	P.M.	P.M.	P.M.
7.0	8.15	9.30	10.45	12.0	2.0	3.15	4.30	5.45	7.0	8.15	9.30

SHIPPING INTELLIGENCE.

VESSELS IN HARBOUR.

NAME.	CAPTAIN.	FLAG AND REG.	TONS.	FROM.	ARRIVED.	CONSIGNEES.
STEAMERS.						
Bellerophon	T. W. Freeman	British steamer	1,397	Hongkong	Mar. 30	Butterfield & Swire.
Hiroshima Maru	Haaswell	Japanese steamer	1,870	Shanghai & ports	Mar. 31	M. B. Co.
Menzaleh	Homery	French steamer	1,273	Hongkong	Mar. 22	M. M. Co.
SAILING SHIPS.						
Alexander	Carson	American schooner	52	Nagasaki	Nov. 3	J. E. Collyer
Anna Sieben	Paulsen	German barque	604	Antwerp	Mar. 11	Order
Black Diamond	Beade	German barque	601	Nagasaki	Mar. 28	P. Bohm
Cilurnum	Beadle	British ship	1,850	Hongkong	Nov. 8	Edward Fischer & Co.
Louisa	H. Schmidt	Ger. 3-mast schr.	245	Takao	Mar. 20	Chinese
Mary C. Bohm	Petersen	German schooner	55	Kurile Islands	Oct. 24	P. Bohm
North Star	Johnson	Russian schooner	42	Kurile Islands	Nov. 16	H. W. Hohabols & Co.
Otome	Hardy	American schooner	72	Kurile Islands	Dec. 13	H. Snow
Otsego	Isaacson	Russian schooner	46	Kurile Islands	Nov. 3	H. Cook
Pioneer	Alaies	Russian schooner	72	Hakodate	Jan. 17	Walsh, Hall & Co.
Stella	Werner	American schooner	30	Kurile Islands	Oct. 11	Captain

VESSELS OF WAR IN PORT.

NAME.	GUNS.	TONS.	H. P.	DESCRIPTION.	WHERE FROM.	COMMANDER.
FRENCH—Champlain	10	2,000	—	Corvette	Kobe	Dubrot
GERMAN—Vineta	19	2,000	—	Corvette	Kobe	Zirnew
ENGLISH—Albatross	4	940	840	Sloop	Kobe	Errington
AMERICAN—Alert	4	1,020	700	Sloop	Kobe	Huntington
RUSSIAN—Minia	22	5,740	900	Ironclad	Cruise	Nasimoff

VESSELS ON THE BERTH.

DESTINATION.	NAME.	AGENTS.	TO BE DESPATCHED.
San Francisco	Cilurnum	Edward Fischer & Co.	Unsettled
San Francisco	City of Tokio	P. M. Co.	April 30th, at daylight
London via Kobe Nagasaki and Hongkong...	Bellerophon	Butterfield & Swire	Quick despatch
Shanghai and way-ports	Hiroshima Maru	M. B. Co.	April 6th, at 6 P.M.

COMMERCIAL INTELLIGENCE.

IMPORTS.—The dullness seems to get more intensified. Buyers being again disheartened by the renewed fall in kiusatsu. Yarns 16/24's a fair amount of business has been done at low rates. 28/32's stock heavy and prices falling. Shirtings quite neglected. *Lacons*, some transactions and more enquiry at quotations. *Woolens* very dull and almost nominal.

COTTON YARNS:—

Nos. 16 to 24, Common to Medium ...	per picul	\$29.50 to 31.00
" " " " " " " " " " " "	"	\$31.50 to 32.75
Bombay, No. 20 do. ...	"	\$29.00 to 31.00
Nos. 28 to 32, Common to Medium ...	"	\$32.75 to 33.50
" " " " " " " " " " " "	"	\$34.00 to 34.50
" 38 to 42 ...	"	\$37.00 to 39.00

COTTON PIECE GOODS:—

Grey Shirtings:—7 lb. per piece 28½ yds. 39 in.	\$1.25 to 1.63
" " 8½ lb. " 38½ " 39 in.	\$1.80 to 2.20
" " 9 lb. " 38½ " 45 in.	\$2.10 to 2.45
T. Cloths:—7 lb. " 24 yds. 32 in. per piece	\$1.40 to 1.60
Drills, English:—14-15 lb. 40 " 30 in.	\$2.30 to 2.50
Indigo Shirtings:— " 12 " 44 in.	\$1.42½ to 1.52½
Prints:—Assorted " 24 " 30 in.	\$1.40 to 2.60
Cotton Italians & Sateens Black 32 in.	\$0.06½ to 0.12½
Turkey Reds: 2 to 2½ lb. 24 yds. 30 in.	\$1.40 to 1.60
Do. 2½ to 3 lb. 24 " 30 in.	\$1.55 to 1.70
Do. 3 lb. " 24 " 30 in.	\$1.70 to 1.80

COTTON PIECE GOODS:—Continued.

Velvets:—Black ... 35 yds. 22 in. per piece	\$6.75 to 8.50
Victoria Lawns ... 12 " 42/3 " "	\$0.70 to 0.75
Taffachelaas:— " 12 " 43 " "	\$1.70 to 1.90
WOOLLENS:—	
Plain Orleans ... 40-42 yds. 32 in.	4.50 to 5.50
Figured Orleans ... 29-30 " 31 " ...	3.50 to 4.25
Lastings ... 29-30 " 31 " ...	10.00 to 11.00
Italian Cloth ... 30 " 32 " ...	0.18 to 0.30
Camlet Corda ... 29-30 " 22 " ...	4.50 to 5.50
Mousselines de Laines:—Crape 24 yds. 30 in.	0.16 to 0.17
do. " Itajime 24 " 30 " ...	0.23 to 0.29
do. " Yuzen 24 " 30 " ...	0.35 to 0.40
Cloths, all wool plain or fancy... 48 in. to 52 in.	0.80 to 1.50
Pilots... " 54 " to 56 " ...	0.30 to 0.45
Presidents... " 54 " to 56 " ...	0.45 to 0.55
Union ... " 54 " to 56 " ...	0.30 to 0.55
Blankets, green, 6 to 8 lbs. ... per lb. ...	0.37 to 0.40

SAIGON RICE.—Stock, none.

KEROSENE.—Stock is reduced to 362,000 cases. Sales 8,000 cases.

SUGAR.—Stock 77,000 bags. Sales 1,000 bags.

Sugar:—Takao in bag New ...	per picul	\$4.20
" " " " " " " " " " " "	"	\$3.90
" Taiwanfoo in bag... ..	"	\$3.90
" Ching-pak and Ke-pak ...	"	\$7.75 to \$8.50
China No. 4-5, Kongfun & Kook-fah...	"	\$6.50 to \$8.75

Japan Rice ...	per picul	\$2.67 to 2.87
Japan Wheat ...	"	\$2.03
Saigon Rice [cargo] ...	"	\$1.78 to 1.80
Kerosene Oil... ..	case	\$1.90 to 1.91

EXPORTS.

SILK.—There is little change to report in our silk market for the past week. The market has been rather weak, and for some classes of silk holders have been willing to accept a small reduction; the demand, however, has been limited and only a moderate business has been done. Stocks are estimated at about 1,800 shipping bales and total shipments to date amount to 18,690 bales.

Quotations Hanks.—No. 2 ...	\$590	= 19.0 Nominal.
" " 2½ ...	\$560	= 18/1
" " 3 & infra.	\$520 to \$530	= 16/10 to 17/2
Filatures.—No. 1 ...	\$670 to \$680	= 2.7 to 21/11
" 2 ...	\$635 to \$645	= 20/6 to 20/10
" 3 ...	\$620	= 20
Kakedas—Best ...	\$660 to \$670	= 21.3 to 21/7
" Medium & Good ...	\$610 to \$630	= 19/8 to 20/4
Re-Reels Medium to Best...	\$615 to \$635	= 19/10 to 20/6

TEA.—Our market may now be considered as closed for the season, settlements for the week being some 200 piculs only; in the absence of any demand, and in view of the small stock of desirable tea on offer, all quotations are nominal.

Common ...	} Nominal.	Fine ...	} Nominal.
Good Common ...		Finest ...	
Medium ...		Choice ...	
Good Medium ...		Choicest ...	

EXCHANGE AND BULLION.

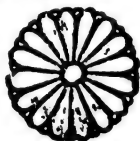
STERLING—Bank 4 months' sight ...	3/9½ @ 3/9½	ON SHANGHAI—Bank sight.....	72½
" Bank Bills on demand.....	3/8½ @ 3/8½	" Private 10 days' sight.....	73
" Private 4 months' sight ...	3/9½	ON NEW YORK—Bank Bills on demand.....	90½
" " 6 " " " " " " " " " "	3/9½	" Private 30 days' sight.....	91½
ON PARIS—Bank sight ...	4.69	ON SAN FRANCISCO—Bank Bills on demand.....	90½
" Private 6 months' sight ...	4.84	" Private 30 days' sight ...	91½
ON HONGKONG—Bank sight ...	½ % disc.	KINSATZ	80½ dis.
" Private 10 days' sight ...	1 % disc.	GOLD YEN	380 nom.

SHIPPING.

SHIPPING.—Harbour still very bare of shipping. Vessels on the berth:—The *Cilurnum*, for San Francisco; S. S. *Bellerophon*, for London.

MISCELLANEOUS.

TRANSLATION



NOTIFICATION

No. 13 of Daijokwan.

IT IS HEREBY NOTIFIED that any Master, Mate or Engineer, holding a Certificate of Competency from any Foreign Government shall, provided the qualifications and requirements under which any such Certificate was issued are deemed to be in no ways inferior to the qualifications and requirements for a Certificate of a corresponding grade under Notification No. 82 of the 9th Year of Meiji, be entitled to a Certificate of Competency of a similar grade without undergoing any examination.

It is also further Notified that the regular examination of applicants for Masters, Mates or Engineers Certificates shall here-after only be held during the 3rd, 6th, 9th and 12th Months of each Year, on such day and hour as shall hereafter be Notified by Yokitei Kioku.

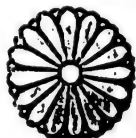
(Signed) SANJO SANEYOSHI,
Daijō-Daijin.



NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that in accordance with Notification of Daijōkwan No. 13, the regular examination of Applicants for Masters, Mates or Engineers Certificates will, till further notice, be conducted at Tokio on the third Tuesday in every 3rd, 6th, 9th and 12th Month of each year, commencing at 9.00 a.m.

H. MAYESHIMA,
Chief Superintendent.

Yokitei Kioku, Feb. 24th, 1880.



NOTICE TO MARINERS.

SHIMONOSEKI STRAITS BUOYS.

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN, that KANABUSE BUOY and MIDDLE GROUND BLACK BUOY, which were advertized as having broken adrift from their moorings, have been replaced

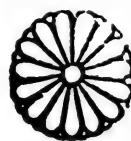
BY ORDER.

Lighthouse Establishment.

Bentou,

Yokohama, 17th January, 1881.

MISCELLANEOUS.



NOTICE TO MARINERS.

No. 1 of the 14th Year of Meiji, (1881.)

KAGENO SIMA LIGHTHOUSE.

ENTRANCE TO NAGASAKI HARBOUR.

THE GOVERNMENT OF JAPAN hereby gives notice that, on the night of the 1st day of the 3rd Month of the 14th Year of Meiji (1st March, 1881), and every night thereafter, from Sunset to Sunrise, a Fixed Red Light of the 6th Order will be exhibited from the tower built on the Northern point of Kageno Sima, at the Entrance to the harbour of Nagasaki, in the province of Hizen.

According to the Japanese Admiralty Chart No. 108, and the British Admiralty Chart No. 2415, the Lighthouse is situated in latitude 32 degrees 42 minutes 42 seconds North, and in longitude 129 degrees 49 minutes 37 seconds East of Greenwich.

The Tower is built of stone, and is 15 feet 8 inches high from the base to the center of the lantern.

The Light will have an arc of visibility of 206 degrees, the cut off bearings being N. 81° 30' W. and S. 55° 30' E. Bearings true.

The total elevation of the Light above the sea will be 40 feet, and its range of visibility, in clear weather, about 8 Nautical miles.

YAMAO YOZO,
Minister of Public Works
Tokei, February 3rd, 1881.



NOTICE TO MARINERS.

No. 2 of the 14th Year of Meiji, (1881.)

BLACK BUOY OFF HANEDA LIGHTHOUSE.

BAY OF YEDO.

THE GOVERNMENT OF JAPAN hereby gives notice that the Black Buoy, which was moored off Haneda shoal, Bay of Yedo, before the erection of the Pile-Lighthouse in the 8th Year of Meiji (1875) on said shoal, and which has remained in same position ever since, will be removed on the First day of the Seventh month of the Fourteenth year of Meiji (1st July 1881), experience having proved that navigation is now safe without the Buoy.

YAMAO YOZO,
Minister of Public Works
Tokei, February 22nd, 1881.

MISCELLANEOUS.

CHINESE
IMPERIAL GOVERNMENTEIGHT PER CENT. LOAN OF
1878.

FOURTH DRAWING.

BONDS Drawn in Hongkong in February last, and the Fourth Coupon for Tls. 19.40 of above Loan, will be payable on and after this date, at the Offices of the HONGKONG AND SHANGHAI BANKING CORPORATION, where List of Dr. wu Bonds may be obtained.

For the HONGKONG AND SHANGHAI
BANKING CORPORATION,

Agents issuing the Loan,

JOHN WALTER,
Manager.

Yokohama, March 21st, 1881.

H. MacARTHUR,
SHIP-BROKER AND CUSTOMS
AGENT,

N.O. 70, Yokohama,

(Opposite the Old British Post Office).

Yokohama, 4th May, 1880.

"HIGHEST AWARD & PRIZE MEDAL PHILADELPHIA
EXHIBITION, 1876."**OAKEY'S**
WELLINGTON KNIFE POLISH

PREPARED EXPRESSLY FOR THE PATENT KNIFE-
CLEANING MACHINES, INDIA RUBBER AND BUFF
LEATHER KNIFE BOARDS. KNIVES CONSTANTLY
CLEANED WITH IT HAVE A BRILLIANT POLISH EQUAL
TO NEW CUTLERY. PACKETS 3D. EACH; AND TINS,
6D., 1/-, 2/6 AND 4/- EACH.

OAKEY'S
INDIA RUBBER KNIFE BOARDS

PREVENT FRICTION IN CLEANING AND INJURY TO
THE KNIFE. OAKEY'S WELLINGTON KNIFE POLISH
SHOULD BE USED WITH HIS BOARDS.

OAKEY'S
SILVERSMITHS SOAP

[NON-MERCURIAL].
FOR CLEANING AND POLISHING SILVER, ELECTRO-
PLATE, PLATE GLASS, &c. TABLETS 6D. EACH.

OAKEY'S
WELLINGTON BLACK LEAD

IN SOLID BLOCKS—1D., 2D. & 4D. EACH, & 18. BOXES.

JOHN OAKEY & SONS
MANUFACTURERS OF
EMERY CLOTH
EMERY BLACK LEAD
CABINET GLASS PAPER
&c.
WELLINGTON EMERY & BLACK LEAD MILLS
WESTMINSTER BRIDGE ROAD, LONDON, ENGLAND.

July, 1879.

MISCELLANEOUS.

THE GREATEST

WONDER OF MODERN TIMES
HOLLOWAY'S PILLS.

PERSONS suffering from weak or debilitated constitutions will discover that by the use of this wonderful medicine there is "Health for all." The blood is the fountain of life, and its purity can be maintained by the use of these Pills.

SIR SAMUEL BAKER,

in his work entitled "The Nile Tributaries in Abyssinia," says, "I ordered the dragoman Mahomet to inform the Eskey that I was a Doctor, and that I had the best medicines at the service of the sick, with advice gratis. In a short time I had many applicants, to whom I served out a quantity of Holloway's Pills. These are most useful to an explorer, as possessing unmistakable purgative properties they create an undeniable effect upon the patient, which satisfies him of their value."

SIMPLE, SAFE AND CERTAIN!
HOLLOWAY'S OINTMENT.

Is a certain remedy for bad legs, bad breasts, and ulcerations of all kinds. It acts miraculously in healing ulcerations, curing skin diseases, and in arresting and subduing all inflammations.

MR. J. T. COOPER,

in his account of his extraordinary travels in China, published in 1871, says—"I had with me a quantity of Holloway's Ointment. I gave some to the people, and nothing could exceed their gratitude; and, in consequence, milk, fowls, butter, and horse-feed poured in upon us, until at last a tea-spoonful of Ointment was worth a fowl and any quantity of peas, and the demand became so great that I was obliged to lock up the small remaining stock."

Sold by all Chemists and Medicine Vendors throughout the World
May 17th, 1873. tf.

SAVORY & MOORE'S
ASTHMA, FOR DIFFICULT BREATHING & C
DATURA FOR TATULA
Cigars, Cigarettes or Tobacco, also Pastilles and Powder for Inhalation.
SAVORY & MOORE, NEW BOND STREET, LONDON,
And of all Chemists and Storekeepers throughout the world.
December 1880.

SUN FIRE OFFICE.

THE UNDERSIGNED are prepared to accept RISKS
AGAINST FIRE for periods

Not exceeding Ten days at.....1/8th,
" " Four days at.....1/16th,

of the annual rate.

WILKIN & ROBISON,
Agents.

Yokohama, June 24, 1879

MISCELLANEOUS.

**CROSSE & BLACKWELL'S
CELEBRATED OILMEN'S STORES.***Nine Prize Medals, Paris, Vienna and Philadelphia.*

PICKLES AND SAUCES,
JAMS AND JELLIES,
ORANGE MARMALADE,
TART FRUITS, DESSERT FRUITS,
PURE SALAD OIL,
MUSTARD, VINEGAR,
POTTED MEATS AND FISH,
FRESH SALMON AND HERRINGS,
HERRINGS A LA SARDINE,
YARMOUTH BLOATERS,
BLACKWALL WHITEBAIT,
PREPARED SOUPS, IN TINS,
PRESERVED VEGETABLES,
HAMS AND BACON, IN TINS,
PRESERVED CHERSE,
OXFORD AND CAMBRIDGE SAUSAGES,
BOLOGNA SAUSAGES,
YORKSHIRE GAME AND PORK PIES,
TONGUES, GAME, POULTRY,
PLUM PUDDINGS,
LEA AND PEBBINS' WORCESTERSHIRE
SAUCE.

*Fresh supplies of the above, and numerous other table
delicacies, may be had from most Storekeepers.***CAUTION.***To prevent the fraud of refilling the bottles or jars
they should invariably be destroyed when empty.**Goods should always be examined upon delivery, to
detect any attempt at substitution of articles of inferior
brands.**All genuine goods bear the names of Crosse & Blackwell
on the Labels, Corks and Capsules of the Bottles,
Jars and Tins.*

CROSSE & BLACKWELL,
PURVEYORS TO THE QUEEN,
SOHO SQUARE, LONDON.

July, 1878.



JOSEPH GILLOTT'S STEEL PENS.	Gold.
JOSEPH GILLOTT'S STEEL PENS.	Medal.
JOSEPH GILLOTT'S STEEL PENS.	Paris.
JOSEPH GILLOTT'S STEEL PENS.	1878.

April, 1880.

MISCELLANEOUS.

**J. & E. ATKINSON'S
PERFUMERY,***celebrated for nearly a century past, is of the very best English
manufacture. For its purity and great excellence it has
obtained the following*

EXHIBITION PRIZE MEDALS,
LONDON, 1862. PARIS, 1875. CORDOVA, 1872. LIMA, 1872.
VIENNA, 1874. PHILADELPHIA, 1876.
GOLD MEDAL PARIS, 1878.

**ATKINSON'S CHOICE PERFUMES FOR
THE HANDKERCHIEF.***White Rose, Frangipanna, Ylang-ylang, Stephanotis,
Opopanax, Jockey Club, Ess Bouquet, Trevel,
Magnolia, Jasmin, Wood Violet, Gold Medal Bouquet,
and all other odours, of the finest quality only.***ATKINSON'S FLORIDA WATER,***a most fragrant Perfume distilled from the choicest Essences***ATKINSON'S QUININE HAIR LOTION,***a very refreshing Wash which stimulates the skin to a healthy
action and promotes the growth of the hair.***ATKINSON'S****ETHEREAL ESSENCE OF LAVENDER,***a powerful Perfume distilled from the finest flowers.***ATKINSON'S WHITE ROSE TOILET VINEGAR,***a new and indispensable Toilet accompaniment, and most
refreshing Perfume for the Handkerchief.***ATKINSON'S WHITE ROSE TOOTH PASTE,***and other Specialties and general articles of Perfumery may
be obtained of all Dealers throughout the World, and of the
manufacturers*

J. & E. ATKINSON,
24, OLD BOND STREET, LONDON, W.

PRICE LIST FREE ON APPLICATION.

*CAUTION.—Messrs. J. & E. ATKINSON manufacture
their articles of fine and the best quality only. Purchasers are
cautioned to avoid counterfeits by observing that each article
is labelled with the firm's Trade Mark, a "White Rose" on a
"Golden Lyre."*

ESTABLISHED 1799.

NOTICE.

No. 31, } **COMMERCIAL DINING ROOMS.** { No 31,
Water Street. } Water Street

ON and after this date, the following prices will be
charged:—

BOARDper month \$25.00

*Very comfortable bed-rooms,**With European fire-places, and every comfort guaranteed*

WM. CURTIS.

Yokohama, November 9th, 1880.

THE BEST REMEDY FOR INDIGESTION.

TRADE



MARK.

*CAMOMILE PILLS are confidently recommended as a simple Remedy for Indigestion, which is
the cause of nearly all the diseases to which we are subject, being a medicine so uniformly grateful
and beneficial, that it is with justice called the "Natural Strengthener of the Human Stomach."**"Norton's Pills" act as a powerful tonic and gentle aperient; are mild in their operation, safe
under any circumstances, and thousands of persons can now bear testimony to the benefits to be
derived from their use, as they have been a never-failing Family Friend for upwards of 45 years.
Sold in Bottles at 1s. 1½d., 2s. 9d., and 11s. each, by all Medicine Vendors throughout the World.***CAUTION.***Be sure and ask for "NORTON'S PILLS," and do not be persuaded to purchase an imitation.*

November, 11th, 1878.

MISCELLANEOUS.

ANDW. HANDYSIDE & Co.

Limited.

32, Walbrook. London,

BRITANNIA IRON WORKS, DERBY

Manufacture all kinds of

IRON WORK,

Structural & Ornamental.

BRIDGES of every description. Girder Bridges. Arch Bridges. Suspension Bridges.

A. H. & Co. make every year for Foreign Countries some thousands of Tons of Bridges.

LANDING-PIERS AND JETTIES.

ROOFS AND BUILDINGS. MARKETS.

Illustrated Catalogue (A) free on Application.

ORNAMENTAL IRONWORK, ETC.

See Large New Illustrated Catalogues (B. & C.) with 1,300 designs.

Railings. Balcony Panels.
Gates. Street Posts.
Lamp-pillars. Lamp-brackets.
Balusters. Newels.
Crestings. Terminals.

Columns. Column Capitals.
Brackets. Gratings.
Windows. Casements.
Fountains. Drinking Fountains.
Vases. Pedestals.

Conservatories. Band-Stands.

SMITH'S HEARTHES & PORTABLE FORGES

12 Shapes and Sizes.

Catalogue (D) free on Application.

Andw. Handyside & Co., Limited,
LONDON.

26 ins.

ADOLPHUS SINGTON & CO.,

5, St. PETER'S SQUARE,

MANCHESTER,
ENGLAND.CONTRACTORS, CIVIL ENGINEERS, AND
EXPORTERS

OF ALL DESCRIPTIONS OF

MACHINERY.

May 4, 1878.

MISCELLANEOUS.

SAVORY & MOORE'S PANCREATIC EMULSION MEDICINAL FOOD	SAVORY & MOORE'S BEST FOOD FOR INFANTS	SAVORY & MOORE'S DATURATATULA FOR ASTHMA
IN CONSUMPTION AND WASTING DISEASES IMPROVES THE APPETITE Increases Strength and Weight.	SUPPLIED TO THE ROYAL NURSERIES. THE MOST DIGESTIBLE, CONTAINS THE HIGHEST AMOUNT OF NOURISHMENT IN THE MOST CONVENIENT FORM. In Tins 1s., 2s., 6s. and 10s.	Asthma & Difficult Breathing promptly relieved and paroxysms arrested by Datura Tatula Inhalations Testimonies accompanying each box of Cigarettes, Olgars and Pastilles. Tins, in the economical form of tobacco, and also in powder for burning, from 2s. 6d. to 5s.

August 2, 1879.

26780

TRADE



MARK.

ELLWOOD'S

PATENT AIR CHAMBER

HATS AND HELMETS

THE ONLY EFFECTUAL PROTECTION
AGAINST SUN STROKE.

To be obtained of all respectable Hatters and Outfitters
and Wholesale only of

J. ELLWOOD & SONS,
LONDON.

Beware of Useless Imitations.

DINNEFORD'S

THE BEST REMEDY FOR ACIDITY
OF THE STOMACH, HEARTBURN,
HEADACHE, GOUT AND INDIGESTION.



DINNEFORD & Co., Chemists
London,

N.B. ASK FOR DINNEFORD'S MAGNESIA.

THE SAFEST MILD
APERIENT FOR DELICATE
CONSTITUTIONS, LADIES,
CHILDREN AND INFANTS,
AND FOR REGULAR USE
IN WARM CLIMATES.

FLUID MAGNESIA.

And of Druggists and Storekeepers throughout
the World.

April 10, 1880

17.

MISCELLANEOUS.

BUGS, FLEAS, MOTHS, BEETLES,

and all other insects are destroyed by

KEATING'S INSECT POWDER,

which is quite harmless to Domestic Animals.

In exterminating Beetles the success of this Powder is extraordinary, and no one need be troubled by those pests. It is perfectly clean in application.

Ask for and be sure to obtain "KEATING'S POWDER," as Imitations are Noxious, and fail in giving satisfaction.

SOLD BY ALL CHEMISTS IN BOTTLES, 1/- & 2/6 each.

KEATING'S WORM TABLETS,

A PURELY VEGETABLE SWEETMEAT, both in appearance and taste, furnishing a most agreeable method of administering the only certain remedy for **INTESTINAL or THREAD WORMS.** It is a perfectly safe and mild preparation, and is especially adapted for Children.

TESTIMONIAL.

Medical Hall, Gildersome, Nov. 28th, 1876.

MR. KEATING,

Dear Sir,—I think it nothing but my duty to inform you of the immense sale I have for your Worm Tablets, which I may justly say is enormous, and in every case gives the greatest satisfaction. I have now in stock two bottles containing the Round Worms brought me during the last few days by customers, one Worm 40 yards long. I dare not be without the remedy.—Yours respectfully,

M. A. WALKER.

SOLD IN BOTTLES, BY ALL CHEMISTS AND DRUGGISTS.

Proprietor—**THOMAS KEATING, London.**

REWARD AND CAUTION.—Whereas fraudulent imitations of this unsurpassed remedy have been sold, I hereby request anyone knowing of the vendor of the same to communicate with me, on conviction of the offender a liberal reward will be paid.

April, 1880.

E. P & W. BALDWIN,
WILDEN WORKS.

STOURPORT ENGLAND.

SHEET IRON,

BRANDED

"BALDWIN—WILDEN," AND "SEVERN."

TIN PLATES,

BRANDED "EP & WB" "WILDEN," "UNICORN,"
"ARLEY," "STOUR."

Stamping Sheets, Button Iron, Sheet Iron, Pickled, Cold Rolled, and Close Annealed.

Export Agents—

Brooker, Dore & Co., 2, Rood Lane, London, E.C.
April, 1880.

THE "HIOGO NEWS."

PUBLISHED AT HIOGO EVERY MORNING,
(Sundays excepted).

SUBSCRIPTION \$24 per Annum, payable half-yearly
in advance.

Terms for Advertising can be obtained at

"JAPAN MAIL" OFFICE.

Yokohama, February 12, 1874.

MISCELLANEOUS.

HONGKONG AND SHANGHAI BANKING CORPORATION.

PAID-UP CAPITAL \$5,000,000.
RESERVE FUND... .. \$1,800,000.

Head Office: HONGKONG.

COURT OF DIRECTORS.

Chairman—ALEX. McIVER, Esq.

Deputy Chairman—H. L. DALRYMPLE Esq.,

Adolf André, Esq., E. R. Belilios, Esq., H. de C. Forbes, Esq.,
H. Hoppius, Esq., Hon. W. Keswick, F. D. Sassoon, Esq.,
W. S. Young, Esq.,

Chief Manager—THOS JACKSON, Esq.

LONDON COMMITTEE.

A. H. Phillpotts, Esq.,

E. F. Duncanson, Esq.,

Albert Deacon, Esq.,

Manager—DAVID McLEAN, Esq.

Bankers—LONDON AND COUNTY BANK.

SHANGHAI.

Manager—EWEN CAMERON, Esq.

BRANCHES AND AGENCIES.

New York, London, Bombay, Calcutta, Foochow, Shanghai, Hiogo
Hankow, Saigon, Amoy, San Francisco, Manila, Singapore.

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Yokohama, 26th February, 1881.

The "Japan Mail,"

A Daily, Weekly, and Fortnightly Journal,

ESTABLISHED, 1865.

TERMS OF SUBSCRIPTION.

WEEKLY EDITION. The "Japan Weekly Mail," a Weekly Review
of Japanese Commerce, Politics, Literature and Art:—Per
annum, \$24; Six months, \$13; Three months, \$7.

FORTNIGHTLY EDITION, being a Summary of the foregoing, is pub-
lished for transmission by the American Mail Steamers via
San Francisco. Per annum, \$12; Six months, \$7; Three
months, \$4.

THE JAPAN DAILY MAIL is published every morning (Sundays ex-
cepted) and contains the Arrivals and Departures of all
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AGENTS OF THE PAPER.

LONDON..... G. Street, 30, Cornhill.
NEW YORK..... Bates, Hendy, & Co., 4, Old Jewry.
SAN FRANCISCO..... A. Wind, 133, Nassau Street.
HONGKONG..... White & Bauer, 413, Washington Street.
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Who are authorized to receive Subscriptions and Advertisements
for these papers.

Printed and published for the Proprietor, by the Manager
A. HERBERT BLACKWELL, at the "Japan Mail" Office, 16
Bund, Yokohama.

THE Japan Weekly Mail,

A WEEKLY REVIEW OF
JAPANESE COMMERCE, POLITICS, LITERATURE, AND ART.

VOL. V. No. 14.]

Yokohama, April 9th, 1881.

[\$24 PER ANNUM.]

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The Japan Weekly Mail.

'FAIR CE QUE DOIS; ADVIENNE QUE POURRA.'

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It is particularly requested that all letters on business, relating to Advertisements, Job-printing, or Accounts, be addressed to the MANAGER.

And that literary contributions of every description be addressed to the EDITOR.

YOKOHAMA: SATURDAY, APRIL 9TH, 1881.

JAPANESE ERA 2541, MEIJI 14TH YEAR, 4TH MONTH, 9TH DAY.

Schiller, in a letter on æsthetic culture, says that the sense of beauty never promoted the performance of a single duty. This statement has been justly designated a "gross and inconceivable falsity." Everything grand or fair in this beautiful world of ours—from "ocean's Alpine azure" to the mountain solitudes of Horeb and Nebo where Moses and Aaron died—everything has some power to dispel the weariness that often overtakes our strongest resolves, or to exorcise the phantom of selfishness that narrows the horizon of effort and ambition. When Bacon grumbled because the luxury of glass windows was beginning to become too common, and thrifty Elizabeth looked with fearful eye at the increase of comfort and refinement among her subjects, the minister and the monarch alike forgot that the growth of men's faculties cannot be promoted in one direction and curbed in another. Even as the intellect becomes more dominant and the goal at which we aim, higher, so is the appreciation of nature's fairer aspects developed with greater strength, and the necessity of communion with life's gentler influences experienced more imperatively. Which of us, "foreigners," in this hard struggle for life—a struggle that taxes mind and body alike to the utmost limit of endurance—has not often felt an almost irresistible craving for the elysium of "auld lang syne," and known of a surety that our estimate of markets and forecast of exchanges would be aided beyond measure by, say, an afternoon in the Crystal Palace,

or an evening with Toole as the "Artful Dodger." We do not lay claim to any very high moral development. Some have been pleased to call us "scum," others "drift," but to both of these definitions we reply—a little after the fashion of Mr. Elijah Pogram, indeed—that our "home is in the rising sun" and that the process of natural selection which has brought us here, could not have been endured by beings of an altogether ordinary stamp. What better proof could be adduced of this than the performances we have witnessed during the past week? If any community of five hundred individuals in the United Kingdom could produce such a cast for the performance of the *Chimney Corner* and *H. M. S. Pinafore* as Yokohama has just produced, the general standard of histrionic capabilities must be very much higher now than it was a few years ago. It was once our good fortune to see the part of *John Probit* played by Robson; it has now been our better fortune to see Mr. Mitchell in the same character. We speak advisedly. The great professional has had few rivals, and his power of moving an audience to mirth or grief will long be remembered by Englishmen, but there were points in our amateur's conception and rendering of *John Probit* that left a deeper impression upon our minds than even Robson's acting. That part of the piece which demands the most exceptional ability is the discovery of the "moot of money's" disappearance. The words which the writer of the play puts into the Chandler's mouth when the latter finds the desk empty, are consummately skillful. There is no sudden outcry, no violent gesticulation or alarm; but simply a bewildered incredulity; an inability to realize the catastrophe; a persistent self-assurance that it *must* come right, shaken, however, by terrible misgivings, until the last possibility of doubt is removed, and the father's stout-hearted manhood is broken down, annihilated, by the awful conviction of his son's felony. It is not the final burst of passionate grief that taxes the actor's skill. Extremes of feeling are comparatively easy to depict. It is the combination of emotions, the rapid change from phase to phase, *before* the catastrophe, that can only be truly rendered by a great master, and we do not hesitate to confess that if *John Probit* had been an old friend and his misfortunes a "portion and parcel" of our present experience, we could scarcely have sympathised with him more heartily than we did last Monday evening.

As for *H. M. S. Pinafore* it would be simply idle to attempt any description of the exquisite delight the performance gave us. When the piece was put upon the London stage, there may have been among the company one or two stars of greater magnitude than we possess, but that the music was better, or the characters from first to last equally well sustained, is incredible. We cannot analyse, neither have we any desire to separate, the sum of emotions that are present with us still in their entirety. Sometimes, indeed, a distant chorus of sisters and cousins and aunts seems to come between us and the graver duties of life, teaching us, as Ruskin says, that "the crust about the impressible part of our minds has not been merely pricked at and scratched at,

but pierced to the quick with a deep thrust." Sometimes also we think with perhaps too much pride of Yokohama's capabilities, but on the whole our state of mind is a direct contradiction of Schiller's "gross and inconceivable falsity." The treats provided for us by the Dramatic and Choral Societies have gone far to reconcile us to our life of exile, and endowed us with new vigour to pursue a routine relieved by such delightful interludes.

Duos qui sequitur lepores, neutrum capit. If that victim of a kerosine craze, Mr. Sada Kaiseki—whose history we presented some time ago to our readers—had confined himself to the balance of trade question, he might have continued to strike an impressive attitude for a season in the eyes of one section of our community. But unfortunately for himself he got among the clouds, or at least among the planets, and so the *Gazette* has found him out. Nevertheless, though not such a dazzling meteor of menace as he once appeared, a certain haze seems to hide his exact proportions still. When he first entered the field of journalistic vision, the effect was tremendous. The priest and his little following of hungry satellites, were registered as a monster meeting of the principal merchants of Yokohama and Tokiyo, convened for the purpose of devising a scheme to ostracise imports and strongly swayed by official pressure. Subsequently, however, when corrections for personal equation and anti-paper parallax were applied to the observation, the assembly of influential traders dwindled into a "Society called the Kankosha, the members of which had bound themselves by oath to abstain from using imported goods of any description," and among these members were General Kuroda, Mr. Sakurai and other high officials." Now the meteor has entered upon a new phase. The "gentleman" is pronounced to be "Mr. Sato Kaseki, an exponent of the principles of the Buddhist faith, who is holding forth in Osaka to large audiences describing, in graphic terms, the evils inflicted upon this unhappy nation by the use of imported commodities."

The path of discovery has never been favorable to rapid progress, and we have therefore no reason to be captious because our contemporary is arriving by slow stages at a clear conception of this strange phenomenon. The meeting of influential merchants was an observation recorded under the influence of a temporary perturbation caused by a first sight of the meteor, and is therefore not reliable. The "gentleman Sato" is an approximate result, the Buddhist expositor, "Mr. Sato Kaseki," a reading still nearer the truth, and we may reasonably expect that the exact nature of the phenomenon will soon be discovered, and that the gentleman, the priest, and the official pressure, will be found to be one and the same constant factor, Sada Kaiseki, the "Kerosine Cenobite." It is perhaps a dispensation of some beneficent power that public interest should be stirred, however fictitiously, at a season when livers are wont to be sluggish, and this incident is particularly serviceable, for in addition to the excitement it has caused our contemporary, and perhaps also his readers, there is some fool for mirth in the notion of a crazy priest posing in so many attitudes that the bewilderment and consternation of his observers have prevented them from penetrating his disguises, and persuaded them that the great anti-foreign-commerce movement has obtained promoters as numerous as Sada Kaiseki's imaginary metamorphoses and fictitious followers.

As for the Kankosha, it existed long before Mr. Sada Kaiseki became definitely dazzled by kerosine lamps, and it has no more to do with the suppression of foreign trade than

the principles of Buddhism have to do with the proportions of the pyramids.

The merchants of Milan seem not less averse to the prospect of Japan's "direct trade" than the editor of the *Gazette*. *Il Villaggio*, the organ of the Italian graineurs, has of late indulged in many splenetic utterances on the subject. The following article, which we translate from that journal, will enable our readers to form a tolerably just estimate of the welcome accorded in Europe to this last outcome of Japanese speculation:—

At length all the silk-worms' eggs from Japan have come to hand, the last batch having arrived with the members of the "Second expedition," as detailed elsewhere in our columns of to-day (Jan. 30th). Those who may be disposed to take exception to this second expedition will do well to remember that it is only separated from the first by an interval of twelve days. Indeed, had its journey been performed without accident, the former might have arrived, if not at the same time as the latter, at any rate a very few days later, while on the other hand, had the same misfortunes befallen the latter, its advent would have been subsequent to that of the former.

Coming by the *City of Peking*, via America, this second expedition encountered a regular "Inferno" in the Atlantic Ocean, so that the steamer did not make Havre till the 21st inst. instead of the 14th. Nor was this the only mishap that befell the adventurers. The railroads from Havre were snowed up, so that the cards could not be brought on before the 27th, in excellent condition, however, their freshness having been preserved by the breath of the storm, first, and subsequently by a soft covering of woolly snow-flakes. As for the graineurs themselves, the last of their party, having dispatched their wares via America, came on by the Suez route, and made their appearance a few days ago. With them came Tanabeya, who appears in our list opposite to 70,000 cards. He was accompanied by four or five satellites.

Tanabeya could have disposed of the whole of his cards in Yokohama, but his ideas of value were of such an exalted nature that he demanded from \$2 to \$2½ per card. Failing to realize this figure, however, and seeing that all the large buyers were starting for Italy, he determined to follow their example, regardless of the fact that the supply they took was already ample, and beckoned onward by those golden visions that visit all merchants at some time or other. He sent his goods by way of America, taking one case, however, himself, for he was not disposed to profit by the experience of the Italian graineurs that silk-worms' eggs will not keep at this time of the year in tropical climates. The case was placed on deck and when it was opened at Point de Galle, Tanabeya was saluted by the nods of a multitude of tiny worms in happy expectation of a few mulberry leaves. The unfortunate merchant no doubt regretted that he had not been content with the lessons his foreign confrères had learned for him, and the thought of his hatched eggs did not much conduce to the pleasures of his voyage. The "blessed sea" too, agitated perpetually beyond its wont, tormented him. Nevertheless, as he had paid his passage money, and knew that it could not be refunded, he set himself to partake of the good things on board, albeit his stomach was fain to reject them with disgust. There was therefore nothing for it but resignation, and so he arrived at Naples, where he changed his Japanese "kimono" for European habiliments. Unfortunately, however, his pantaloons were several inches too short, despite which mishap he was well pleased to have come to the end of his voyage.

This year, as the card market in Milan is later than usual, speculators would be willing to do business were the prices not prohibitive. Yesterday one firm advanced three francs on previous quotations, but to-day, other houses have considerably reduced their figures. The cause of the high values that ruled in Yokohama was the action of a certain graineur, who disturbed the market by purchasing one special quality at a price that had no reference to its real worth. But for this the Japanese producers would not have entertained such exalted notions.

Some time ago we spoke of a novelty—the cards of Yezo. The Japanese Consul in Milan, Mr. Locatelli, has made

interest with the Japanese Minister at Rome to obtain a few of these eggs for North Italian cultivators, and we are now in a position to state positively that Prince Nabeshima, in his reply, promised not to forget the Consulate of Milan in the distribution of the cards, should they arrive.

Another novelty: Michel Maltecca! This is the name of a sympathetic young person who has already purchased cards for us in Yokohama, and who, having "fobbed" a million by his adventures, closed our business. He subsequently went to Persia, and is now in Teheran, acting as the Shah's commission agent. He has been charged by that potentate to procure the best white and green qualities of Japanese cards for the Royal nursery. We will write to Maltecca, begging him to employ his utmost influence with the Shah, to the end that his Majesty may become a subscriber to the *Villaggio*.

Another novelty: "Bivoltini" (twice-hatched eggs)! These have so confused us that we don't know who possesses them. We only know that they have been sold in Yokohama and forwarded to Italy. It behoves cultivators therefore to be on the *qui vive*, unless they wish to burn their fingers. More than this we cannot say.

Preparations for the building of the Emperor's new palace in the Park at Fukiage are going on briskly. The ground has been measured and the materials are arriving every day. A large quantity of first-class timber is already on hand, having been collected by order of the Tokugawa Government at the yard of Kiba in Fukugawa, where it has remained (in water) for as much as twenty or thirty years. It consists for the most part of white pine, of which large supplies are of course required, and the Government purposes to supplement this store by logs from the Imperial forests in Bishiu and at Kisoyama. It would appear that these forests have suffered a good deal of late years from want of proper precautions on the part of their custodians, some of the finest trees having been sold for ordinary purposes, while theft and trespass have been most inefficiently checked. The Home Office has accordingly issued a number of strict regulations for the guidance of the officials in the various prefectures, who are reminded that forestry is a matter of the greatest importance, and forbidden either to sell any trees without due consideration or to cut any for purposes of public building without being assured that the necessity for such action is indisputable.

It may not be uninteresting to jot down in a summarized form the propositions lately set before us on the subject of Direct Trading Companies, adding as corollaries a few queries which inevitably suggest themselves.

Proposition.—The Companies indeed offer to exchange goods abroad for gold, silver, yarn, etc., or whatever other articles may be required. But the producer must wait six months if he desires his returns in coin or kind; otherwise he must be satisfied with paper, receiving which "he cannot be in so good a position as if he retained his produce in his own hands."

Query.—Yes, but does a producer produce with the intention of keeping his produce in his own hands?

Proposition.—The constant fluctuations of the paper money are gradually depriving it of all value as a trustworthy factor in commerce. "None of the recently formed companies, we may almost say, none of the banks, and certainly very few merchants have any bullion whatsoever as capital." The Direct Trading Companies therefore desire to convert their paper into specie "at the expense of the country's produce, by taking away from the producer his commodities which are wealth, and giving him in return that paper which these companies consider to be valueless for the purposes of commerce proper."

Query.—If none of the companies, scarcely any of the banks, and very few of the merchants "have any bullion

whatsoever," does the present commercial system, be it what it may, seem a very successful one so far as the provision of specie is concerned? And if the companies *should* succeed in converting their paper capitals into specie obtained from foreign countries by the sale of exports, will they have done any wrong to the producers—who in any case would have been paid for the most part in paper—or to their country, which is suffering from a scarcity of the metallic media they propose to procure? Again, are the members of the Trading Companies Japanese, or are they subjects of some other nations? The latter, apparently, since when they convert their paper into specie they do so "at the expense of the country's produce," which of course had better not be exchanged for specie.

Proposition.—"The so-called Trading Companies find their powers crippled by want of real capital. They have virtually repudiated currency; yet they seek to induce unsuspecting persons to part with their commodities, which are really money, for pieces of paper which are not. By this three-cornered exchange the Trading Companies hope to convert their currency capitals into specie capitals at the cost of the producer, who is to find himself, when too late, the victim of a moral fraud. . . . They seek to rob the people of produce in order that their capitals shall be turned into specie to be obtained from the true realization of produce to be obtained, in the first instance, by a fraud or trickery."

Query.—But is there anything about these paper transactions in the prospectus of the companies? Do they not offer to obtain returns for produce in gold, silver or foreign goods, and if so is this offer purely fictitious? Above all, suppose a Trading Company formed in some country where extra-territoriality did not exist, would any public journal venture to describe that Company's designs in such language as this, or if it did, would the Company remain long without substantial redress?

Proposition.—"The advantages derived by foreign merchants from their trade transactions with Japan are wholly due to their superior knowledge, the fruit of long practical experience, capital, correspondents and banking facilities, of all which qualifications Japanese merchants are at present devoid. When therefore the direct traders attempt to deprive foreigners of the means of continuing their trade with Japan, they inflict a double injury upon themselves and the country. The results of trade with foreign countries direct will be less satisfactory than if conducted with those foreign merchants who are here with every facility and means for the purpose; and in addition to this immediate loss, is the collateral loss to the country of heavy expenditure of foreign residents which will cease with the trade."

Query.—Are the Japanese merchants then to remain forever without knowledge, experience, capital and such like qualifications, or are they to make some effort towards the acquisition of these things? If they are to make an effort, why not now as well as hereafter? Should they prove really incompetent, and should their direct transactions ultimately inflict a "double injury upon themselves and their country," will not the issue establish foreign merchants on a firmer footing than ever, and teach Japan to appreciate truly what they have done for her?

Our own opinion in this matter is that we are about to be brought face to face with a crisis which must have been long anticipated. We do not believe that these Direct Trading Companies are the offspring of any such fraudulent scheme as our contemporary seems to suggest, neither do we for a moment credit the existence of any design to drive out the foreign merchant. It has hitherto been the custom to accuse the Japanese Government of *mala fides*, while the people were always represented as friendly to western intercourse from which they derive such substantial benefit. Now,

however, the charge is extended to the people too, and it is even hinted that this effort to buy and sell without employing an agent, may possibly be made a subject for diplomatic remonstrance. Such utterances can only be called hysterical.

On the day that Antwerp was captured by the Duke of Parma's troops, the commercial supremacy of the world was transferred to London, where it has remained ever since. Partly by natural aptitude, partly from advantages of circumstance, the English trader has justly come to be regarded as the very type of mercantile enterprise and ability. It has not always been so indeed. There was a time when the Venetian carrying fleet still touched at Southampton and the trade with the Baltic was entirely in the hands of the Hanseatic merchants, but that story is now more than three centuries old, and takes us back to the days when England's six million inhabitants lived in houses without chimnies, carpeted their rooms with rushes, and regarded pillows as a luxury fit only "for women in child-bed." Then, indeed, the prospect of competition with Japanese merchants might justly have roused some mood of nervous jealousy, but such a sentiment is no longer worthy of our achievements and reputation. If Japan is to reap larger gains under a system of direct commerce than she does at present, will Englishmen fear to compete with her in fair field, or will it not rather befit their character and traditions to let her enter the lists with whatever weapons she can command, confident in their own strength to hold the ground against all comers? The trial must be endured. We are not challenged to it by a petulant spirit of dislike to foreign intrusion, but by the natural growth of enterprise that cannot find sufficient outlet under existing circumstances. If the whole of Japan were thrown open to foreigners; if foreign ships were free to touch at all the ports and foreign merchants to trade directly with the people in every province, then, indeed, Japan would be provided with an ample staff of the most able and economical agents; her commercial requirements would be fully satisfied, and this question of "direct trade," postponed *sine die*. But the straits, already too narrow for the argosies' passage, are still further hampered by reefs of depreciated currency and silt of treaty restrictions, so that the Japanese trader begins to think he will do better to carry his goods round the headland than to pay the fees of the foreign pilot. His attempt will inevitably be attended by heavy losses and grievous disappointments. It is as though a man who had written a book were to set up a store for its sale, instead of placing it in the hands of publishers who already possess costly machinery for promoting circulation, and a subtle system for ensuring a maximum of profit to the seller with a minimum of expense to the purchaser. The most prominent feature of modern commerce is its cosmopolitan character, and such clumsy factors as special agents and private banks are totally opposed to the principles of international coöperation, which alone is compatible with the fullest development of resource and opportunity. Practical experience will teach this lesson to the Japanese better and quicker than anything else; certainly very much better and quicker than querulous invectives and peevish jeremiades. Meanwhile, we may await the issue with tolerable confidence, nor abandon ourselves to despairing utterances because—

"A shadow of mischance appears,
No graver than as when some little cloud
Cuts off the fiery highway of the Sun,
And isles a light in the offing."

It will be remembered that a veritable exhibition of Japanese objects of virtù was held last summer at Uyeno. Some rare and beautiful specimens of porcelain, bronze, lacquer,

embroidery &c., were exhibited, the property for the most part, of private collectors. The affair, however, being the first of the kind, did not receive the support that had been anticipated. Spectators indeed were not wanting, for during the month of the exhibition's existence, it was unpleasantly crowded on wet and dry days alike. But collectors did not come forward with much alacrity. Many nobles who were known to possess priceless works of art, showed an unwillingness to contribute, so that, beautiful as the exhibits were, they could not by any means be regarded as really representative. For all that the affair was a great success and created quite a *furor* among amateurs. Apart from the pleasure it afforded at the moment, men felt that the tendency of such exhibitions could not but be useful, for it was only too plain that a shoddy and meretricious spirit, subservient entirely to commercial purposes, was gradually ousting the old art inspirations of Japan, and that unless some good influence were evoked, the very memory of what was once estimable and is now priceless, must soon pass away. Fortunately such an influence has lately begun to make itself widely felt, and with the revival of the Tea Clubs, Japan may be said to have returned from her momentary aberration. Of course the ultimate effect of this will be to check the exodus of curios, properly so called. Already the prices of old specimens have become well-nigh prohibitive, and we shall soon have few opportunities of seeing, much less purchasing, the rarities that were once so easily procurable. It is therefore with considerable satisfaction that we record the immediate prospect of another exhibition of antiquities, to be held next month at the monastery of Kaizenji, Asakusa. At the head of the list of promoters stands the name of the well-known amateur, Matsudaira, ex-daimiyo of Mikawa, and contributions from many famous collections are promised. It is perhaps too much to expect that a comprehensible catalogue will be provided, but we do hope that the exhibits will at least be labelled in some fashion which may enable foreign visitors to appreciate their qualities.

We have to acknowledge the receipt of "The Classical Poetry of the Japanese," by Mr. Basil H. Chamberlain, but want of space compels us to withhold our review of the work until next week.

By an Imperial Notification (No. 25, issued 7th April, 1881) a Department of Agriculture and Commerce (*Nōhō-musho*) has been created, and its constitution, rules for the conduct of business &c., notified to all the Administrative Offices, Central and Local.

The *personel* of the Department is to be the same as that of the other Department of State, viz., a Minister, Vice-Minister, Assistant-Vice-Minister, and a staff of Secretaries and Clerks. These officers have not yet been all appointed, but so far as our present knowledge goes, Mr. Kōno (now Minister of Education*) will become Minister, and Mr. Shinagawa (now Assistant-Vice-Minister for Home Affairs and Director of the Bureau of Agriculture), Vice-Minister.

The power and duties of the Minister are as follows:—

To enforce and supervise the application of the laws relating to agriculture, trade, manufacture, arts, fisheries and hunting, the merchant marine (ships and men), inventions, trade-marks, weights and measures, reclamation of lands, cattle-breeding, botany, animal hygiene, mercantile companies (except banks), forests and conveyances.

To exercise control over all the agricultural, commercial

* In this event Mr. Kōno's present post will probably be filled by Mr. Fukuoka, a Senator.

and manufacturing colleges and schools established by the Government (except those at present under the Public Works Department), as well as all other institutions of a like nature, with their museums, if any, and also to supervise all college and schools established by private individuals with similar objects.

To have control over the Chambers of Commerce, and all deliberative bodies by which questions connected with Rice and Stock exchanges, agriculture, and manufacture are discussed.

To conduct all affairs having relation to exhibitions, to the care and preservation of objects of virtue, to the progress and promotion of agriculture, trade, manufactures, arts &c.

To exercise control over all postmasters and to have general direction in all matters of conveyance, posts, post-office orders and deposit of savings.

To have charge of all Government forests and conduct all affairs relating to the planting, preservation, felling &c. of trees; to supervise the management of private forests; to collect, for the use of the compilers of general statistics, all documents and information relating to the state of agriculture, domestic and foreign trade, manufacture and posts, market prices, condition of forests &c.

The remaining powers and duties of the Minister have reference merely to the interior economy of his department and are similar to those of every other Minister; as for example, the appointment of subordinate officers, expression of opinion on the framing or revision of laws, regulations &c., the subject-matter of which is connected with his special duties.

The Department is to comprise the following Bureaux, viz:—Secretariat; Bureau of Agriculture; B. of Trade; B. of Manufactures; B. of Forests; General Post Office; Museums Bureau and Accountants' Bureau, as well as a Deliberative Board of Agriculture, Trade and Manufactures.

The special duties and constitutions of the Bureaux have also been promulgated, but we have not space this week to publish them in their integrity, nor time to make a selection. It will be seen that the scope of the Home Departments' functions is considerably narrowed by the change, since the Bureau of Forests and that of Museums &c. are transferred to the new Department. The Bureau of Agriculture in the Home Department and that of Trade in the Finance Department, are abolished. Pending the erection of suitable offices, the new Department will carry on its duties in the precincts of the Home Department.

There are many rumours with regard to the resignation of Mr. Yenomoto, Minister of Marine, but the simple fact seems to be that the *personel* of the Navy is still too strongly imbued with the old clan spirit to endure the rule of a chief whose name is indissolubly associated with the final and most determined act of the Bakufu resistance. It is very doubtful whether any man in Japan is competent to perform the duties of Minister of Marine in a manner at once satisfactory and efficient, except Mr. Kawamura; and it is quite certain that no man could succeed Mr. Kawamura without suggesting a contrast little likely to secure the allegiance of the Southern clique. Mr. Kawamura now resumes his former functions, and his well-known tact will soon no doubt remove the last vestige of friction, but still we cannot help regretting that a gentleman whose attainments and reputation naturally seem to designate him as the first naval officer in Japan, should have been removed from a sphere he is so eminently qualified to fill, through some paltry motives of jealousy or prejudice. Mr. Yenomoto has, we understand, been offered the post of Minister at Paris, as well as that of Senator, but he has declined both.

Some very remarkable documents have lately come into the hands of the Japanese Government, not—as will be conjectured after perusing them—by the connivance of either the Chinese or the Korean authorities. The first is a "Policy for Corea," compiled by Kwo-in-ken, adviser to the Minister for China in Japan; the second, an account of a conversation which took place between the King of Corea and his Prime Minister on the subject of Japanese affairs, shortly after Kin-koshin, the Korean Envoy had returned from Japan; and the third is a letter from Li Hung Chang to a Korean gentleman by name Kissan. These are now in process of publication by the *Nichi Nichi Shimbun*, and as we have ascertained their authenticity, we reproduce them in this journal:—

POLICY FOR COREA, by Kwo-in-ken.

There is a large country called Russia, whose dominions extend over a great part of three Continents, and whose army consists of more than a million picked soldiers, while her navy numbers more than two hundred "big ships." But it so happens that her place being in the extreme north, she is tormented by a bitterly cold climate and impoverished by a barren soil, so that she has a perpetual craving to push her boundaries southward and procure for herself a more genial position. Hence ever since the reign of Peter the Great, her policy has been one of perpetual aggrandizement. Territory after territory has she absorbed until her bulk is now ten times what it once was.

Under the present Emperor (Alexander II.) especially has this system been pursued. One by one the neighbouring seas and regions have been seized, and at the present moment nearly all the various districts in Central Asia are in her hands. In fact her avaricious proclivities are understood by the whole world, so that several other nations have combined to oppose her "lust for land." Thus for many a day her eyes were fixed upon Turkey, but England and France prevented her from carrying out her intentions in that quarter, and now England, Germany, Austria, Italy and France, one and all, watch her as well as their own territories so keenly that all encroachment in a westerly direction has become impossible, and she has been obliged to turn her feet eastward. During the past ten years she has taken Saghalin from Japan and the eastern part of the river Kokuriyo from China, and is now stationing troops at the mouth of the To-mon-ko. Her object in carrying out reforms and establishing order in these regions, is simply that they may afford her a *point d'appui* for future aggressions in Asia.

Now Korea is a position of great strategic importance to the east of China, and it is more than probable that Russia will desire to take possession of that peninsula before carrying her designs in the east any further. To do so would only be consistent with the policy she has pursued for the last three centuries, and for which she is always careful to be prepared. In the beginning her territories were confined to Europe; next we find her in Central Asia, and now she has got so far east that Korea is in imminent dangers.

Under these circumstances it is very plain that for Korea no duty is so urgent and imperative as that of preparing herself to repel Russia, and it naturally occurs to us to ask, what resources for defence does she possess. The answer is apparent: the closest friendship with China, and, union with Japan and America.

That friendship with China is essential, appears at once when we consider the position of the latter in Asia. Her vast empire touches that of Russia on the north, east and west, giving her peculiar strategic importance, while her resources are limitless. Hence it is that the world has of late been turning its eyes towards China, as the country with most ability to check Russia's eastward aggression, and of all China's possessions, there is none she regards with more affection than Korea. For ten centuries Korea has formed a portion of the Chinese Empire, and has been the constant object of China's solicitude and beneficence. To this all the world can bear witness, and more especially in the case of the present (T'ing) dynasty, which, coming as it did from the east, made Korea its base of operations in the campaign against the Man. More than two hundred years

have passed since then, and during the whole of that time Korea and China have been one in customs, polity, literature and religion, while not only has the closest friendship existed between the two, but also Korea's position is such that she has always been regarded by China as a left arm stretched out for the protection of the Celestial capital. Annan and Birmanh too are portions of the Chinese Empire, but their comparative distance places them on a very different footing from Korea, and it is for this reason that China has always afforded Korea material aid in men, provisions &c., whenever the occasion demanded. In the west, indeed, it is the custom when two countries go to war, for all other countries to declare themselves neutral and refrain from aiding either of the belligerents, but a State cannot pursue such a policy when its own dominions are concerned, and China, not unmindful of the old relations subsisting between herself and Korea, should take steps to let the world know unmistakably that the latter is a part and parcel of herself. If this were definitely declared, Russia, seeing Korea no longer helpless, would have no choice but to hold her hand, and Japan, comprehending the impossibility of resisting such an union, would end by joining it; so that not only would foreign aggression be checked, but the prestige of the Celestial Empire vindicated. These are the reasons that seem to demonstrate the necessity of friendship between Korea and China.

But why is the alliance with Japan recommended? Because, after China, Japan is Korea's nearest neighbour. History tells us that in bygone ages the Kings of Korea sent ambassadors to Japan, and established friendly intercourse with that country. Now Russia, the ravenous, has crept to the north of Japan, and should the latter lose some portion of her islands, the immunity of Korea's eight divisions will be more than problematical. If, on the other hand, Korea becomes Russian territory, Kiushiu and Shikoku will not long remain Japanese. It results therefore that the relation between Japan and Korea is pretty much the same as that which exists between the two wheels of a carriage; disable one, and the other ceases to be serviceable. History teaches us plainly enough that had Kan, Gi and Cho been in alliance Tsing could not have dared to push westward; even as when Go and Shoku were united, Gi's southern encroachments were prevented. If, therefore, Japan, anxious about the aggressions of her powerful neighbour, should desire an union, close as that of lips and teeth, with Korea, it will behove the latter, burying ancient prejudices under the weight of present necessities, to spare no pains for the cementing of such a friendship. The fleets of these two States, guarding the waters of the Japanese seas, would be a force which no western power could afford to despise. This is why the union of Korea and Japan is expedient.

It remains, then, to demonstrate the necessity of an alliance between Korea and America. Crossing the ocean eastward from Korea, the first country we reach is America, the continent of the United States. These states were formerly a portion of the British dominions, but a hundred years ago their independence was secured through the vigour and ability of George Washington, a patriot who found himself unable to endure European oppression. Since then America, true to the principles bequeathed her by her founders, manages her affairs on liberal and virtuous principles, never seeking to enlarge her territories at the expense of her neighbours, nor to interfere in foreign policy. For ten years she has been in treaty relations with China, and during the whole of that time, not a shadow of trouble has arisen. She has also established friendly intercourse with Japan and given that country useful instruction in all matters, both commercial, military, naval and political. These facts rest not upon individual testimony, but upon that of the whole world. The constitution of the United States is republican, and they have therefore no desire to benefit themselves at the cost of others, and moreover, their origin as an independent country being due to the oppression of Great Britain, they are the natural allies of Asia, not of Europe. Their race is one with that of Europe, and they are competitors with European nations in matters of commerce; but their policy is to help small and feeble states, to enforce a general obedience to the principles of right, and to prevent Europeans from pursuing their evil designs of commercial monopoly in the Far East, so that every Oriental state may be in a position to maintain its integrity, and remain in the enjoyment of ease and prosperity. This is why Korea should ally herself with America,

for if she does she will secure to herself a faithful friend and the certainty of assistance in times of peril.

We have received, from the author, Mr. E. Knipping, a pamphlet entitled the "*Great Taifun of August, 1880.*" This work, as its name explains, is an account of the origin and progress of the fierce hurricane that traversed Japan from south to north last summer, the centre fortunately passing to the west of Tokiyo and Yokohama. The chief point which Mr. Knipping's valuable investigations demonstrate, is that "in all taifuns which travel at an appreciable rate, the bearing of the centre in front will always be less than in the rear, this difference depending principally on the rate of progress." This conclusion somewhat complicates the problem of avoiding a direct encounter with these furies of eastern seas, but is Mr. Knipping justly remarks "the law of storms in general is very well understood by all who have command of a vessel, and there can certainly be no harm now-a-days in pointing out differences between the rule and the reality, if a knowledge of the same may tend to lessen the danger of getting too near or in the centre." We shall not attempt, however, to follow the author in his careful and elaborate analysis, but we strongly recommend his book to all who take any interest in the scientific investigation of these phenomena and the practical inferences deducible by such able observers as Mr. Knipping.

The new device for checking the spread of a conflagration by means of corrugated iron fire-proof screens, kept in store at the various fire-stations, and transported to the scene of action "with the utmost rapidity and precision" at the first alarm, is no doubt an excellent conception. A certain well known engineer has, however, suggested something quite as practicable and much more effectual. He proposes that in future all houses in the great cities of Japan shall be built upon trucks, so that at the first clang of the fire-bell they can be wheeled rapidly out of range of the flames.

We reproduce, elsewhere, a paper read before the Royal Artillery Institution by Lieut.-Colonel Parry, R.A. Its contents are peculiarly interesting, for they show that Afghanistan's capabilities for resisting England were furnished in the main by England herself.

A terrible murder was committed a few days ago in Tokiyo. The victim was a young Japanese who acted as interpreter to Mr. John Pitman, in whose service he had been for many years, and by whose aid, indeed, his education had been completed. On the 29th of last month the lad was missed by his master, and though Mr. Pitman—who seems to have been uneasy from the first—immediately instituted enquiries, nothing transpired until the day before yesterday (Thursday) when the body of a man was discovered in a well at Tsukiji, Tokiyo. Two deep gashes in the neck and several wounds in the head, left no doubt as to the cause of death. For the rest the body was stripped of everything except shirt and trousers; a gold watch, ring &c., which the deceased was in the habit of wearing being removed, and nothing left except a pocket book containing a few cards. No definite clue to the murderers has yet been obtained, but it is believed that the police are on their tracks.

Our latest advices from China are to the effect that though the railway scheme has been postponed *sine die*, an extensive system of telegraphs is in contemplation. It is also rumoured that these are to be carried out by the

Chinese themselves, and that the Central Government proposes to forfeit the monies already paid to the Great Northern Company, by whom the line from Shanghai to Peking was to have been constructed.

KRUPP AND HIS CRITICS.

THE public cannot be expected to take much interest in a discussion of Krupp and Armstrong's comparative excellencies as manufacturers of ordnance, yet we may not dismiss the question in its present form without commenting upon one or two points that do not require any very special knowledge either to consider or to comprehend.

The *Shanghai Courier* and the *Japan Gazette* have espoused the cause of Sir W. Armstrong, but with every faith in the honesty of their intentions, we venture to doubt whether the interests of the great Elswick manufacturer will be much advanced by such advocacy. We do not of course desire to impugn the general value of our contemporaries' opinions, but in this particular instance their comments do not seem impartial and are certainly not accurate. The *Gazette*, in one of its late issues, stated that no greater initial velocity than 1700 feet per second had hitherto been attained with Krupp's guns. It does not now indeed repeat that statement, but it reprints certain paragraphs from the *Shanghai Courier*, where an assertion is made that the German guns "have never obtained an initial velocity of 2000 feet per second." Now on the 31st. of December, 1878, Krupp's 5.9 inch gun, on trial at Meppen, fired a 69 lbs. shot with an initial velocity of 2135.8 feet per second, the highest velocity obtained up to that time with the Armstrong weapon having been 2031 feet. To these facts we called attention some time ago, but our remarks are now passed over in silence, forcing us to conclude that they are either inconvenient or inaccurate; hypotheses from which we have no difficulty in making a selection, seeing that we did not speak upon our own authority but upon that of the official tables published at Woolwich and Meppen.

The *Gazette*, as apparent advocate for Sir W. Armstrong, gives this summary of the case:—"A lighter gun, with an initial velocity nearly 15 per cent greater, all other conditions being the same (which is not the case for the conditions are in favour of the English gun) is to be preferred to another, whether the maker's name is Krupp, Whitworth, Armstrong or any other." What is meant by speaking of a "lighter gun"? It is to be presumed that since the general merits of the two systems are under consideration, this comparison of weight is also general. If so, however, the advantage is all on Krupp's side, and that it must be so is at once evident, for whereas the Elswick maker uses steel tubes surrounded by massive coils of wrought iron, Krupp's cannon is of solid steel, requiring less total thickness of metal and consequently weighing less. A conclusion of this sort might, however, be quite erroneous. The longer we make our gun, the higher initial velocity we obtain, *ceteris paribus*, and since power is of paramount importance, it is obvious that in comparing the weights of two classes of guns, we must select from each representative pieces of nearly similar achievements. If then we take the Armstrong 100-ton gun, the Krupp 71-ton and the Woolwich 80-ton, we have the following figures:—

Armstrong 100-ton gun (latest records). Charge 573 lbs. Projectile about 2000 lbs. Initial velocity 1725 feet. Stored up work 745.07 foot tons per inch circumference,

equivalent to a penetration of 84.9 inches of wrought iron plating.

Krupp 71-ton gun. Charge 485.1 lbs. Projectile 1715 lbs. Velocity 1703 feet. Stored up work 697.02 foot tons, equal to a penetration of 83.5 inches of wrought iron.

Woolwich 80-ton gun. Charge 445 lbs. Projectile 1728 lbs. Velocity 1658 feet. Stored up work 658.57 ft. tons, equal to a penetration of 82.84 inches,

It thus appears that the 71-ton Krupp gun is a more powerful weapon than the 80-ton Woolwich, and but little inferior to the 100-ton Armstrong. What then becomes of the question of weight?

As to the second point advanced—that the initial velocity of the English gun is nearly 15 per cent greater—it will suffice to say that unless the official returns, furnished to the English and German Governments be false, the difference in velocity is quite insignificant and cannot by any means be held to justify a verdict in either direction.

But in the third place the *Gazette* says:—"Other conditions are in favour of the English gun." This is a very sweeping declaration, and one that military experts would receive with considerable astonishment. A question, which until quite lately held the whole world of Artillery scientists in suspense, and which is scarcely yet definitely decided, though the consensus of opinion is largely against the *Gazette's* judgement, this question is now peremptorily dismissed in half a dozen words without either discussion or demonstration. The dictum may persuade some, but for ourselves, with every desire to be convinced, we remain unsatisfied, and the grounds of our incredulity are easily stated. Chief among our contemporaries' "other conditions," the radical difference of the two systems suggests itself; the difference between breech and muzzle-loading. We have already discussed this subject at some length in a previous issue, and we shall therefore confine ourselves now to a very few arguments. On the proportion of bore and chamber mainly depends the power of a gun. It is now admitted that we have reached the extreme limit of power attainable with muzzle-loaders, simply because we are unable to increase their length. They are already as long as they can be for use on board ships and in casemates. Greater power is required, but greater power signifies greater length, and the maximum length has been given. As Major General Gordon, speaking at the United Service Institution last autumn, remarked; "There is no doubt that the power of the Krupp 71-ton is greater than that of the 80-ton (English) gun at present, but if we could put on a few more feet to the muzzle of the latter, we should realize a far greater energy." To put on a few more feet, however, would necessitate a breech-loading arrangement, and Herr Krupp, whether from scientific prescience or unreasoning obstinacy, has steadily, in the face of all opposition, adhered to the breech-loading system of which he is now the renowned representative. In reporting on the trial of the 71-ton gun at Meppen (in 1878), Captain C. Orde Browne, R. A., said:—"the gun was easily worked by a detachment of 15 men. Ten rounds with chilled projectiles were first fired; the time occupied by the last five being 24 minutes. The breech-piece moved easily. A good deal of oil was used on it. The breech-loading certainly saved the men much labour, not only in the actual ramming home but also in bringing up the projectiles." Now such a rate of firing as a round in four or five minutes has never been attained with our own 80-ton gun, though we do not hesitate to assert that the latter is manned by the most athletic and skillful

gunners in the world. Enlargement of chamber and better centering of the projectile are additional advantages rendered accessible by a breech-loading system; advantages which mean nothing more or less than good shooting, and one is not surprised therefore to find that the Krupp guns are more accurate than our own. That the German breech-loading mechanism is by any means perfect, or that Sir W. Armstrong could not easily develop one equally good, we do not pretend to assert, but we do hold that breech-loading is in the order of progress, and that if muzzle loading be included among our contemporary's "other conditions," he will have to set his opinion against that of men whose names are very famous in the world of science.

The *Shanghai Courier* is more explicit. There it is stated that 200 of Krupp's field guns became unserviceable through defective breech mechanism during the Franco-Prussian war of 1870-71. But it is not stated that these guns were on a totally different system from that now adopted, not that as many as 6000 rounds have been fired from a Krupp field-piece of the present pattern without serious injury to breech-piece or gun. Would it not be equally pertinent to mention the bursting of a 100-ton Armstrong gun on board the *Duilio* after 25 rounds at most, although we know pretty well that the accident is not ascribable to any fault in the piece itself, but was caused by abnormal pressure in the bore, arising from the irregular ignition of the huge charge (551 lbs.)?

This *suppressio veri* may be due to ignorance, but what shall we say of such a question as the following:—"If Herr Krupp has proved that his breech-loading guns are the best, how comes it that they are not adopted by the British, French, American, and other Governments?" We might reply by a slight interchange of terms and ask "How comes it that the Germans have not adopted Sir W. Armstrong's gun?" but we prefer to quote, by way of illustration, a passage from a paper lately read before the United Service Institution:—"The question naturally arises, how it is that our government should be now completing and issuing 80-ton guns so inferior in power to Krupp's 71-ton gun, which achieved the results we speak of half a year ago? The answer is, that the guns are designed for the *Inflexible*, and that, being muzzle-loaders, the vessel had to be made with portions of the deck corresponding to the length of the gun, to make provision for its loading. All this was determined five or six years ago. Since that time our own investigations have shown us the desirability of greatly increasing the length; but the gun being a muzzle-loader, it is impossible to do so. For the ship in question, a muzzle-loader is limited as to its length by inflexible conditions; and all that can be done is by enlarging the chamber, to utilize to the fullest extent the disproportionate thickness of metal. Circumstances have in this instance, then, combined so as to bring out the disadvantage of a muzzle-loader in a peculiar way; for we find ourselves, in the case of the *Inflexible* issuing new guns of obsolete proportions for a new ship." Here is a particular case in which, knowing the good, we are constrained to choose the evil, a misfortune with which the *Shanghai Courier* can perhaps sympathize. The truth is, that the superior advantages of breech-loading and the probability of steel becoming the metal of the future, are points upon which English artillerymen have only lately begun to exhibit unanimity of opinion. Surely our contemporary does not require to be reminded that a change of national armament is a matter of enormous difficulty and expense? As the Professor of Artillery at the Royal Military Academy lately remarked, nothing less than an

amply demonstrated improvement of at least 10 per cent could justify the adoption of a new system entailing such vast changes of material as would attend the alteration from muzzle to breech-loaders. Still it is impossible to doubt that the days of the former are numbered, and that the breech-loading guns, now in course of manufacture at Woolwich, are the pioneers of a new army of British ordnance.

We need scarcely say that our sympathies are entirely with the English weapon, and that it would give us great pleasure to range ourselves on the same side as that taken by our contemporaries. Sir W. Armstrong's name is one of which every Englishman is justly proud, and associated with him at Elswick is Captain Noble, one of the most scientific and experienced artillerymen in the world. These two have achieved great things already, and will surely achieve still greater in the future, but they have hitherto been struggling against a self-imposed difficulty—their allegiance to muzzle-loading. To English artillerymen are due most of the great developments of theoretical gunnery, and, strange to say, it is they who, even while employing muzzle-loaders, have demonstrated scientifically the inherent advantages of a different system. Nevertheless Germany has forged ahead for the moment, and it behoves us to cast away some of the weight we have been carrying, unless we look to be distanced in a race which our own researches have made easy for our competitor.

GUARANTEED RAILWAYS.

IN our last issue in speaking of the proposed railways in Japan, we took exception to that part of the scheme in which the State guarantees the shareholders *eight per cent* on paid up capital, not only during the progress of the works, but also for a period of ten years after their completion, and the subject seems to be of such importance as to justify our returning to it this week, and pointing out some of the consequences of this part of the agreement. So far as we understand the scanty information which has been published, we infer that the system proposed is that which has been tried in India, and found wanting. The state undertakes to provide all necessary land, either free of cost, or at the lowest market value, it controls the expenditure of the capital, and guarantees a minimum of eight per cent on the amount invested, it sanctions the appointment of officials, and only leaves the actual working of the railways to the companies.

This is the policy which has been carried out in India, and which had its origin in a minute drawn up in 1858 by Lord Dalhousie, then Governor-General. In that minute his Lordship discussed the advantages, political, social and commercial, which would accrue to India from a network of railways, he laid down certain principles of construction, and indicated the agency which was to carry out the work, and the control which was to be exercised by the Government over the railway companies. Looking simply at the regulations one would say that the control was complete. The affairs of the companies are managed by a board of directors, but in each board an officer styled "Government Director" has a seat, with power of veto over all proceedings, while a "Consulting Engineer to Government" supervises all the actual works undertaken by the company. The entire power thus seems to be in the hands of the State.

"In practice however the case is very different. An expenditure has been incurred on some railways far exceeding what was anticipated, or what is now believed to

have been necessary, and this notwithstanding the desire of the Government that they should be constructed with the greatest economy possible; nor has the Government been able to prevent some lines being executed of indifferent workmanship, nor the accounts of a line falling into almost inextricable confusion. The result has been that the Indian revenues are charged permanently—for practically this is the final incidence of such charges—with an expenditure which, with present experience, it may be safely asserted should not and need not have been incurred. We need not go far to find the cause of this unsatisfactory result. The system contemplated by the contract presumes that all business shall be initiated by the officials of the railway company, and where the initiation of affairs lies, *there is substantially the power for good or ill.* Authority to supervise and withhold sanctions is not sufficient for effective control. The power of veto cannot in practice be perpetually called into requisition.* Without a double system of officers (which would be expensive and absurd) it is impossible for any Government to exercise control over the details of management to such an extent as to guard against needless expenditure. Moreover, as a good dividend is guaranteed to the company, the ordinary motive to economy is absent on the side of the directors, for it need scarcely be observed that the interests of directors are not necessarily identical with those of shareholders.

The guarantee system had not been long in operation in India when the evils connected with it became apparent, and various efforts were made to depart from it. Lord Elgin, when Governor-General, offered on behalf of the Government—in addition to the land required—a bonus of £100 per mile for twenty years on every mile of railway constructed, but this offer proved utterly insufficient to attract the necessary capital, and nothing came of it. Various other equally ineffectual devices were proposed to get rid of a system which was disapproved of by every Viceroy and Secretary of State after Lord Dalhousie's time, till at last it was recognised that all such devices were merely transparent disguises of the fact, that Indian railways under any form were really Government affairs, and should have been undertaken directly by the Government at the first.

Those of our readers who wish to study the literature of the subject, are recommended to peruse the correspondence printed by order of the House of Commons, especially during the Vice-royalties of Lords Lawrence and Mayo, where they will find how much the righteous soul of the former was vexed, and the Hibernian fervour of the latter, raised, by being compelled to remain passive spectators of a system which misapplied the national resources.

One redeeming feature in the case of Indian railways should be noticed. The employment of the companies prevented the Government from applying the capital to any purpose but that for which it was raised, as it would doubtless have been tempted to do in several cases of financial pressure if it had borrowed the money directly, and this ought to be remembered when raising money for Japanese railways. Joint-stock companies may be usefully employed in raising capital and acting as trusts for ensuring that it is appropriated for the purposes for which it was raised. Their only other duty should be to receive the interest on the money invested (which should be regulated by the current rate of interest in the country) leaving to the Government the actual construction and management of the works.

Inimical as we are to all monopolies, and disposed to condemn them in the strongest terms, this opinion may appear illogical to some of our readers, but in a future article we may show that there are monopolies and monopolies.

THE RUSSO-CHINESE CONVENTION.

THE withdrawal of a large portion of that Russian squadron which has for so long hovered about these eastern waters, is confirmatory of the reports, received simultaneously from St. Petersburg and Peking, of an adjustment of the long pending dispute between the two mammoth Asiatic empires. In the light of past events, and with what little actual knowledge can fall to the lot of those outside the circle of the diplomacy immediately concerned in the settlement, one might almost wonder whether any hostility more serious than that involved in wild border scrimmages, was ever contemplated by either power. Neither was properly prepared for a tough campaign. Competent military and naval authorities agree that an expedition of at least twice the force of the allied invaders who occupied Peking twenty years ago, would now be required for a successful advance upon the same capital. It is best known to the Russian commanders in these latitudes whether or not they have had at their disposal an equipment sufficient for the attempt of such an enterprise. They have, probably, been perfectly content to await the results of diplomatic action, certain of the ultimate consolidation of Russian power on the Asian shores of the Pacific, and knowing that their presence was at once a means to that end, and a menace to the only great occidental power which is able to check, or interested in checking, Muscovite advance in this continent. On the part of China preparations for defence were tardy, inefficient, and cumbersome; and, at least in the western portion of the Middle Kingdom, have resulted in naught save the aggrandisement of an already too powerful subject, and the enrichment of his satellites. To Russia war with China meant, and means, a costly and unremunerative struggle: to China it signified, and signifies, disruption of the State, revolution, the overthrow of a dynasty, and a tempestuous reconstruction for which neither Manchu nor Mongol is prepared. From the first, the wretched Kulja question has had to be settled by diplomacy, but a diplomacy of the oriental pattern, equally well understood on the Neva and the Peiho. Western critics have failed to appreciate the position in this respect; and have fallen into that error of comparing Asia and Europe which is so fatal to correct judgment. China and Russia understand each other and each other's ways, and are now, perhaps, laughing at the mistaken view of their relations adopted by on-lookers. Their differences have been amicably resolved; and the world is informed that, subject to trifling modifications, the terms of the Livadia convention will be mutually complied with. The arrangement is, in a sense, humiliating to China; but in her idea she saves her dignity, providing a monetary consideration for the retention of that territory whose cession was the cause of Chung How's disgrace.

It is strange that that luckless diplomatist, who is by no means void of astuteness and experience, should have fallen into the capital error which caused his head, wealthy and closely allied to the imperial house though he is, to totter on his shoulders. Gortschakoff's craft and Alexander's suavity must have proved too much for his ability. His treaty provided for the restoration of Ili to

* Chesney's Indian Polity, p. 382.

his country, on the payment of five million roubles to the Czar, and then retroceded one-fourth of the recovered territory—that portion lying west of Ekosi river and south of the Li Shan mountains as far as the Tekkes river. This part of Kulja, said to be the only section which is fertile and of strategic importance, is now to be rendered to China, who really cares little what pecuniary value she pays in exchange; for she is, in a sense much wider than that generally accepted, a country of enormous wealth and vast resources. Even the seventh Prince and his fanatic adherents in the Palace party can hardly fail to be satisfied with Marquis Tseng's achievement in this respect, preservation of the integrity of the empire being the dominant maxim of the statesmanship established in Peking. Thus the main object of each party is gained. Russia receives money which she badly needs; and China regains a province which she greedily desires. It must not be imagined, however, that the bargain will be accepted as an unmixed good by China. It contains many stipulations that must be very bitter to the most conservative of governments. In official circles it will still be regarded in the light thrown upon it last spring by an official of the *Han Lin* (or Forest of Pencils) college, whose sturdy memorial to the throne made the ex-Minister to Russia's slender tenure of life doubly precarious.

The treaty concluded in 1860 between Prince Kung and the Russian plenipotentiary, Ignatieff, provided for the establishment of Consulates of the latter's nationality at Kashgar and Urg. The more recent arrangement stipulates for similar institutions at the principal towns along the whole route from Kai Yu Kuan, the westernmost gate of the great wall, in Kansuh, to Hankow on the Yang-tze Kiang. This line is to be opened to the travel and trade of Russians, who may carry firearms,—a privilege denied to Chinese of the mercantile and agricultural classes,—and establish depôts or factories in the places where they have consulates. Throughout the whole of Mongolia and the provinces of Tien Shan, Nanlu and Tien Shan Pehlu, that is to say in the entire realm of extra-mural China, they will be exempt from payment of duties on their merchandize. Minor questions as to remission of taxes on inferior tea transported in Russian caravans within proper China, the restoration of cattle lost, stolen or strayed on the borders, and international police regulations are considered. This is about the gist of the convention. Patriotic Chinese opinion will for the present be of the same nature as that expressed by one of its exponents twelve months ago.

This sub-reader of the great university argued that the opening of the trade route to Hankow would be the virtual surrender of whole towns and districts in Shensi, Kansuh, Hupeh, Hunan and Shansi to foreign control. Russia would be virtually brought nine hundred miles nearer to China in Manchuria. A more interesting point was ably touched by the petitioner:—"As far as the inland navigation of rivers is concerned all the foreign governments have already asked for the privilege without obtaining it. If this privilege be now conceded to the Russians, other treaty nations will follow their example successively." Under their "most favored nation" clauses they will have right and power to do so. This is the matter, after all, that is of chief moment to western powers, who should relinquish their old traditions of diplomatic egoism in favor of new and really cosmopolitan principles. Has an Isthmian canal to be pierced, what matter by what nation the work be done and protected? Should a railway be constructed between two great centres of commerce, need the Duke of Mudford, the value of whose property it

doubles, complain that he is excluded from the shareholder? And if Central China is to be opened to foreign trade and residence it is of small importance who the pioneers shall be. In a mere matter of mercantile competition the country, like the firm, that best supplies the demand will be adjudged the worthiest.

We might here dismiss the subject; but the Chinese critic of the Livadia convention has a few words to say which show that it is not so much Russian barter as Russian territorial encroachment that is to be dreaded. Against this, of course, China should provide. If she were really one in the comity of nations, she would find friends to aid her in the conservation of her imperial integrity. Meanwhile it is the opinion of the strongest and most experienced foreign diplomatists in Peking that the enforcement of the modified form of Chung How's treaty will be a real benefit to China herself, and that the humiliation which it implies is merely superficial, and not to be considered in view of the national development which should accrue from its operation. Let who will ring the knell of Cathayan exclusivism: let who will help to bury its past: it will be impossible to shut the doors on those who will flock to festivities that will naturally accompany the second birth of a nation.

THE ARMAMENT OF SHERE ALI'S ARMY.*

Afghanistan is a nation of soldiers, every adult being (apart from any military training he may receive) a ready swordsman and a fair shot. In our old wars we found but little organisation existing among the followers of the Dost and his son, Mahomed Akhbar, and the discipline of our troops told in the long run against the masses they had to face. Afghanistan then produced, as a writer, has said, nothing but stones and men: the stone made good *sungars*, and thousands of men were always ready to defend them. But after Shere Ali had assumed the Ameership, a change came over the "war department" of the country: that shrewd sovereign had his eyes opened to the necessity for having something more than an unlimited supply of men to fight his battles, and after his visit to India, in 1869, he began to cast about for means whereby he could arm and equip his troops in civilised fashion. Fortunately for his project, he was on the best of terms at that time with the Indian Government, and among the valuable presents he carried back with him to Cabul were a siege-train (consisting of four 18-prs. and two 3-in. howitzers), a mountain battery of six guns, 5,000 Snider rifles, 15,000 Enfields, and no less than 1,000,000 rounds of ball ammunition. This was the ground-work upon which he hoped to build up a well-equipped army, with artillery sufficient to make himself feared by all his neighbours, and respected both by the English and Russian Governments, upon his relations with which might ultimately depend the safety of his kingdom. To a man of less energy than Shere Ali the project he took in hand would have seemed so full of difficulties that it might have been reasonably abandoned after a fair trial; but the then Ameer was a man of stubborn self-will, and his mind once made up, nothing could turn him from his object. The story of his successful struggle to create an army of all arms on the European pattern can be best told by reference to a report drawn up on information supplied by various *sirdars* and artisans since our occupation of Cabul. Lieut. N. Chamberlain, Extra Assistant Political Officer, is the compiler of this valuable report which gives in detail an account of Shere Ali's steady progress in the armament of his kingdom, until he made the fatal mistake of quarrelling with the British. One cannot fail to be struck with astonishment at the rapidity with which guns were made, rifles imitated, and cartridges turned out by the 100,000 in a country which boasts of but few resources.

Shere Ali could easily enough make regiments of infantry and cavalry, dress them after the fashion of the men he had seen paraded in India, and drill them in a few simple movements. If he were guilty of the solecism of making

* By Lt.-Col. Sidney Parry, R.H.A.

Highlanders mount on horseback, there was no great blunder committed; they were his mounted rifles, and were not likely to come to grief, as every Afghan is more or less of a horseman. But in the question of artillery the Ameer had to face a problem which must have cost him much anxious thought. The old brass cannon which had been used for many years as wall pieces in the different fortresses of Afghanistan, sank into insignificance when compared with the guns Lord Mayo had given him. The latter were few in number, and it was all-important they should be multiplied, so that if three or four armies took the field, each should have its due complement of guns. There were skilled artificers in Cabul who had made brass guns, and one of these, named Surferaz, was given funds by Shere Ali and peremptorily ordered to turn out guns on the pattern of the siege train and mountain battery which had lately arrived from India. The unlucky man tried his best, but at the end of a few months his work was pronounced a failure; and as he had spent 12,000 Rs. in his experiments, he was summarily thrown into prison, and all his property confiscated. This was his reward for obeying the orders of a tyrant. But Shere Ali was not to be foiled; and rightly attributing the failure to want of technical knowledge, he sent the uncle of Surferaz, Dost Mahomed, a skilled gunsmith, to Peshawur, to be instructed in the mysteries of rifled guns. Dost Mahomed may be allowed to tell his own story, as it is full of interest. He says:—

"I am a Cabuli by birth, and a gunsmith. My father was a gunsmith before me. After Shere Ali's return from India, I was sent to Peshawur with a letter to Colonel Pollock, the Commissioner there, in which he was asked to allow me to visit the arsenal, and see how the rifled guns were made. I remained in Peshawur for three months, until the permission of Government arrived. I then visited the arsenal daily, and saw exactly how everything was done; and on my departure I was given models of guns in wood, with complete drawings of the details. I returned to Cabul, and with these models and some complete models of rifled breech-loading Armstrongs which had been given to the Ameer during his visit to India, I began work. I had three principal assistants: my nephew, Surferaz (who had then been liberated), Mahomed Ali, and a man named Rashed. Any number of workmen were at my disposal, as I had only to state the number I required and they were impressed from among the city smiths. Before commencing a gun, a sum of money was given to me which I was not to exceed.

"The following were the prices in Cabuli rupees:—

	Rs.
Field gun	1500
R.H.A. gun	1000
Mountain gun	300
" " (laminated steel)	600

"I never either lost or gained much by my contract. The iron for the guns came principally from India—some through Shikarpur, some from Peshawur. A small quantity was procured from Bajour and Zurrut. The core of the gun was first welded by hand on an iron bar, of the required length and diameter. Long strips of iron having been placed all round the core, they were well hammered together, and bands of iron placed over all, to keep everything in its place. The gun was then bored out by the machinery at the water-mills of Deh-i-Afghanan. The machinery for these mills was set up by a Hindustani, named Mual Khan. He learned his trade from a negro, named Belul, who was taught by one Ibrahim, a native of Ispahan, who came years ago from Persia to the service of Sultan Jan, late Governor of Herat. The gun was then rifled by hand, the breech-block and details completed, polished by machinery, and handed over to the arsenal. The strength of the guns was never proved by heavy charges being fired out of them, and they were at once taken into use. Out of all the guns I have made only one has burst. I could turn out four or five guns a month if necessary. My pay was 70 Rs. a month, and I occasionally received presents."

This was not a bad example of what perseverance can accomplish; for the guns manufactured are said by our gunners to be very well made, lacking only finish. The Armstrong breech-loaders would be creditable to an English founder, and we are now taking many of them to see if they cannot be used for the defence of Sherpur. A

great number of small brass-guns for mountain batteries were also made. The old ordnance was broken up, and new guns were cast in the Bala Hissar arsenal, the boring and polishing being done at the Deh-i-Afghanan water-mills. The alloy used in these brass guns contains a larger percentage of copper than we generally use. The water-mills to which reference has been made can still be seen: a huge wheel with a long wooden shaft, in which the boring-tool was fixed. With such simple means it seems almost impossible that heavy guns could be bored; but still the work was done—slowly, it is true, but effectually. The manufacture of small-arms was not such a success. Kootub-ud-din, a Cabul gunsmith, was placed in charge of the Bala Hissar arsenal, and workmen under his direction made 2000 Sniders and 8000 Enfields. The Afghans placed but little faith in their imitation of our rifles; they found that the breech-action of the Snider would not act, the extractor often failing to throw out the cartridge-case after firing, while the grooving of the Enfields was so imperfect that the barrel quickly got "lead"—i.e., the grooves were filled with lead stripped from the bullet as it was driven out by the charge. It is worth remarking that in the Ameer's palace were found several rifles of different patterns (the French Chassepot among them), and each had its Cabuli imitation. No doubt various experiments were made before the Snider was finally adopted. There was never any lack of gunpowder in Cabul, as the Ameer employed six contractors to turn out the quantities he needed. Each mill could make two maunds a day, so that the total daily out-turn on an emergency would be nearly 1000 lbs. These contractors also were ready to start other smaller mills during war-time, so that doubtless a ton of powder could have been supplied every day so long as funds were forthcoming. The composition of the powder was 75 parts of saltpetre, 10 of sulphur, and 15 of charcoal. Bamian supplied the sulphur, with occasional small quantities from Hazara and the Derajat. Saltpetre abounds near Cabul, and excellent charcoal is made from the thousands of small willow-trees which line every water-course in Chardah and the near valleys. The coarse-grain powder for muzzle-loading guns was paid for at the rate of 2 Rs. per lb., while that used for breech-loading field guns and for rifles was 3 Rs. per lb. The powder, as a rule, is far inferior to that of European make, as the Afghans do not understand the final process of glazing, which adds so much to the strength of the composition. Shot and shell were strictly copied from the patterns brought from India, but time fuzes were not understood. A bursting charge—the secret of which was held by a Herati—was used, and not until just before the war of 1879 were fuzes made in the Bala Hissar. They are not a success, the delicate nature of the fuze not being properly appreciated. In the matter of small-arm cartridges the Afghan smiths deserve much credit. Sixty of them were constantly engaged in the Bala Hissar arsenal making up cartridges, and their Snider ammunition is excellent. The cases are made by hand, and are technically known as "solid cold-drawn brass." The bases are very strong, and the cases can be refilled many times. In a country where there is no machinery (as in England) for turning out millions of cartridges in a few days, this is a great advantage. Two clever Cabulis, Safi Abdul Latif and Safi Abdul Hak, invented a machine for making percussion caps, equal to turning out 5000 a day. The detonating composition is fairly good, but spoils if the caps are kept for two or three years. Considering there were millions of caps still in the unopened boxes sent from Dum-Dum arsenal to Shere Ali, native-made caps were not much needed. Gun-carriages and limbers were made on the English pattern; the guns captured in the disastrous business of 1841-2 serving as models, in addition to the siege-train given by Lord Mayo.

Among Shere Ali's other improvements in his "war department" was the establishment of a Clothing Department, which had for its object the equipment of his soldiers in proper uniforms. The tunics, trousers, kilts, gaiters, helmets, &c., are all neatly made; and as each soldier received a new uniform every two years, the regular regiments ought to have been smart and well set-up. That they were not so was chiefly due to the laxity of discipline and the incompetence of their officers. Pouch-belts and bayonet-frogs on the English pattern were served out, and the cavalry were all furnished with new swords, slightly

curved like those used by our own *sowars*. The steel is generally very soft, but the blade is well tempered, and takes an edge so keen that even a slight blow leaves a deep gash. Shere Ali's ambition, while thus perfecting his armament, was to build a fortress of huge dimensions, and Sherpur was accordingly begun. The subsidy paid yearly by the Indian Government gave him money to lavish in this direction, and the cantonments our troops are now occupying were laid out on a scale that even to European ideas seems enormous. The fortress was to have been in the shape of a huge square, with walls 3000 yds. long, and on the Demaru heights, in the middle, a strong citadel was to have risen—the "New Bala Hissar." At the foot of the southern slope, below the citadel, a splendid palace was mapped out, the strong foundations of which even now show how imposing the building would have been. Shere Ali's quarrel with the British put an end to his ambitious schemes, and Sherpur remains to this day incomplete; while, away in the Hazar Darukht defile, thousands of logs are lying, ready squared, which the Jajis had got ready for the barracks which will now never be built.

Lieut. Chamberlain, in summarising the result of his interesting enquiries into Afghan armaments, makes out the following tabular statement:—

Number of Guns previous to War of 1878-9.

English siege-train (elephant)	6
Cabuli " "	10
" " (bullock)	18
Horsed guns... { breech-loaders, 89 }	145
{ brass-guns, 56 }	
Mountain guns { breech-loaders, 6 }	150
{ muzzle-loaders, 48 }	
{ brass, 96 }	
Various small guns of position	50

Total 379

Deduct guns captured, 1879-80 256

Guns remaining in country 123

These are believed to be chiefly in Herat and Turkistan.

The number of rifles entered in the Government books as having been issued to the troops are—

English Sniders	5000
" Enfields	15000
" rifled carbines	1200
" Brunswick rifles	1400
" Tower muskets	1000
" cavalry pistols	1045
Cabuli Sniders	2189
" Enfields	8212
" rifled carbines	589
Kandahari Enfields	453
Herati "	516
Various kinds for cavalry (double-barrelled, &c., ...	1553
Smooth-bores (probably many Tower muskets) ...	1418
Flint muskets	1300

Total 49875

Of these, 742 English Enfields, 560 English Sniders, and 5427 muskets, Cabuli Sniders and Enfields, flint muskets, &c., have been given up, leaving 43,146 small-arms in the country.

It is worth noticing that no information could be got as to whence the English rifled carbines, Brunswick rifles, Tower muskets, and cavalry pistols were obtained. The Brown Besses were, perhaps, part of those taken in 1841-2. This estimate of arms, it should be remembered, takes no account of the many thousands of *jhezails*, native pistols, &c., in the hands of tribesmen. The totals are sufficiently great to prove that the late Shere Ali had placed Afghanistan on such a military footing that he may have well believed he could, with the mountain barriers between Cabul and India, defy any force the British could spare to send against him. He was grievously mistaken: his weakness lying in the want of discipline among his troops, and the incapacity of their leaders. The cost of the army which he had raised and equipped was a serious item in his exchequer accounts, if he ever kept any. Lieut. Chamberlain computes it at 19,21,195 Cabuli rupees, of which 17,81,233 Rs. went for pay to the army, 1,20,235 Rs. for

arsenal expenses (not including Herat and Turkistan), and 19,727 Rs. for uniform. Considering that Major Hastings, chief Political Officer here, has calculated the whole revenue of Afghanistan at only 79,82,390 Rs., it will thus appear that nearly one-fourth of the revenue was lavished in military expenditure. The Ameer ought reasonably to have expected his army to have made a better defence of his kingdom against invasion than the weak struggle at Ali Musjid and the Peiwar Kotal. After the present campaign, Afghanistan can never hope to rise to the position it occupied under Shere Ali. The easy capture of Cabul and 214 guns is a blow that even a Dost Mahomed would find hard to recover from; and we have yet to destroy the Bala Hissar before we return to India.

REUTER'S TELEGRAMS.

LONDON, 4th April, 1881.

The *Athens Press* urges immediate action, but it is expected that Greece will acquiesce with the Great Powers if urged to do so.

LONDON, 8th April, 1881.

The Chancellor of the Exchequer proposes a reduction of one penny in the income tax and the gradual abolition of the duty on plate, as he expects a surplus of £300,000 over the expenditure.

[SUPPLIED TO THE "HONGKONG DAILY PRESS."]

LONDON, March 23rd.

The House of Lords has finally passed the Arms (Ireland) Bill.

A mine has been discovered under the Palace of the Czarowitz.

The Boers have accepted the conditions of peace proposed, which provide for the complete autonomy of the Transvaal under the suzerainty of the Queen. The British Government is to control foreign relations and a British Resident will reside at the capital.

A Royal Commission is to be appointed to arrange frontier questions. The Boers are to disperse, but the British garrisons will remain pending the definite settlement of affairs.

LONDON, March 26th.

The Opera House at Nice has been completely burned down; nearly a hundred people perished.

A vote of want of confidence in the Government respecting Kandahar has been defeated.

The colonists of Natal are discontented with the conditions of peace.

The Greek frontier question has assumed a threatening aspect.

MISCELLANEOUS NEWS.

The steamer *Orestes* left Hongkong for this port on Thursday morning.

The Governor of Kanagawa, who is an active member of the Yokohama Rowing Club, paid a visit to the new boat-house on Friday afternoon. He was met by some of the Committee who showed him over the building, which, with the various boats, he inspected very minutely.

We believe there is a chance of the club being allowed to have a gateway opening direct from its compound to the bund, thus obviating the detour via the hatoba gates, through old boats, sampans and general odds and ends. If this can be arranged it will be a great convenience.

We learn from the *Shanghai Courier* that His Majesty, the King of the Sandwich Islands, left for Tientsin in the steamer *Puatah* on the morning of the 27 ultimo, at half-past nine o'clock. It is possible that His Majesty will proceed to Peking, in which case, he will be absent from Shanghai about a fortnight. If the King only goes to Tientsin, he will return to Shanghai in about a week.

The same paper states that "the Chinese troops which were sent to Shang Hai Kuan from Hankow during the Russian scare, are beginning to return to their homes. The *Leeyuen*

brought upwards of 1,000 soldiers, and she leaves again for Hankow shortly. We noticed a number of the men wandering about the Settlements to-day, admiring the sights and visiting the shops. They are described as an unruly set, and some of them got into a fracas in Hongkew this afternoon."

According to our Nagasaki contemporary several cases of cholera are reported as having occurred in China. The U. S. S. *Ashuelot* was flying the cholera flag at Shanghai on the 26th ult., and the P. & O. S. S. *Kashgar* was quarantined upon arrival in Hongkong, from Shanghai, on the 19th.

In the columns of a London paper we read that a new secret Communistic society, called "The Southern Workmen's Union," has been discovered at Kioff. In the programme of this society, which has fallen into the hands of the Russian police, it is stated that the society repudiates all pacific methods of operation, such as agitating among the working men by means of pamphlets or conversation, for this "leads to nothing." An open insurrection, it is added, would be equally useless, since the masses of the people in Russia are not sufficiently organized to rise against the Government with any prospect of success. No faith is to be placed in the promises of liberal reforms being calculated merely to strengthen the bourgeoisie and the ruling classes. The only effectual means of carrying on the struggle would be "to imitate the system pursued in Ireland of secretly murdering landowners and destroying their property." By such means a small body of men may attain great revolutionary results; and it is the object of the Southern Workmen's Union to apply this system of terrorism to the landowners and other proprietors of Russia. The manufacturers are to be terrorized into granting the demands of their workmen for higher wages, etc., by being threatened with assassination if they do not comply. The consequence will be that "the Russian artisans generally will become convinced of the power of the secret organization, and will eventually join it." Government officials, too, are to be terrorized into abstaining from all interference with the doings of the society by the assassination of those who attempt such interference. Finally, any local disputes between landowners and peasants, or manufacturers and workmen, are to be taken advantage of for the purpose of securing the adherence of the peasants and workmen to the society.

The *St James's Budget* of the 18th ultimo contains the following description of a preliminary trial to test the practicability of employing compressed air instead of steam as the motive-power for an underground railway. "The trial took place on the Metropolitan line, during the absence of ordinary traffic. The engine employed was one of Beaumont's compressed-air locomotives and was originally made for a tramway. It was not large enough to draw a complete train, the wheels being only thirty inches in diameter. The inventor, Colonel Beaumont, R.E., was present, together with Mr. Tomlinson, chief engineer of the line; Colonel Frank Bolton, Major Ardagh, of the War Office, and several other gentlemen. A start was made from the Chapel-street works of the railway company near the Edgware-road Station. The engine ran to Baker-street, where it was shunted on to the St John's Wood line to pick up a carriage, which most of the party entered in order to continue the journey. The engine then ran from Baker-street to Moorgate-street. On the return journey, after a halt at King's-cross, the engine ran without a stop to Edgware-road, the distance between the two stations—which is for the greater part an ascent of 1 in 100—being performed in eight minutes, or less than the average time taken by the ordinary trains. The total distance run, including the shunting, was about eleven miles, and the weight moved, including the engine itself, was about 20 tons. The engine commenced with an initial pressure of 1,000 pounds on the square inch, and when the run was finished the gauge showed a remaining pressure of 300 pounds in the cylinders. The engine was perfectly under control throughout the trial, and was started and stopped with the greatest ease. Further experimental trials will be made on the Metropolitan line, but for the present the result is considered highly satisfactory."

In the *London and China Express* received by last mail we read that a shooting match between Mr. Scott, the English champion, and Dr. Carver, the leading shot of the United States of America, has been held on the Union Club Ground, at Hendon. The stakes were £200 aside, each shooting at 100 pigeons from a 30 yards' rise. Speculation was very brisk, the Englishman being slightly the better favourite, and not since the celebrated Transatlantic contest between Captain Bogardus and Mr. Aubrey Coventry, three years since, for £1,000, at Brighton, has a similar competition excited so much interest in England. The American won the match by four birds.

From the *London and China Express* we take the following account of the race for the Sculling Championship, a stake of £300 a-side, and the *Sportsman* Challenge Cup, between Edward Hanlan, of Toronto, and Elias O. Laycock, of Sydney, New South Wales, which came off on the 14th Feb., over the usual course from the Star and Garter, at Putney, to the University winning-post, at Mortlake, a distance of four miles and a quarter. The race was originally fixed for the 17th Jan, but in consequence of the ice in the river it had to be postponed. It will be remembered that the Canadian beat Trickett with ridiculous ease in their match, and that Laycock scored a gallant victory over Wallace Ross, Hoamer, Warren Smith, and other competitors in the subsequent regatta, in which Hanlan did not take part. It was then generally felt that the two cracks should not be permitted to return home without a meeting, and, after lengthened negotiations, the present match was arranged. Hanlan, who is nearly twenty-six years of age, weighed 10st. 9 lb. when he stepped into his boat. Laycock is some years older than his opponent and, scales 12st. 4 lb. An immense number of people congregated on the towing-path, and the four boats that accompanied the race were well filled; indeed, there was about the largest attendance of spectators that has ever been seen at a professional match. The start was effected shortly after two o'clock, Hanlan being the favourite at odds of four and five to one. The result justified the betting, the Canadian holding the lead from start to finish. By the time Hammersmith-bridge was reached, where many thousands of persons had congregated, he was about four lengths in front of the Australian. After this he held a lead varying from two to four or five lengths during the remainder of the course, and finally passed the winning-post at Mortlake a winner by some half-a-dozen lengths. Laycock rowed a most plucky and determined race throughout, and although it was manifest after the first half mile that his chances of success were almost hopeless, he stuck to his work with unflinching perseverance. Hanlan showed that he had a lot in hand, as he not only slowed down to about twenty-five strokes per minute during the last portion of the journey, but over and over again looked over his shoulder in order to make certain that his course was clear, and in various other minor ways conducted himself as if out for an exercise spin. By this victory in this match Hanlan becomes absolutely entitled to the challenge cup, which he has won on two occasions previously—on June 16, 1879, when he beat William Elliott, on the Tyne; and on Nov. 15, 1880, when he defeated Edward Trickett, on the Thames. The proprietors of the *Sportsman* have intimated their intention to present another cup for future competition.

Hanlan sculled in the *Canada*, a boat built by Warin, of Toronto, and in the same craft in which he defeated Trickett in November last. She carried on her bows an oblong cedar windboard about 18 in. in length and 5 in. in height, which prevents the stern of the boat paying off when there is a side wind, and keeps her straight much better than a rudder which has to be worked by the feet, and which is consequently liable to be used unnecessarily. Laycock used a Swaddle and Winship boat, which had a rudder affixed to the stern and worked with the ordinary steering gear on the stretcher.

A telegram from Constantinople of the 16th Feb. (says the same paper) states that a Japanese Commissioner had arrived there, and had an interview with the Minister for Foreign Affairs for the purpose of establishing direct

commercial relations with Turkey. The chief articles for which the Commissioner wishes to create a market in Constantinople are tea and silk, and with this view he proposes that a direct line of steamers should be organised. The Porte seems disposed to entertain favourably the overtures made by the Japanese Government, and the Council of Ministers will shortly examine a project for sending a diplomatic agent to Japan to conclude a commercial treaty with the Mikado. This Commissioner will probably be Yoshida, who went to Turkey last year on a similar mission.

The London Correspondent of the *Manchester Guardian* writes:—"The latest news from Persia does not promise quiet times in that empire. The eldest son of the Shah, who bears the title of Zil-es-Sultan, or "Shadow of the Shah," has left his seat of government at Ispahan, and has gone to Teheran, ready, it is stated in telegrams, to lend his father a large sum of money he requires, upon condition that certain powers of government are granted to himself. From the other side it is reported that there are complaints against the government of the Crown Prince at Tabreez. The Shah long since notified to the Powers that his second son, the Governor of Tabreez, had been nominated heir-apparent, to the exclusion of his elder son, the Governor of Ispahan. The reason of this is that in Persia it is usual to select as heir the son of the highest-born mother; and the Shah's second wife was a princess, not the first; but the Zil-es-Sultan, who has racked Central Persia for years for his own advantage, and has acquired great wealth by great tyranny, is much the more determined of the two young men; and little doubt is felt that the powers he is now asking from the Shah are to be made the basis of an attempt to grasp the imperial succession at the death of the present Shah. That event might, in the opinion of some who are well acquainted with Central Asian politics, lead to a civil war of North against South in Persia, a war in which it would be very difficult to avoid the protection of Russia for the northern belligerent, leading to that of England for those who contended for empire in the south. The division of Persia under such patronage into north and south is regarded as one of the possibilities of the future which this fraternal quarrel may bring about."

The Berlin correspondent of the *Times* has addressed to that journal a summary, compiled from a series of articles which lately appeared in the *Kreuz Zeitung*, on the subject of the Boer rising in South Africa. He says "The rights and wrongs of the English in South Africa, the substance of which deserves to be placed before your readers in summary form as being the reasoning of a man who is not only extensively acquainted with the Transvaal himself, but who also now, from his peculiar position here, has access to the fullest and most impartial materials for judging of political events in the Boer States. The writer commences by referring to the representations lately made to Prince Bismarck by the West German Society for Colonization and Export in favour of the imperilled interests of Germany on the west coast of Africa, but contends that it went much too far in declaring for the independence of the Transvaal Republic, and asserts that similar demonstrations in Holland, Germany, and even in England could only have been made in total ignorance of the facts. At the outset, reasons the writer, it must be confessed that looking at the matter from the theoretical side of England's claim to South Africa, it was that Power, and not Holland, which first annexed ground there, two English ship captains having in 1620—that is, 32 years before the Dutch arrived—in the name of their Government, taken possession of the territory now occupied by Cape Town. It was the same, too, with the colony of Natal, where the region surrounding the harbour of Durban was presented to the English in 1828 by the Zulu king Chaka. Here the English Government was represented in the person of Colonel Gardiner, who subsequently died of hunger in Patagonia; and although the colony towards 1840 was abandoned for several years on account of Zulu inroads, the fort raised to overawe the savages unquestionably stood on English ground. The writer then proceeds to sketch the conflicts for this region between the Boers and the British, ending in the defeat of the former, and thus strengthening the property title of the latter. And so it was, too, with the Orange Free State.

On the principle that *nemo potest exuere patriam*, the Cape Government still continued to regard as its proper subjects the Boers who migrated northwards beyond the Orange River, created a separate magistracy for themselves at Colesburg, and concluded an alliance with the Griquas for their protection. But when the Boers, improving in strength, attempted to wrest the land altogether from the Griquas, and were put down by them with the help of the English, who had established their government over the vanquished at Bloemfontein, this was a perfectly fair act; and when again the Boers, under Andreas Pretorius, rose in rebellion, the English were justified in suppressing it and annexing the disturbed region. The present independence of the Orange Free State is due to the initiative of the English, who, in 1854, feeling it to be a burden on them, permitted the Boers to shape their political state to their mind, and the rights then conferred are still respected by England. With reference to the Transvaal also, the English, in 1877, had got formal right on their side, for by section 4 of the treaty with Andreas Pretorius in 1852, freeing the Boers of that province, it was expressly stipulated that, as the English made it a principle of their government to protect the native races, there should be no slavery or slave dealing carried on in the Republic—a bargain its citizens have notoriously broken. The form of slavery may have been avoided, but the "inboeken," or registration of native orphans introduced was nothing but a crafty method of traffic in human beings, known as "black ivory;" and in order to get possession of these orphans, whom their patrons were entitled to keep till their 24th year, though they generally disposed of them before that, it was no uncommon thing for the Boers to surround villages and shoot down the parental inhabitants for the sake of their offspring. The English Government was in possession of proofs of the existence of this form of slavery, and if in annexing the Transvaal it did not make public use of them, this was probably to spare the sensibilities of certain of the Boers belonging to the dying-out generation. It cannot, therefore, argues the writer, be said that the English had no formal right to interfere with them, though of much more account was their material claim to dominion in South Africa. And then he goes on to speak of the great sacrifices and services of England in South Africa, her protection of the coloured races from the maltreatment of the Boers, and of the dangers and disadvantages that would accrue, not only to the whole southern part of the Continent, but also to the Transvaal itself if England were to draw back her hand. Descending to details, the writer then essays to show that no single Boer State would probably now be in existence in all South Africa but for the huge sacrifices in men and money made by England; and, further, that the annexation of the Transvaal in 1877 unquestionably saved it from the dissolving influences of feud and hopeless bankruptcy within and the disintegrating forces of Cetywayo and Secoceni from without.

These reasonings are important as coming from an authority of the first order and interesting as appearing in the columns of a highly Conservative German paper.

"To draw, or not to draw, that's the question:
Whether 'tis safer in the player to take
The awful risk of skinning for a straight,
Or, standing pat, to raise 'em all the limit,
And thus, by bluffing, get it. To draw, to skin;
No more—and by that skin to get a full
Or two pair, or the fattest, bouncin' kings
That luck is heir to; 'tis a consummation
Devoutly to be wished. To draw, to skin;
To skin! perchance to bust—aye, there's the rub,
For in that draw of three what card may come,
When we have shuffled of th' uncertain pack,
Must give us pause. There's the respect
Which makes calamity of a bob-tailed flush.
For who would bear the overwhelming blind,
The reckless straddle, the wait on the edge,
The insolence of pat hands, and the lifts
That patient merit of the bluffer takes,
When he himself might be much better off

By simply passing. Who would trays uphold,
And go out on a small progressive raise.
But that the dread of something after call,
The undiscovered ace-full, to whose strength
Such hands must bow—puzzles the will
And makes us rather keep the chips we have
Than be curious about hands we know not of.
Thus bluffing does make cowards of us all,
And thus the native hue of a four-heart flush
Is sickled with some dark and cussed club;
And speculators in a jack-pot's wealth,
With this regard, their interest turn away,
And lose the right to open."—*Hawkeye*.

YOKOHAMA GENERAL HOSPITAL.
PATIENTS DURING THE MONTH OF MARCH, 1881.

Class of Patients.	Remained.	Admitted.	Discharged.	Died.	Remained Apr. 1st.	Total Treated.
1st	6	4	8	0	2	10
2nd	0	0	0	0	0	0
3rd	13	9	16	0	6	22
4th	0	0	0	0	0	0
Charity	1	1	2	0	0	2
Total	20	14	26	0	8	34

STUART ELDRIDGE, M.D.,
Surgeon-in-Charge.

JAPANESE ITEMS.

[The following Notes on various Japanese matters are chiefly derived from the native papers, occasionally supplemented from original sources of information, and are carefully collated and edited, so as make them readable and intelligible.]

COURT, POLITICAL AND OFFICIAL.

The *Hochi Shinbun* states that the police arrangements of the various foreign settlements being considered insufficient to meet increasing requirements, the Government has determined to enlarge the appropriations for the prefectures of Kanagawa, Hiogo, and Nagasaki, by the sums of thirty thousand, twenty thousand, and eight thousand yen respectively, for that particular service.

The *Nichi Nichi Shinbun* states that His Excellency Sanjo, Prime Minister, will visit the Atami hot springs on or about the 12th inst.

We learn from the same source that the new criminal law, which was to come into force on and after 1st June next, will become active at an earlier date; and that the necessary procedures for the investigation of criminal cases in the Supreme Court, are now being compiled from the French criminal code.

The *Akebono Shinbun* says that the term of mourning for the late Czar of Russia having expired on the 3rd inst., his Majesty the Emperor attends the meetings of the cabinet after that date.

The same paper says it is rumoured in the Police Department that a special secret service is to be established, and several detectives will be enrolled.

The *Mainichi Shinbun* writes:—It has been rumoured that His Excellency Admiral Enomoto, Minister of the Navy, intends tendering his resignation, in consequence of a memorial of his having been unfavourably received by the Government; and that some unpleasantness existed. But now it is said that the object of our Government having reformed the Cabinet in the early part of last year was not only for the purpose of separating the legislative from the executive power, but at the same time, to abolish gradually the traditional influence of the former powerful *Hans*. Thus, for instance, Messrs. Kono and Tanaka, who are neither Satsuma nor Choshu men, have been appointed Ministers of Education and Justice respectively, and Mr. Enomoto, belonging to the Bakufu, to his present office. These new Ministers have, in turn, in order to conform to the

Government's views, endeavoured to introduce similar reforms their respective Departments. In the Naval Department, of which Mr. Kawamura, a Satsuma-man, had been former Minister, almost all the civil officials and naval officers are Satsuma men, and on this account the efforts of the new Minister are not favourably regarded by them. They have gone so far as to formulate a request that the former Minister might return to their Department. Nevertheless the new Minister is firmly attached to his own views, and, assisted by several naval men of ability, is endeavoring to effect a thorough reform in our Navy. The rumours about his memorial and resignation, therefore, appear to be without foundation.

The same paper states that His Majesty the Emperor will proceed to the Fukiage park on the 11th instant, to be present at the horse races, which are being got up by the military officers attached to the General Staff.

Another paper says it is rumoured that Mr. Nomura, governor of Kanagawa prefecture, will shortly be promoted to some position in the legislature, and that Mr. Ishii, ex-assistant chief of the police, and at present one of the secretaries of the Home Department, will succeed to the vacant governorship.

The *Mainichi Shinbun* states that their Excellencies Matsukata, Home Minister, and Saio, Finance Minister, went together to the private residence of His Excellency Okuma, Privy Councillor, on the evening of the 5th inst., and thence accompanied by him visited His Excellency Iwakura, the Third Minister of State, on official business.

The *Hochi Shinbun* writes:—Their Excellencies Sanjo, Prime Minister, General Yamada, Privy Councillor, and Mr. Shishido, Minister for China, met at the private residence of His Excellency General Yamagata, on the 4th inst, for secret conference. It is said to have been in connection with the Chinese difficulty.

The *Nichi Nichi Shinbun* states that His Excellency Inouye, Minister of the Foreign Department, has been appointed one of the committed for enquiring into the ceremonial to be used on the occasion of visits to Japan of foreigners of very high distinction.

Another paper announces that lately more than forty officials have been dismissed from the Kanagawa *Kencho*.

NAVAL AND MILITARY.

The *Nichi Nichi Shinbun* says that 8,000 troops will take part in the sham battles to be held by the Tokio garrison during 14 days, commencing on the 1st instant, in the Narashino plain, and that colonel Kodama will command the eastern, and Colonel Nogi the western party.

The *Hochi Shinbun* states that the *Raiden-kwan*, having completed her repairs, will come to Shinagawa about the 14th inst to take in provisions, when she will proceed to the north sea for surveying purposes, and that the *Nisshin* and *Seiki*, which are also undergoing repairs, are expected to be ready for sea about the middle of next month. The *Nisshin*, will, it is said, be despatched for Chinese waters.

The same paper contains the following:—In the Naval Department, owing to the depreciation of paper currency, the appropriation for the 12th fiscal year (ending in July last) was found to be insufficient by 116,000 yen, and accordingly application has been made to the council of state for allotment of the balance. The application has recently been granted, and subtracting a few minor expenses, the sum of 113,700 yen has been disbursed.

The same paper gives it as a rumour that the *Nisshin-kwan* will shortly be despatched to Amoy, China.

The *Choya Shinbun* informs us that heretofore the appropriation for the Yokosuka dockyard was 420,000 yen, part to be set aside for naval construction. This was found insufficient and it has been decided that hereafter the appropriation will be increased to 600,000 yen, by means of savings effected in every other section of the Naval Department, and that a large man-of-war will be constructed next year.

Another paper states a number of cadets in the *Shikoku Gakko* (one of the military Colleges) went up for their final examination on the 4th instant. The French Minister and several Japanese generals and other high Military officers were present as spectators.

The *Nichi Nichi Shinbun* writes:—The crews and officers on board of the *Amakikuan* in Yokosuka have had much gun practice lately. Rumour had it that she was about to be dispatched to China if it had been necessary, but we now hear that after sufficient practice, she is to be sent to Korean waters. In the dockyard there, several other men-of-war are either being repaired or constructed. This was also said to have reference to the Chinese difficulty, but according to what we now learn these works have been inaugurated because, fortunately, there remained a surplus of 150,000 yen out of the appropriations of the fiscal year.

We learn from the same source that more than ten thousand stand of Murata rifles are about to be manufactured for the army, and specimens are now being made in the Arsenal; but as each of these rifles is estimated to cost about 160 yen, some reduction in the expense will, if possible, be effected.

INDUSTRIES, TRADE AND FINANCE.

A vernacular paper contains the following:—The mountain of Funakoshi situated between Funakoshi-mura, and Kamakura, both in the province of Sagami, penetrates a great way into the sea, and traders were compelled on this account to go round Sagami by sea, but rumour has it that some men of enterprise in the prefectures of Kanagawa and Shizuoka, intend making a cutting in the mountain. If this project be carried out, the sea route from the port of Amishiro, in the Idu province, to Yokohama and Tokio will be shortened by more than ten *ri*. It is a subject for congratulation that in every locality, active men are contemplating further transport facilities.

The *Nichi Nichi Shinbun* contains the following report received from the Boyeki Sewkwai, at Yokohama, under date of 1st instant:—

The sales of silk on the 31st ult., were as follows:—

Joashin filature	10 bales.....@	\$635
Kakeda	18 "	605
Chikugo filature	7 "	580
Goshin "	8 "	625
Ooshin "	6 "	626
Shinshin filature	22 "	620 & 520
Tomioka hanks.....	10 "	560
Kaketa	31 "	590
Hamatsuki	12 "	480

Total.....124 bales.

The same vernacular journal states that in the Yokohama Bourse no appreciable change has occurred. On the 2nd inst., the market was opened at 181.9, improved to 181.4, and receded to 181.55.

We understand from a native source, that two members of the *Doshin Kwaiisha* (Silk trading Company) at Yokohama, left for Marseilles by the French mail steamer *Volga*, intending to establish a house of business at that port.

The *Bukka Shinpo* contains the following reports. In Yokohama, silk is in the same condition as stated in our previous issue but more or less sales are being transacted, and consequently arrivals are reported every day. By the *Oceanic* 139 bales were exported, and by the *Volga* 706, with 296 bales of waste silk. At present stocks are:—

Filature	617 bales.
Hanks	892 "
Hamatsuki	576 "
Kakeda	368 "
Okusen	110 "
Nagata	24 "
Echizen	15 "

Total... ..2,602 bales.

No change has occurred in the price of tea, although stocks are scarce. There is little doing and arrivals are scanty. Merchants are awaiting the arrival of the new season's tea.

The *Mainichi Shinbun* states that His Excellency Iwakura, Third Minister of State, held a conference with Messrs. Hachisuka Daté and eight other leading nobles, at his private residence on the 3rd inst., in connection with the proposed construction of new railways.

The same paper has the following:—Mr. van Mulder, engineer in the Construction Bureau, who has lately been appointed to look after matters connected with the proposed construction of a harbour within the line of forts at

Tokio, is said to have forwarded to the authorities a document containing his views on the subject. In Yokohama, a committee was appointed to report upon the advisability of the extension of the present camber, a matter before referred to by us, consisting of Messrs. Hara Zenzaburo, Totenka Sentaro, and nine other gentlemen. With reference to the proposed extension it is decided that a special section for surveyors will be opened in the (native) Chamber of Commerce, and that some graduates of the Engineering College will be employed in that department.

We take the following from the same source:—*Tounegi* (thick and strong cotton cloth), manufactured by the *Rikisho-kusha* company at Kumamoto, has become readily saleable, and the demand increases daily. Over 200 *shizoku* have lately entered into the company, and an order for spinning machines has been sent to Belgium, in order to provide for an increase of business. It is also reported that one or two members of the tea-manufacturing company at Higashikoye, in conjunction with several other business men in the prefectures of Kochi and Fukuoka, intend establishing a company for the sale of black teas at Yokohama. It is hoped that branches may be started in different cities and prefectures before long, in connection with this trade.

The same paper also reports that in Yokohama no appreciable change has occurred in the price of silk. Filature has not fallen in price, but Shinshin and Kakeda hanks seem to be weaker by \$20 than before. Waste silk, owing to stock being much reduced, is in fair demand.

The *Hochi Shinbun* announces that Mr. Yamakawa, director of the 108th National Bank, intends establishing a company to be known by the name of *Kwairio Kwaiisha* (Refining Company) with a view to refine and improve silk and other products of Japan.

The *Nichi Nichi Shinbun* says:—In reference to the proposed construction of a railway between Tokio and Awomori, we have to inform our readers that Mr. Yamayoshi, prefect of Fukushima Ken, invited to his residence several wealthy farmers and merchants of the districts of Shinobu and Daté on the 19th inst., and explained the principles of the establishment of the *Tetsudo Kwaiisha* (Railway Company), instructed them that the proposed construction will be a source of wealth in Wou and Hokkaido, and advised them, by subscribing to the undertaking, to assist this praiseworthy enterprise. All of them agreed to become subscribers. Some are said to have offered to invest sums of twenty and even thirty thousand yen.

A native paper states that the projectors of the *Seicha Kwairio Kwaiisha* (tea refining company) at Kobe have lately held a meeting in the branch office of the specie Bank in that town, to deliberate upon the advisability of applying to the authorities for permission to carry out the project; and that several well-to-do tea merchants there are about to enter the company in order to make it a success.

The *Nichi Nichi Shinbun* says that with reference to the Claret Company, which was about to be established at Kita-moto-cho, Asakusa, Tokio, the necessary capital has been raised, and it is likely to be opened about the middle of this month.

The same paper gives the following commercial summary of trade in Kobe:—No appreciable changes are reported in tea. Foreigners continue to make small purchases but, as stocks are low the market is rather dull. Camphor is unsaleable, both buyers and sellers waiting for favourable terms. White-wax, and *kanten* (a preparation of an edible seaweed) are unchanged, but owing to the rise of silver there is little doing in these commodities. Copper, owing to its scarcity, is rising steadily; continual purchases by Chinese are reported, but only of small lots. Some time ago, native merchants seemed slightly inclined to demand imports, but owing to the recent extraordinary depreciation of paper they have kept back, and are now waiting for an improvement in the value of currency. However, as stocks continue to arrive, foreigners are pressing sales.

The *Choya Shinbun* states that in the remote fastnesses of the mountains in the province of Harima there is abundance of excellent timber, especially *sugi* and *keyaki* wood, which hitherto, however, has been but little used owing to defective

means of transport. Lately many men of enterprise at Himeji, in that province, have resolved on constructing a tramway from Kobe to their own town, with a view to facilitate transport.

The *Bukka Shinpo* gives the following commercial summary of trade in Yokohama:—Paper currency continues falling more and more; it seemed at a time likely to fall to 200, but as there were some sales of silver it has receded slightly. On the 6th inst. the market opened at 181.35, fell to 181.4, improved to 180.9, and again receded to 181. The average in the morning was 181.35 and in the afternoon 180.87. The amounts transacted were 895,000 yen. No change has occurred in either the market condition or price of silk; both buyers and sellers are watching each other, but only little business is done. Tea is as before, and but few transactions are reported. Foreign cotton yarn is declining and the market is dull. Coal, owing to the arrival of two or three cargoes, was rather easier some days ago, but as there have been no fresh arrivals since that time, it seems to be again on the advance.

MISCELLANEOUS.

The *Mainichi Shinbun* states:—It is a well recorded fact that about 300 years ago, a daimio named Daté Masamune, Lord of the Sendai clan, sent one of his vassals, Shikura Bokuyemon, to Rome. The vassal brought back an oil painting likeness of the then Pope and this was carefully preserved. Some years ago, when all the ware-houses &c., were delivered over to the *kencho*, this picture could not be found, although there was a likeness of Shikura himself, as well as several official documents written on parchment. Lately, however, while a dealer in miscellaneous wares named Fushimi Zenbei, at Kokubu machi, Sendai, who is said to be descended from an ancient family, was removing his furniture &c., from a godown, in order to let his shop, he found a rudely made box in one corner of the building. On opening it he discovered a likeness, resembling that of *Daruma* (a well known ancient Indian priest). The news soon spread through the town and many residents offered to buy it at round prices, but a man named Yamasaki Heigoro succeeded in purchasing it for a thousand yen. If this be really the likeness of the Pope mentioned, the antiquaries will be highly pleased at the discovery of a treasure so long hidden.

The *Choya Shinbun* states that on the 21st ult. the sum of 100 yen was granted from the Imperial Household Department to Matajiro, the son of the late Rai Jo, a well known literary man and historian, as an offering for religious purposes, in consideration of his father's having been loyal to the Imperial House, and having rendered a public service by his publications.

A native paper states that a fire occurred at Nakacho, Kanda, Tokio, at 11.15 a.m. on the 1st inst. One hundred and thirty six houses were burned down and nineteen damaged. The fire is said to have been the work of an incendiary.

We take the following from a native paper:—Thirty or forty officers of the Russian man-of-war in harbour, visited the Exhibition on the 2nd inst. His Imperial Highness Higashi-Fushimi-no-miya was also among the visitors, and returned in company with His Highness Kita-Shirakawa-no-miya, the President of the Exhibition. The early cherry trees in the Park are beginning to blossom in consequence of the late rains. They will, it is said, be in full bloom on the 7th or 8th inst.

The visitors to the National Exhibition during week ending 2nd instant, were as follows:—On the 27th (Sunday) 6,170; 28th 6,059; 29th 5,557; 30th 5,263; 31st 4,337; 1st April 9,821; 2nd (Saturday) 8,737.

The same paper announces that a number of gentlemen who are regarded as the leading men of the so-called civilisation party in Korea, will, by direction of their King, come to Japan for a few months. One of the party is a very popular man amongst Koreans, and another, a relative of the King's wife, is a very important dignitary. All the others are either privy councillors or other high officials, and it is supposed that their visit will be of considerable subsequent importance.

The *Mainichi Shinbun* informs us that at three o'clock on the morning of the 4th inst., another fire was observed at the rear of a

watchmaker's shop at Kawara-machi, Asakusa, Tokio. Favoured by a strong breeze the flames rapidly spread and were not subdued until after 222 houses were completely destroyed, and 6 houses, and 1 large godown considerably damaged. Flying sparks caused flames to burst forth in two places at Honjo on the opposite side of the Sumidagawa river, but they were fortunately extinguished before serious damage resulted.

A native paper states:—In Niigata a strong S.W. wind sprung up on the night of the 26th ultimo. All the fishing boats outside hastened to take refuge inshore. One of them was dragged into a boat-but on the coast at Iahii-cho, when the torch in the boat set the straw shed on fire. The fire spread in every direction and was not subdued till about 500 houses were burned down. Many people perished and a large number of wounded are reported. This has been a most disastrous conflagration.

This paper also informs us that in the Kioto Exhibition, a night watch is constantly kept; and yet on the night of the 27th ultimo, a thief succeeded in stealing several exhibits valued at over 170 yen. Strict investigations are now being made.

It is stated in the same paper that at Giotoku, Chiba prefecture, the sparks from the chimney of a steam-boat plying between Tokio and that place, set the Daitokuji temple on fire about 3 p.m. of the 3rd instant. The fire rapidly spread, and entirely consumed as many as 300 houses. The residents attempted to destroy the steam-boat, but the district officials, after several efforts, succeeded in preventing them from doing any malicious injury.

The same paper writes:—Several briefless barristers in Koshi, Tosa province, have established a decidedly novel company, named *Saisoku-sha* (Dunning Company). The intention of the Company is said to be that of collecting payment of amounts loaned by money-lenders to borrowers, who do not pay up their debts. The Company's plan is to send a negotiator to them once, and if they do not then pay, fifteen or sixteen of the members, each carrying a red flag, will go to the borrower's house, one after another, and if payment is not made, will erect the flags before the building to let the public know how many times the borrowers have been asked for payment; thus they will be shamed into cashing-up. The company has become very prosperous lately, and, in consequence, lawsuits in the Courts have diminished in number.

IMPERIAL GOVERNMENT RAILWAYS.

TOKIO AND YOKOHAMA SECTION.

Statement of traffic receipts for the week ending Sunday 3rd April, 1881.

Passengers, parcels, &c.....	Yen 11,188.16
Merchandise, &c.....	" 1,074.83

Total.....Yen 12,262.99

Miles open 18.

Corresponding week last year.

Passengers, parcels, &c.....	Yen 8,820.95
Merchandise, &c.....	" 814.20

Total.....Yen 9,635.15

Miles open 18.

KIOTO, KOBE AND OOTSU SECTION.

Statement of traffic receipts for the week ending Sunday, 3rd April, 1881.

Passengers, parcels, &c.....	Yen 19,988.18
Merchandise, &c.....	" 2,793.62

Total.....Yen 22,781.80

Miles open 58.

Corresponding week last year.

Passengers, parcels, &c.....	Yen 16,976.31
Merchandise, &c.....	" 1,811.44

Total.....Yen 18,787.75

Miles open 55.

ARRIVAL OF THE FRENCH MAIL.

London, 3rd March.—An outbreak of plague is reported at Ajufiar in Mesopotamia.

The Basuto armistice has terminated. The Basuto chief Lerothodi has declined to negotiate with the Cape Government.

Constantinople, 3rd March.—Frequent Cabinet Councils are being held here. No decision has been come to in regard to the Greek frontier question.

London, 4th March.—In the House of Lords last night Lord Lytton introduced a motion condemning the policy of the Government in respect to Kandahar. All sections of native opinion in India, he said, condemned the policy of the Government. England might be indifferent to the changing fortunes of rulers at Kabul and to Russian action at Herat if Kandahar was held by you firmly and fearlessly. The Secretary of State for India said the native princes had the greatest dread of any further annexation. Opinions were conflicting as to the military and commercial advantages to be derived from a permanent occupation of Kandahar, and it was a serious question as to what the political effects would be. Serious financial difficulties also made it onerous. Lords Derby and Northbrook and others approved of the policy of the Government. Lord Salisbury attacked the Government policy. The House agreed to an adjournment of the debate.

The Secretary of State for War, in moving the Army Estimates in the House of Commons, submitted a programme of reform in Army Organisation. The age of recruits is to be increased to 19 years, and none are to be sent out to India until they are 20. The terms of enlistment are to be 12 years' service with the colors; home, seven years, and abroad eight years. Men completing their service in India will be permitted to re-enlist for two years. There will only be four battalions of Indian reliefs yearly. The relief battalions to a great extent will be superseded by drafts from the linked battalion at home. Increased pay and privileges are to be granted to non-commissioned officers. The linked battalion system remains virtually unchanged. According to the programme a remedy is provided for the retirement grievance. 516 out of 1,000 captains will rise to Majors, instead of 216. The number of Generals will be reduced to 150. Corporal punishment is to be abolished.

The following particulars regarding the localization of the army are given in the orders programme of army reforms:—Two battalions of the line and two of militia forming a territorial brigade will henceforth form the territorial regiment with a County depot: the first and second battalions to be line and third and fourth militia. The whole line is to be organised as the first 25 line regiment, except Rifle regiments, which remain unchanged. The Scottish regiments will be grouped in the new system.

Lord Hartington in the House of Commons said that the withdrawal from Kandahar was not dependent upon a peaceable settlement in Southern Afghanistan, which possibly would be indefinitely postponed, but arrangements were being made in order to promote the same.

Mr. Gladstone, replying to a question in the House of Commons, said he believed the Banto armistice had been prolonged.

Lord Enfield, in the House of Lords, said the Government had no information that the Russians were about to occupy or had occupied Merv as announced by Renter on the authority of the *Times of India*.

General Roberts will be accompanied to Natal by (Lieut.-Col.) Newdigate, (C.B., Rifle Brigade).

Sir Evelyn Wood has been appointed Major-General.

St Petersburg, 4th March.—The semi-official *Agence Russe* contradicts a letter from the *Times of India's* Kandahar Correspondent, to the effect that the Russians have occupied, or are going to occupy, Merv.

Washington, 4th March.—The inauguration of General Garfield as President of the United States took place to-day.

London, 5th March.—The debate on Lord Lytton's motion was resumed in the House of Lords last night. Lord Cranbrook attacked the policy of the Government and strongly urged the production of the opinion of the Indian Government on the Kandahar question. The Duke of Argyll said it was not founded upon Russian promises or implicit confidence in the Afghans, but on a hope that the Afghans would be induced to place confidence in England's disinterested conduct. The Earl of Beaconsfield attacked the Government policy, but nevertheless he said he did not believe that Kandahar was the key of India. London was the key of India—the vigour of Parliament, the skill and resources of Englishmen, the action of a

determined people—these were the keys of India. Earl Granville spoke in defence of the Government policy, and asserted that the Marquis of Ripon was in favour of the abandonment of Kandahar. The House of Lords eventually carried the motion against the Government by 166 against 76 votes.

The senior Rani of Travancore has been appointed a Member of the Order of the Crown of India.

St. Petersburg, 5th March.—The semi-official *Agence Russe* declares that the Russians have not advanced beyond Askabad.

Washington, 5th March.—President Garfield, in his inaugural address to the Congress, asserts the right of the United States Government to control the Panama Canal; confidently believes that the leading commercial nations will adopt the double standard; and urges legislation to bring the dollar on a par with gold.

Ceylon, 5th March.—Yesterday eighty-five boats brought in Government share of 335,000 oysters. All were sold at 23Rs. per thousand. The same number of boats went out again last night, the Superintendent leading them to and fro.

Constantinople, 6th March.—Delegates from the Porte have conferred with the Ambassadors of the Great Powers.

Washington, 6th March.—James Gillespie Blaine has been appointed Secretary of State.

London, 7th March.—They *Daily News* publishes a telegram from Natal, stating that Sir Evelyn Wood has had an interview with Jonbert, and that an eight days' armistice has been agreed to.

The *Morning Post* publishes a paragraph stating that Sir Garnet Wolseley receives a peerage.

In the House of Commons, Mr. Stanhope gave notice of a resolution condemning withdrawal from Afghanistan during the present critical state of affairs.

Mr. Gladstone, replying to a question, confirmed the news that an armistice had been agreed to with the Boers in order to enable Mr. Kruger, the Boer President, to reply to conditions of peace. Meanwhile, our garrisons in the Transvaal will be reinvited.

The latest Cape advices state that the continued heavy rains in the Transvaal have caused a suspension of military operations.

Vienna, 7th March.—An earthquake causing great destruction and loss of upwards of 100 lives has occurred at Ischia.

Austria has accepted an invitation to take part in the Bi-metallic Conference to be held in Paris on the 19th April.

Bombay, 7th March.—The court-martial on Major Currie, charged with misbehaviour amounting to cowardice at Maiwand, acquitted the prisoner without hearing all the witnesses for the defence. The trial of Col. Malcolmson is adjourned till General Primrose arrives.

Allahabad, 7th March.—The 85th Regiment will embark at Bombay for Natal on the 10th. Its approximate strength in 22 officers and 800 men. The *Government Gazette* of the 5th states that the Viceroy leaves Calcutta on the 15th March and will halt a day at Cawnpore.

The 35th Native Infantry and the 16th Cavalry return to Allahabad from Southallstan.

London, 8th March.—The Board of Trade returns of imports for the past month, amount to £36,625,000, showing an increase of £3,375,000, as compared with the last year's. The exports amount to £17,812,500 showing an increase of £312,500 as compared with last year.

Mr. A. Arnold and General Gordon have given notice of amendments to Mr. Stanhope's resolution.

The Secretary of State for India, in reply to a question, said that the revenue of Peshawur was insufficient to defray the cost of administration, and that the permanent occupation of Kandahar would not reduce the normal expenditure at Peshawur.

Lisbon, 8th March.—The Portuguese Chamber of Deputies has approved the treaty ceding Lorenzo Marquez to England.

London, 9th March.—Further arrests have been made in Ireland under the Coercion Act.

The latest news from the Gold Coast states that the King of Ashantee disavows the threats made by his Envoy and says he never intended making war on us.

Lord Hartington, replying to a question, said Ayoub's

Envoy had arrived at Kandahar and been courteously received. He was not aware, however, that anything tantamount to negotiations had been opened with him. His Lordship said it was inexpedient to make any further statement on the subject at present.

Mr. O'Donnell, the member for Dungarvan, being disorderly in the House of Commons last night, was suspended.

The arrests in Ireland under the Coercion Act include Boyton, the chief organizer of the Land League, who claims the protection of the United States Government.

Bombay, 9th March.—The troopship *Euphrates* sailed at two o'clock this afternoon for Colombo.

London, 10th March.—Advices from the Transvaal state that Joubert, the commandant of the Boer forces, is intimidating the loyal Boers in the Utrecht district.

President Brand is making vigorous efforts to promote peace between the Boers and the British.

An influential meeting was held yesterday in London under the presidency of Lord Elcho, at which resolutions were adopted against the abandonment of Kandahar.

Lord Hartington, replying to a deputation, said that the Government had received an invitation to attend the Bi-metallic Conference. As the terms of the invitation, however, apparently pledged the acceptors to adopt the bi-metallic standard, the acceptance had been deferred until the terms of the invitation were modified. His Lordship said that the British Government will take no part in the Conference which assumed a willingness to abandon the gold standard. With these reserves the British Government and the Government of India were quite willing to adopt safe and prudent measures to restore silver to its former value.

Mr. Gladstone, in reply to a question in the House of Commons last night, said that the Government had authorized the prolongation of the armistice with the Boers if it should prove necessary.

Mr. Gladstone, replying to a question respecting the proposed Bi-metallic Conference, stated that the terms of invitation involve a pre-determined conclusion on the part of those who participate in the Conference relative to the adoption of the bi-metallic standard. If this difficulty is removed, England will participate in the Conference.

Berlin, 10th March.—It has been officially announced that Bismarck is emphatically in favour of the maintenance of the *status quo* currency.

London, 11th March.—Lord Hartington, in replying to a question in the House of Commons, said the commencement of withdrawal of troops from Kandahar will be made immediately. Three Native regiments and one European regiment are to proceed at once to India, but he did not anticipate any very considerable movement of troops would take place at present.

Hostilities have been renewed in Basutoland.

SPIRIT OF THE NATIVE PRESS.

It was announced not long ago, says the *Shen Pao*, that the Japanese Minister had quitted Peking in the middle of winter, had travelled over-land to Shanghai and had returned thence to Japan. When this news was first published, every one who heard it imagined that a rupture must have occurred between China and Japan. But afterwards it was known that the Chinese officials had entertained the Minister before his departure and had taken leave of him in a friendly manner; and it therefore seemed plain that he must have gone away for some other reason than that at first believed. On the other hand, news was brought later on from Japan that the departure of the Minister had a good deal of meaning in it, and this was confirmed by a paragraph copied by the *Daily News* from a foreign newspaper in Japan, to the effect that the whole country was in a state of ferment after the return of the Minister. We do not know whether it is on account of the natural character of the Japanese or not, but for some reason their behaviour is always inexplicable, and their views on any subject utterly unreasonable. It is less than twenty years ago since the first treaty was concluded between China and Japan, and, though there may be two or three trifling differences between the treaties made by China with other nations and that made by her with Japan, still Japan is ranged among the friendly allies of China. It is

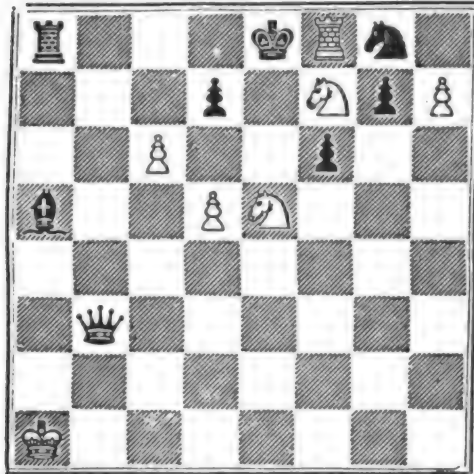
quite at variance with fact to say, as the Japanese have done, that China is endeavouring to quarrel with them and treating them badly. In the last ten years the Japanese themselves have twice given China serious cause for offence. First in the case of the Formosan expedition, the Japanese suddenly despatched an army to Formosa to punish the savages there, on the grounds that the shipwrecked Loochooans, who had been murdered by the savages, were their tributaries. The Chinese Government was at first extremely astonished at their action, but afterwards came to understand its object, and finally, through the mediation of the British Minister at Peking, instead of making a declaration of war, took the opposite course and paid a sum of money towards the cost of the expedition, upon which the Japanese returned home in triumph. Secondly, under the pretext that they had abolished their feudal system in imitation of European nations, and that Loochoo therefore as a tributary of their Empire should be incorporated into the body of the State, they destroyed the little kingdom and established a Japanese Department in its place. At the time the Loochooans were too weak to make any resistance, and the Chinese Government, having many other things to occupy its attention, merely made protest and did not seriously press the matter. The Japanese therefore once more had their own way. In the case of the Formosan affair, allowing that the Japanese had a right to concern themselves with the troubles of the Loochooans, at any rate the Loochooans were tributaries of China as well, and Formosa was a territory subject to China; so that the particular question was between Chinese subjects and Chinese tributaries. China therefore could very well attend to it herself, and there was no need for any one else to meddle with it. Or, even supposing that China were too much occupied with other matters to be able to do anything, and Japan wished to espouse the cause of the Loochooans, as being tributary to her as well as to China, then she ought to have come to an understanding with China before she began to move, and not to have taken a step which amounted simply to an act of war against China, whereby beyond all dispute she put herself entirely in the wrong. Again, when Japan annexed Loochoo, she knew that it was tributary to China as well as to herself, and yet she in no way consulted the latter power in the matter. Therefore in this case also there can be no doubt as to the wrongfulness of her conduct. The Japanese misunderstood the laudable caution and moderation of China, who was not accustomed to declare war on matters concerning her tributaries beyond the sea, and certainly was not going to dispute with Japan about the suzerainty of Loochoo. They thought that China's conduct was the result of her powerlessness, and were more than ever confirmed in their spirit of aggressiveness and belief that they could do exactly as they pleased. At the present moment, the Japanese Minister is said to have left Peking in a passion because the Loochooans sent tribute to China and the Government accepted it. As the two Governments are not known to be negotiating on any subject at the present time, it is possible that the story may not be true. If it is true, it shows the foolishness of the Minister. If China had any designs with regard to Loochoo, she would have spoken out at the time of the annexation instead of waiting till now. The Loochooan tribute was not exacted by China, but was voluntarily offered in remembrance of past kindnesses, and therefore Japan could not prevent it. Also, China did not intend on account of the tribute to take pity on the fallen fortunes of the Loochooan king and restore his kingdom to him. Nevertheless the Japanese Minister went off in a huff, thereby making plain the smallness of his mind. It is quite right that the Japanese statesmen should take proper precautions before trouble actually comes, and should do their utmost on behalf of their country. But at the present moment of absolute quiet one cannot see from which quarter there is a shadow of danger. The difficulty between Russia and China is arranged. Last year, when the old negotiations came to nothing and a second Ambassador was despatched, there was every appearance that war must ensue. But fortunately those in China who attended to the question were aware that, in spite of the improvements of our armaments, the victory was by no means certain, and that war in any case must be hurtful, while the Russians recognized the insufficiency of their fleet and of the

immense distance which their army would be forced to travel by land. Thus the preservation of peace was foreseen, and the preparations for defence were merely continued as a proper precaution. Now it is known that peace has been absolutely secured, China has not stopped her defensive measures immediately, because by so doing she would proclaim her weakness. The Japanese, however, seeing that China continues to increase her military power, in spite of the conclusion of peace with Russia, think that she is meditating an attack upon them. But this is not enough. They are afraid that Russia may take advantage of their being engaged with China, to do them some injury. Then they concern themselves with the relations between China and Corea. Really, the Japanese seem to be the one great nation in Asia, which must interest itself in everything. They are certainly displaying their national characteristics; but nevertheless they are puzzling their brains to no good. China certainly will not enter into alliance with Russia to-day against the Japanese, when she only made peace with her yesterday. Nor has Russia any designs at the present moment against Corea.—*Shanghai Courier.*

CHESS PROBLEM.

BY D'ORVILLE.

BLACK.



WHITE.

White to play and mate in 3 moves.

SOLUTION OF CHESS PROBLEM OF APRIL 2ND, BY
REV. J. VINCENT.

- White. Black.
1.—Kt. to Kt. 6. 1.—K. to K. 5.
2.—Q. to B. 3. ch. 2.—K. takes P.
3.—Q. to K. 3. mate.

Correct solution received from Q.

NATIVE CURRENCY QUOTATIONS.

(For Week Ending 9th April, 1881.)

		Discount on Yen Sat.			Gold Yen.	Nibus.	Silver Subsidiary (New.)	Silver Subsidiary (Old.)
		A. M.	Noon.	Closing.				
1881	April 2	80 $\frac{1}{2}$	80 $\frac{1}{2}$	80 $\frac{1}{2}$	—	—	—	—
Saturday	"	4	80 $\frac{1}{2}$	80 $\frac{1}{2}$	—	—	—	—
Monday	"	5	80 $\frac{1}{2}$	80 $\frac{1}{2}$	—	—	—	—
Tuesday	"	6	80 $\frac{1}{2}$	79 $\frac{1}{2}$	—	—	—	—
Wednesday	"	7	79 $\frac{1}{2}$	78 $\frac{1}{2}$	—	—	—	—
Thursday	"	8	77 $\frac{1}{2}$	77 $\frac{1}{2}$	—	—	—	—
Friday	"	9	77 $\frac{1}{2}$	77 $\frac{1}{2}$	—	—	—	—
Saturday	"				—	—	—	—

YOKOSUKA STEAMERS TIME TABLE.

LEAVE YOKOHAMA.

Daily:—8.30, and 9.45 A.M.; 12.00, 1.30, and 4.15 P.M.

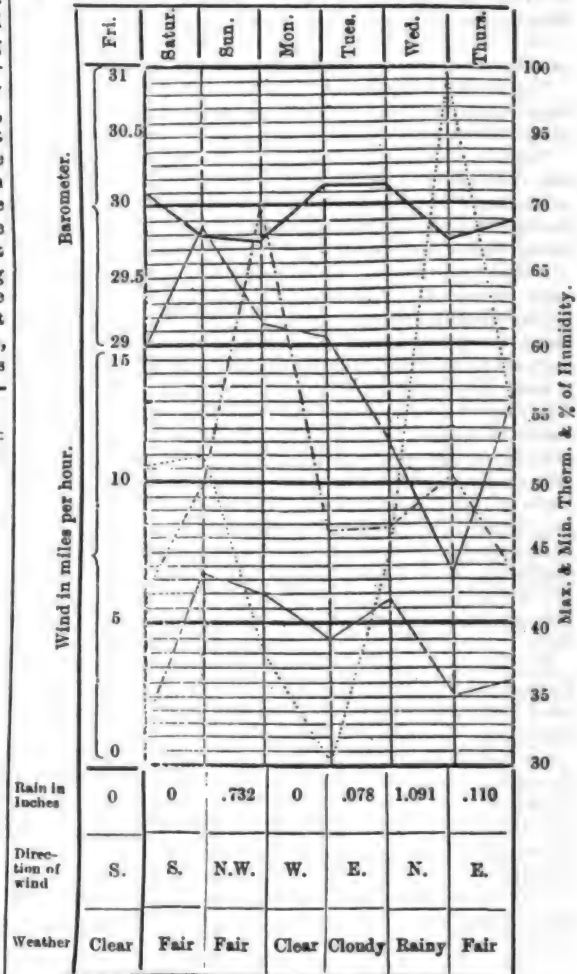
LEAVE YOKOSUKA.

Daily:—6.45 and 9.30 A.M., and 12.00; 1.30 and 4.00 P.M.

METEOROLOGICAL REPORT

FOR WEEK BEGINNING FRIDAY, APRIL 1ST, 1881.

Observatory of Daigaku, Moto-Fujicho, Hongō, Tokio, Japan.



REMARKS.

Heavy line represents barometer.

Light continuous line—max. & min. thermometers.

.....represents velocity of wind.

.....percentage of humidity.

Max. velocity of wind 37.0 miles per hour on Sunday at 3 p.m.

The barometer is reduced to the freezing point and to the level of the sea.

The highest reading of the barometer for the week was 30.187 inches on Tuesday at 10 a.m. and the lowest was 29.357 on Sunday at 6 a.m. The highest temperature for the week was 68° 3 on Saturday and the lowest was 33° on Friday. The maximum and minimum for the corresponding week of last year were 69° 8 and 35° respectively. The total amount of rain during the week was 2.011 inches against 1.472 inches for the corresponding week of last year. In the above diagram the line representing percentage of humidity is 5 per cent too high throughout, starting with 100 at the top.

SHIPPING INTELLIGENCE.

INWARDS.

April 3, Japanese barg. *Sumanoura Maru*, Spiegelthal, 925, from Nagasaki, Coals, to M. B. Co.
April 4, German barque *Joachim Christian*, Rickslefs, 457, from Takao, Sugar, to Yuk Chee.
April 4, French steamer *Tanaia*, Reynier, 1,735, from Hongkong, Mails and General, to M. M. Co.
April 7, British steamer *Cleveland*, Harvey, 792, from Takao, March 28th, Sugar, to Jardine, Matheson & Co.
April 7, Japanese steamer *Swinoye Maru*, Frahm, 853, from Nagasaki, Mails and General, to M. B. Co.
April 7, Japanese steamer *Tokio Maru*, Swain, 1,146, from Shanghai and ports, Mails and General, to M. B. Co.
April 8, British steamer *Gleneagles*, Bamford, 1,836, Nagasaki, Coals, to Jardine, Matheson & Co.
April 8, Danish bark *Koipenhaven*, N. Meghieby, 352, from Takao, Sugar, to Chinese.
April 9, Japanese steamer *Wakanoura Maru*, Christiansen, 1,343, from Kobe, Mails and General, to M. B. Co.

PASSENGERS.

Per French steamer *Tanais*, from Hongkong:—M. Rosing, Mr. and Mrs. Fitz Henry, and 3 children. M. Kawamura, Miss Armstrong, and Madame Ribeiro infant and nurse.

Per Japanese steamer *Tokio Maru*, from Shanghai and ports:—Mr. and Mrs. Barnard, Mr. Hales, Miss K. Waters, Messrs. S. M. Wren, R. H. Percival, T. E. Scantleburg, J. Kawland, A. Meyer, C. J. Strome, F. Hague, Craven, Rogers, M. Ginsberg, S. Popper, C. Ward, and 7 Japanese in cabin; 3 Europeans and 4 Chinese in steerage.

Per British steamer *Glencagles*, from Nagasaki:—Mr. and Mrs. Smith, Messrs. Waters, Morris, and 4 Japanese.

Per Japanese steamer *Wakanoura Maru* from Kobe:—40 Japanese.

OUTWARDS.

April 4, Russian Ironclad *Minin*, Captain Nazimoff, 5,740 tons, 22-guns, for Nagasaki.

April 4, American schooner *Otome*, Hardy, 30, for a Hunting cruise, despatched by H. J. Snow.

April 4, American schooner *Alexander*, Carlson, 52, for a Hunting cruise, despatched by J. E. Collyer.

April 5, British steamer *Bellerophon*, Freeman, 1,395, for London via Kobe, Nagasaki and Hongkong, general, despatched by Butterfield & Swire.

April 6, Japanese steamer *Hiroshima Maru*, Haswell, 1,780, for Shanghai and ports, Mails and General, despatched by M. B. Co.

April 6, Japanese steamer *Shario Maru*, Kilgour, 690, for Nobe, Mails and General, despatched by M. B. Co.

April 7, American schooner *Oheede*, Wilson, 72, for Kurile Islands, despatched by W. Copeland.

April 7, Japanese steamer *Shinagawa Maru*, Walker, 908, for Kobe, Mails and General, despatched by M. B. Co.

April 8, German schooner *Louisa*, Schierloh, 245, for Newchang, Ballast, despatched by Kwang Man Tai.

April 8, French corvette *Champlain*, Dubrot, 2,000 tons, 10-guns, for Nagasaki.

PASSENGERS.

Per British steamer *Bellerophon* for London via Kobe, Nagasaki and Hongkong:—Captain A. Thompson, Messrs. A. B. Glover, F. S. Jacobs, and Webster; and 40 Japanese in steerage.

Per Japanese steamer *Hiroshima Maru* for Shanghai and ports:—Mr. and Mrs. Harris, Mr. and Mrs. Nisen, Mrs. and Miss Highashi, Miss Bonanga, General Mura, Revd. V. C. Hart, Messrs. Iwasaki, Vanoeki, E. C. Kirby, D. B. Taylor, Cutlbertson, Kaneko, Mitani, Nakai, Asada, Takano, Yamamura, Hisanaga, Kimura, Matsumura, Polojobb, Maki, Hama, Okomoto, Katzuda, Kokawa, Fujii Takamatsu, Nakano, Eutchiu, and Ikai and family.

CARGOES.

Per Japanese steamer *Hiroshima Maru* for Shanghai and ports:—

Treasure \$83,000.00

Per Japanese steamer *Tokio Maru* from Shanghai and ports:—

Treasure \$33,000.00

REPORTS.

The British steamer *Glencagles* reports:—Experienced strong north-east winds on the 6th and 7th. Afterwards variable winds and fine weather to port.

CHURCH SERVICES.

CHRIST CHURCH.

Sunday Morning 11 A.M.
" Evening 5.30 P.M.

E. CHAMFREYS IRWING, M.A.,
The Parsonage, 101.

UNION CHURCH, No. 167.

Sunday Morning 11 A.M.
" Evening 8 P.M.

REV. LUTHER H. GULICK,
Pastor M.D.,

LIGHTSHIP SIGNALS.

The following are the signals made from the lightship to denote the approach of vessels:—

Merchant steamer:—A black ball, with the national flag of the vessel below, at the yard arm.

Mail steamer:—A black diamond, with the company's flag below, at the peak.

Man-of-war:—National flag of the vessel at the peak.

Sailing vessels:—For a ship: flag B. (red); barque, flag C. (red ball on white ground); brig, flag D. (white ball on blue ground); schooner, flag E. (white ball on red ground) all commercial code, with the vessel's national flag below as soon as it can be made out.

NEXT MAIL DUE FROM.

AMERICA	P. M. Co.	April 23rd
AMERICA	O. & O. Co.	April 7th
EUROPE, via HONGKONG	M. M. Co.	April 21st
HONGKONG	P. & O. Co.	April 11th
HONGKONG, via KOBE	M. B. Co.	April 11th
HONGKONG	P. M. Co.	April 18th
HONGKONG	O. & O. Co.	May 5th
SHANGHAI, HIOGO & NAGASAKI	M. B. Co.	April 14th

- 1.—Left San Francisco, March 15th, *Belgie*.
- 2.—Left San Francisco, April 2nd, *City of Peking*.
- 3.—Left Hongkong, April 5th, *Sunda*.

NEXT MAIL LEAVES FOR.

AMERICA	P. M. Co.	April 20th
AMERICA	O. & O. Co.	May 7th
EUROPE, via HONGKONG	P. & O. Co.	April 16th
EUROPE, via HONGKONG	M. M. Co.	April 16th
HAKODATE	M. B. Co.	April 13th
HONGKONG, via KOBE	M. B. Co.	April 16th
HONGKONG	O. & O. Co.	April 9th
HONGKONG	P. M. Co.	April 25th
SHANGHAI, HIOGO, & NAGASAKI	M. B. Co.	April 13th

The arrival and departure of mails by the "Occidental and Oriental," the "Pacific Mail," and the "Peninsular and Oriental" companies, are approximate only.

VESSELS EXPECTED IN JAPAN.

SAILED.

DATE.	NAME OF VESSEL.	FROM	FOR
July 17	Sta. Lucie	PHILADELPHIA	Yokohama
Aug. 7	Philip Nelson	HAMBURG	Yokohama
Nov. 18	Pakhoi (s.s.)	GLASGOW	Jap. via Manila
" 19	Orlovic	LONDON	Yokohama
" 22	Malacca	HAMBURG	Yoko. & Hio
Dec. 17	Marie	ANTWERP	" "
" 24	Mora	"	" "
" 4	Tamsui (s.s.)	GLASGOW	" "
" 10	Lightning	PHILADELPHIA	" "
" 17	R. Robinson	NEW YORK	" "
Jan. 15	Galley of Lorne	LONDON	" "
" 27	Glamis Castle (s.s.)	"	" "
" 31	Huguenot	CARDIFF	" "
" 31	Frank Carvil	"	" "
Feb. 6	Canton (s.s.)	LONDON	" "
" 12	Orestes (s.s.)	"	" "
" 15	M. L. Stone	"	" "

LOADING.

DATE.	NAME OF VESSEL.	AT	FOR
Feb. 18	Coldstream	LONDON	Yoko. & or Hio
" 18	Achilles (s.s.)	"	" "
" 18	Viceroy (s.s.)	"	" "
" 18	Tencer (s.s.)	"	" "
" 18	Breconshire (s.s.)	"	" "
" 18	Escambia (s.s.)	"	" "
" 18	Kamtchatka (s.s.)	"	" "
" 18	Glucose (s.s.)	"	" "
" 18	Belle of Bath	LIVERPOOL	" "

YOKOHAMA-TOKIO RAILWAY.

DOWN TRAINS LEAVE SHINBASHI.

A.M.	A.M.	A.M.	A.M.	NOON.	P.M.	P.M.	P.M.	P.M.	P.M.	P.M.	P.M.
7.0	8.15	9.30	10.45	12.0	2.0	3.15	4.30	5.45	7.0	8.15	9.30 10.40

UP TRAINS LEAVE YOKOHAMA.

A.M.	A.M.	A.M.	A.M.	NOON.	P.M.	P.M.	P.M.	P.M.	P.M.	P.M.	P.M.
7.0	8.15	9.30	10.45	12.0	2.0	3.15	4.30	5.45	7.0	8.15	9.30 10.40

SHIPPING INTELLIGENCE.

VESSELS IN HARBOUR.

NAME.	CAPTAIN.	FLAG AND REG.	TONS.	FROM.	ARRIVED.	CONSIGNEES.
STEAMERS.						
Cleveland	Harvey	British steamer	792	Takao	April 7	Jardine, Matheson & Co.
Glencroft	Bamford	British steamer	1,836	Nagasaki	April 8	Jardine, Matheson & Co.
Menzaleh	Homery	French steamer	1,273	Hongkong	Mar. 22	M. M. Co.
Tanais	Reynier	French steamer	1,735	Hongkong	April 4	M. M. Co.
Tokio Maru	Swain	Japanese steamer	1,146	Shanghai & ports	April 7	M. B. Co.
SAILING SHIPS.						
Anna Sieben	Paulsen	German barque	604	Antwerp	Mar. 11	H. Grauert
Black Diamond	Beade	German barque	601	Nagasaki	Mar. 28	P. Bohm
Cilurnum	Beade	British ship	1,850	Hongkong	Nov. 8	Edward Fischer & Co.
Joachim Christian	Rickelofs	German barque	457	Takao	April 4	Yuk Chee
Koepenhaven	N. Meghieby	Danish barque	352	Takao	April 8	Chinese
Mary C. Bohm	Beade	German schooner	55	Kurile Islands	Oct. 24	P. Bohm
North Star	Jansen	Russian schooner	42	Kurile Islands	Nov. 16	H. W. Hohnholz & Co.
Otsogo	Pierce	Russian schooner	45	Kurile Islands	Dec. 13	H. Cook

VESSELS OF WAR IN PORT.

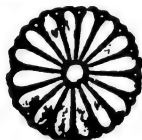
NAME.	GUNS.	TONS.	H. P.	DESCRIPTION.	WHERE FROM.	COMMANDER.
GERMAN—Vineta	19	2,000	—	Corvette	Kobe	Zirzow
ENGLISH—Albatross	4	940	840	Sloop	Kobe	Errington
AMERICAN—Alert	4	1,020	700	Sloop	Kobe	Huntington

VESSELS ON THE BERTH.

DESTINATION.	NAME.	AGENTS.	TO BE DESPATCHED.
San Francisco	Cilurnum	Edward Fischer & Co.	Unsettled
San Francisco	City of Tokio	P. M. Co.	April 20th, at daylight
Shanghai and way-ports	Tokio Maru	M. B. Co.	April 13th, at 6 P.M.
Hongkong via Kobe	Niigata Maru	M. B. Co.	April 16th, at 6 P.M.
Hongkong	Glamis Castle	A. J. Macpherson	About 25th April
Hongkong	Menzaleh	M. M. Co.	April 16th, at 9 A.M.
New York	Lord of the Isles	Smith, Baker & Co.	Quick despatch

MISCELLANEOUS.

[TRANSLATION]



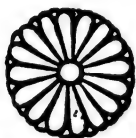
NOTIFICATION

No. 13 of Daijokwan.

IT IS HEREBY NOTIFIED that any Master, Mate or Engineer, holding a Certificate of Competency from any Foreign Government shall, provided the qualifications and requirements under which any such Certificate was issued are deemed to be in no ways inferior to the qualifications and requirements for a Certificate of a corresponding grade under Notification No. 82 of the 9th Year of Meiji, be entitled to a Certificate of Competency of a similar grade without undergoing any examination.

It is also further Notified that the regular examination of applicants for Masters, Mates or Engineers Certificates shall here-after only be held during the 3rd, 6th, 9th and 12th Months of each Year, on such day and hour as shall hereafter be Notified by Yekitei Kioku.

(Signed) SANJO SANEYOSHI,
Daijō-Daijin.



NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that in accordance with Notification of Daijōkwan No. 13, the regular examination of Applicants for Masters, Mates or Engineers Certificates will, till further notice, be conducted at Tokio on the third Tuesday in every 3rd, 6th, 9th and 12th Month of each year, commencing at 9.00 a.m.

H. MAYESHIMA,
Chief Superintendent.

Yekitei Kioku, Feb. 24th, 1880.

CHINESE

IMPERIAL GOVERNMENT EIGHT PER CENT. LOAN OF 1878.

FOURTH DRAWING.

BONDS Drawn in Hongkong in February last, and the Fourth Coupon for Tls. 19.40 of above Loan, will be payable on and after this date, at the Offices of the HONGKONG AND SHANGHAI BANKING CORPORATION, where List of Dr Wu Bonds may be obtained.

For the HONGKONG AND SHANGHAI
BANKING CORPORATION,
Agents issuing the Loan,
JOHN WALTER,
Manager.

Yokohama, March 21st, 1881.

MISCELLANEOUS.

NOTICE OF REMOVAL.

LANE, CRAWFORD & Co., beg to inform their numerous friends and customers that their

BAKERY BUSINESS

will, on and from the 11th instant, be carried on at

No. 87,

(formerly Messrs. NOWROJEE & Co.'s bakery)

Where all orders for

BREAD, BISCUITS, CAKES, &c.,

will be promptly attended to.

ORDERS FOR

HOT + BUNS

should be sent before 4 P.M. on Thursday, the 14th instant.
Yokohama, April 8th, 1881.

KEATING'S POWDER.
KEATING'S POWDER.
KEATING'S POWDER.
KEATING'S POWDER.

KILLS BUGS,
FLEAS,
MOTHS,
BEETLES,

THIS POWDER is quite HARMLESS to ANIMAL LIFE, but is unrivalled in destroying FLEAS, BUGS, COCKROACHES, BEETLES, MOTHS IN FURS, and every other species of insect. Sportsmen will find this invaluable for destroying fleas in their dogs, as also ladies for their pet dogs.

THIS ARTICLE has found so GREAT a SALE that it has tempted others to vend a so-called article in imitation. The PUBLIC are CAUTIONED that the tins of the genuine powder bear the autograph of THOMAS KEATING. Sold in Bottles.

KEATING'S WORM TABLETS.
KEATING'S WORM TABLETS.
KEATING'S WORM TABLETS.
KEATING'S WORM TABLETS.
KEATING'S WORM TABLETS.

A PURELY VEGETABLE SWEETMEAT, both in appearance and taste, furnishing a most agreeable method of administering the only certain remedy for INTESTINAL or THREAD WORMS. It is a perfectly safe and mild preparation, and is especially adapted for Children. Sold in Bottles, by all Druggists.

Proprietor—THOMAS KEATING, London.

H. MacARTHUR,
SHIP-BROKER AND CUSTOMS
AGENT,

NO. 70, Yokohama,

(Opposite the Old British Post Office).

Yokohama, 4th May, 1880.

MISCELLANEOUS.



NOTICE TO MARINERS.

No. 1 of the 14th Year of Meiji, (1881.)

KAGENO SIMA LIGHTHOUSE.

ENTRANCE TO NAGASAKI HARBOUR.

THE GOVERNMENT OF JAPAN hereby gives notice that, on the night of the 1st day of the 3rd Month of the 14th Year of Meiji (1st March, 1881), and every night thereafter, from Sunset to Sunrise, a Fixed Red Light of the 6th Order will be exhibited from the tower, built on the Northern point of Kageno Sima, at the Entrance to the harbour of Nagasaki, in the province of Hizen.

According to the Japanese Admiralty Chart No. 108, and the British Admiralty Chart No. 2415, the Lighthouse is situated in latitude 32 degrees 42 minutes 42 seconds North, and in longitude 129 degrees 49 minutes 37 seconds East of Greenwich.

The Tower is built of stone, and is 15 feet 8 inches high from the base to the center of the lantern.

The Light will have an arc of visibility of 206 degrees, the cut-off bearings being N. 81° 30' W. and S. 55° 30' E. Bearings true.

The total elevation of the Light above the sea will be 40 feet, and its range of visibility, in clear weather, about 8 Nautical miles.

YAMAO YOZO,
Minister of Public Works

Tokai, February 3rd, 1881.



NOTICE TO MARINERS.

No. 2 of the 14th Year of Meiji, (1881.)

BLACK BUOY OFF HANEDA LIGHTHOUSE.

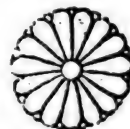
BAY OF YEDO.

THE GOVERNMENT OF JAPAN hereby gives notice that the Black Buoy, which was moored off Haneda shoal, Bay of Yedo, before the erection of the Pile-Lighthouse in the 8th Year of Meiji (1875) on said shoal, and which has remained in same position ever since, will be removed on the First day of the Seventh month of the Fourteenth year of Meiji (1st July 1881), experience having proved that navigation is now safe without the Buoy.

YAMAO YOZO,
Minister of Public Works.

Tokai, February 22nd, 1881.

MISCELLANEOUS.



NOTICE TO MARINERS.

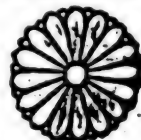
HIKU FLAT BUOY.

Westward entrance of Shimonoseki Straits.

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that the BUOY advertised as having broken adrift from its moorings on the 25th January, 1881, has been replaced.

BY ORDER.

Lighthouse Establishment,
Benten, Yokohama,
8th April, 1881.



NOTICE TO MARINERS.

SHIMONOSEKI STRAITS BUOYS.

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN, that KANABUSE BUOY and MIDDLE GROUND BLACK BUOY, which were advertised as having broken adrift from their moorings, have been replaced.

BY ORDER.

Lighthouse Establishment,
Benten,
Yokohama, 17th January, 1881.

ADOLPHUS SINGTON & CO.,

5, St. PETER'S SQUARE,

MANCHESTER,
ENGLAND.CONTRACTORS, CIVIL ENGINEERS, AND
EXPORTERS

OF ALL DESCRIPTIONS OF

MACHINERY.

May 4, 1878.

SCOTTISH IMPERIAL
INSURANCE COMPANY.

For Fire & Life.

TRANSATLANTIC
Fire Insurance Company
OF HAMBURG.C. ILLIES & Co.,
Agents.

Yokohama, 9th October, 1880.

MISCELLANEOUS.

**CROSSE & BLACKWELL'S
CELEBRATED OILMEN'S STORES.***Nine Prize Medals, Paris, Vienna and Philadelphia.*

PICKLES AND SAUCES,
JAMS AND JELLIES,
ORANGE MARMALADE,
TART FRUITS, DESSERT FRUITS,
PURE SALAD OIL,
MUSTARD, VINEGAR,
POTTED MEATS AND FISH,
FRESH SALMON AND HERRINGS,
HERRINGS A LA SARDINE,
YARMOUTH BLOATERS,
BLACKWALL WHITEBAIT,
PREPARED SOUPS, IN TINS,
PRESERVED VEGETABLES,
HAMS AND BACON, IN TINS,
PRESERVED CHEESE,
OXFORD AND CAMBRIDGE SAUSAGES,
BOLOGNA SAUSAGES,
YORKSHIRE GAME AND PORK PIES,
TONGUES, GAME, POULTRY,
PLUM PUDDINGS,
LEA AND PERRINS' WORCESTERSHIRE
SAUCE.

*Fresh supplies of the above, and numerous other table
delicacies, may be had from most Storekeepers.***CAUTION.**

To prevent the fraud of refilling the bottles or jars
they should invariably be destroyed when empty.
Goods should always be examined upon delivery, to
detect any attempt at substitution of articles of inferior
brands.

*All genuine goods bear the names of Crosse & Blackwell
on the Labels, Corks and Capsules of the Bottles,
Jars and Tins.*

CROSSE & BLACKWELL,
PURVEYORS TO THE QUEEN,
SOHO SQUARE, LONDON.

July, 1878.



JOSEPH GILLOTT'S STEEL PENS.	Gold.
JOSEPH GILLOTT'S STEEL PENS.	Medal.
JOSEPH GILLOTT'S STEEL PENS.	Paris.
JOSEPH GILLOTT'S STEEL PENS.	1878.

April, 1880.

MISCELLANEOUS.

**J. & E. ATKINSON'S
PERFUMERY,***celebrated for nearly a century past, is of the very best English
manufacture. For its purity and great excellence it has
obtained the following*

EXHIBITION PRIZE MEDALS,
LONDON, 1862. PARIS, 1875. CORDOVA, 1872. LIMA, 1872.
VIENNA, 1873. PHILADELPHIA, 1876.
GOLD MEDAL PARIS, 1878.

**ATKINSON'S CHOICE PERFUMES FOR
THE HANDKERCHIEF.***White Rose, Frangipanna, Ylang-ylang, Stephanotis,
Opopanax, Jockey Club, Ess Bouquet, Trevel,
Magnolia, Jasmin, Wood Violet, Gold Medal Bouquet,
and all other odours, of the finest quality only.***ATKINSON'S FLORIDA WATER,***a most fragrant Perfume distilled from the choicest Essences*

ATKINSON'S QUININE HAIR LOTION,
*a very refreshing Wash which stimulates the skin to a healthy
action and promotes the growth of the hair.*

ATKINSON'S**ETHEREAL ESSENCE OF LAVENDER,***a powerful Perfume distilled from the finest flowers.***ATKINSON'S WHITE ROSE TOILET VINEGAR,***a new and indispensable Toilet accompaniment, and most
refreshing Perfume for the Handkerchief.*

ATKINSON'S WHITE ROSE TOOTH PASTE,
and other Specialities and general articles of Perfumery may
be obtained of all Dealers throughout the World, and of the
manufacturers.

J. & E. ATKINSON,
24, OLD BOND STREET, LONDON, W.

PRICE LIST FREE ON APPLICATION.

CAUTION.—Beware. J. & E. ATKINSON manufacture
their articles of one and the best quality only. Purchasers are
cautioned to avoid counterfeits by observing that each article
is labelled with the firm's Trade Mark, a "White Rose" on a
Golden Lyre.

ESTABLISHED 1799.

NOTICE.

No. 31, } **COMMERCIAL DINING ROOMS,** { No 31,
Water Street. } Water Street

ON and after this date, the following prices will be
charged:—

BOARDper month \$25.00

Very comfortable bed-rooms,

With European fire-places, and every comfort guaranteed

Wm. CURTIS.

Yokohama, November 9th, 1880.

THE BEST REMEDY FOR INDIGESTION.

TRADE



MARK.

CAMOMILE PILLS are confidently recommended as a simple Remedy for Indigestion, which is
the cause of nearly all the diseases to which we are subject, being a medicine so uniformly grateful
and beneficial, that it is with justice called the "Natural Strengthener of the Human Stomach."
"Norton's Pills" act as a powerful tonic and gentle aperient; are mild in their operation, safe
under any circumstances, and thousands of persons can now bear testimony to the benefits to be
derived from their use, as they have been a never-failing Family Friend for upwards of 45 years.
Sold in Bottles at 1s. 1½d., 2s. 9d., and 11s. each, by all Medicine Vendors throughout the World.

CAUTION.*Be sure and ask for "NORTON'S PILLS," and do not be persuaded to purchase an imitation.*

November 11th, 1878.

MISCELLANEOUS.



ELLWOOD'S
PATENT AIR CHAMBER
HATS AND HELMETS
THE ONLY EFFECTUAL PROTECTION
AGAINST SUN STROKE.

To be obtained of all respectable Hatters and Outfitters
and Wholesale only of

J. ELLWOOD & SONS,
LONDON.

Beware of Useless Imitations.

"HIGHEST AWARD & PRIZE MEDAL PHILADELPHIA
EXHIBITION, 1876."

OAKEY'S
WELLINGTON KNIFE POLISH

PREPARED EXPRESSLY FOR THE PATENT KNIFE-
CLEANING MACHINES, INDIA RUBBER AND BUFF
LEATHER KNIFE BOARDS. KNIVES CONSTANTLY
CLEANED WITH IT HAVE A BRILLIANT POLISH EQUAL
TO NEW CUTLERY. PACKETS 3D. EACH; AND TINS,
6D., 1/-, 2/6 AND 4/- EACH.

OAKEY'S
INDIA RUBBER KNIFE BOARDS

PREVENT FRICTION IN CLEANING AND INJURY TO
THE KNIFE. OAKEY'S WELLINGTON KNIFE POLISH
SHOULD BE USED WITH HIS BOARDS.

OAKEY'S
SILVERSMITHS SOAP

[NON-MERCURIAL].
FOR CLEANING AND POLISHING SILVER, ELECTRO-
PLATE, PLATE GLASS, &c. TABLETS 6D. EACH.

OAKEY'S
WELLINGTON BLACK LEAD

IN SOLID BLOCKS—1D., 2D. & 4D. EACH, & 1S. BOXES.



WESTMINSTER BRIDGE ROAD, LONDON, ENGLAND.

July, 1879.

MISCELLANEOUS.

THE GREATEST

WONDER OF MODERN TIMES
HOLLOWAY'S PILLS.

PERSONS suffering from weak or debilitated constitutions will dis-
cover that by the use of this wonderful medicine there is "Health
for all." The blood is the fountain of life, and its purity can be
maintained by the use of these Pills.

SIR SAMUEL BAKER,

in his work entitled "The Nile Tributaries in Abyssinia," says, "I
ordered the dragoman Mahomet to inform the Fakay that I was a
"Doctor, and that I had the best medicines at the service of the
"sick, with advice gratis. In a short time I had many applicants,
"to whom I served out a quantity of Holloway's Pills. These are
"most useful to an explorer, as possessing unmistakable purgative
"properties they create an undeniable effect upon the patient, which
"satisfies him of their value."

SIMPLE, SAFE AND CERTAIN!
HOLLOWAY'S OINTMENT.

Is a certain remedy for bad legs, bad breasts, and ulcerations of all
kinds. It acts miraculously in healing ulcerations, curing skin
diseases, and in arresting and subduing all inflammations.

MR. J. T. COOPER,

in his account of his extraordinary travels in China, published in
1871, says—"I had with me a quantity of Holloway's Ointment. I
"gave some to the people, and nothing could exceed their gratitude;
"and, in consequence, milk, fowls, butter, and horse-feed poured
"in upon us, until at last a tea-spoonful of Ointment was worth a
"fowl and any quantity of pear, and the demand became so great
"that I was obliged to lock up the small remaining stock"

Sold by all Chemists and Medicine Vendors throughout the World
May 17th, 1873.

SAVORY & MOORE'S
ASTHMA,
FOR
DATURA
TATULA
&c
FOR DIFFICULT BREATHING
Cigars, Cigarettes or Tobacco, also Pastilles and Powder for Inhalation.
SAVORY & MOORE, NEW BOND STREET, LONDON,
And of all Chemists and Storekeepers throughout the world.

December 1880.

DINNEFORD'S

THE BEST REMEDY FOR ACIDITY
OF THE STOMACH, HEARTBURN,
HEADACHE, GOUT AND INDIGESTION.



DINNEFORD & Co., Chemists
London,

N.B. ASK FOR DINNEFORD'S MAGNESIA.

FLUID
MAGNESIA.

And of Druggists and Storekeepers throughout
the World.

April 10, 1880

1y,

MISCELLANEOUS.

ANDW. HANDYSIDE & Co.

Limited.

32, Walbrook, London,
BRITANNIA IRON WORKS, DERBY
Manufacture all kinds of:

IRON WORK,
Structural & Ornamental.

BRIDGES of every description. Girder Bridges. Arch
Bridges. Suspension Bridges.

A. H. & Co. make every year for Foreign Countries some
thousands of Tons of Bridges.

LANDING-PIERS AND JETTIES.

ROOFS AND BUILDINGS. MARKETS.
Illustrated Catalogue (A) free on Application.

ORNAMENTAL IRONWORK, ETC.

*See Large New Illustrated Catalogues (B. & C.)
with 1,300 designs.*

Railings. Balcony Panels.	Columns. Column Capitals.
Gates. Street Posts.	Brackets. Gratings.
Lamp-pillars. Lamp-brackets.	Windows. Casements.
Plasters. Newels.	Fountains. Drinking Fountains.
Crestings. Terminals.	Vases. Pedestals.

Conservatories. Band-Stands.

SMITH'S HEARTHS & PORTABLE FORGES

12 Shapes and Sizes.

3 Catalogue (D) free on Application.

Andw. Handyside & Co., Limited,
LONDON.

26 ins.

E. P & W. BALDWIN,
WILDEN WORKS.

STOURPORT ENGLAND.

SHEET IRON,

BRANDED

"BALDWIN—WILDEN," AND "SEVERN."

TIN PLATES,

BRANDED "EP & WB" "WILDEN," "UNICORN,"
"ARLEY," "STOUR."

*Stamping Sheets, Button Iron, Sheet Iron, Pickled, Cold Rolled,
and Close Annealed.*

Export Agents—

Brooker, Dore & Co., 2, Rood Lane, London, E.C.
April, 1880.

SCOTTISH IMPERIAL INSURANCE COMPANY.

FIRE Insurance granted, upon desirable buildings and
their contents, in TOKIO.

Apply to

C. ILLIES & CO.,
Agents.

Yokohama, 7th September, 1880.

MISCELLANEOUS.

HONGKONG AND SHANGHAI BANKING CORPORATION.

PAID-UP CAPITAL \$5,000,000.
RESERVE FUND... .. \$1,500,000.

Head Office: HONGKONG.

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Deputy Chairman—H. L. DALRYMPLE Esq.,

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Manager—EWEN CAMERON, Esq.

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New York, London, Bombay, Calcutta, Foochow, Shanghai, Hiogo,
Hankow, Saigon, Amoy, San Francisco, Manila, Singapore.

YOKOHAMA BRANCH.

Interest allowed on Current Accounts at 2 o/o on Daily balances.

On Fixed Deposits, for 12 months, at 5 o/o

" " " " 6 " " 4 "
" " " " 3 " " 3 "

LOCAL BILLS DISCOUNTED.

Credits granted on approved Securities, and every description
of Banking and Exchange business transacted.

Drafts granted on the Chief Commercial places in Europe,
India, Australia, America, China and Japan, and Circular Notes
issued for the use of Travellers.

JOHN WALTER, Manager.

Yokohama, 26th February, 1881.

The "Japan Mail,"

A Daily, Weekly, and Fortnightly Journal,

ESTABLISHED, 1865.

TERMS OF SUBSCRIPTION.

WEEKLY EDITION. The "Japan Weekly Mail," a Weekly Review
of Japanese Commerce, Politics, Literature and Art.—Per
annum, \$24; Six months, \$13; Three months, \$7.

FORTNIGHTLY Edition, being a Summary of the foregoing, is pub-
lished for transmission by the American Mail Steamers via
San Francisco. Per annum, \$12; Six months, \$7; Three
months, \$4.

THE JAPAN DAILY MAIL is published every morning (Sundays ex-
cepted) and contains the Arrivals and Departures of all
Shipping. Passenger lists. Cargoes. Vessels on the Berth and
in Harbour &c. &c. Also the latest Telegrams. Japanese
news. Reports of Trials in the Courts of Law. Meetings of
public bodies. and all matters of interest to the Community.
Special attention is called to this Journal as a medium for
circulating local advertisements. It has a large and con-
stantly increasing circulation, its low price bringing it within
the means of all classes of the community. It therefore
affords exceptional advertising advantages, and secures to all
announcements the utmost publicity, the object aimed at by
advertisers.

SUBSCRIPTION PER MONTH—ONE DOLLAR.

AGENTS OF THE PAPER.

LONDON..... G. Street, 30, Cornhill.
" Bates, Hendy, & Co., 4, Old Jewry.
NEW YORK..... A. Wind, 133, Nassau Street.
SAN FRANCISCO..... White & Bauer, 413, Washington Street.
HONGKONG..... Kelly & Co.
SHANGHAI..... China and Japan Trading Co.
HIOGO & OSAKA..... F. Walsh & Co.
NAGASAKI..... China & Japan Trading Co.

Who are authorized to receive Subscriptions and Advertisements
for these papers.

*Printed and published for the Proprietor, by the Manager
A. HERBERT BLACKWELL, at the "Japan Mail" Office, 16
Bund, Yokohama.*

THE Japan Weekly Mail,

A WEEKLY REVIEW OF
JAPANESE COMMERCE, POLITICS, LITERATURE, AND ART.

Vol. V. No. 15.]

Yokohama, April 16th, 1881.

[\$24 PER ANNUM.]

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The Japan Weekly Mail.

'FAIS CE QUE DOIS; ADVIENNE QUE POURRA.'

NOTICE TO CORRESPONDENTS.

No notice will be taken of anonymous correspondence. Whatever is intended for insertion in the JAPAN WEEKLY MAIL must be authenticated by the name and address of the writer, not for publication but as a guarantee of good faith.

It is particularly requested that all letters on business, relating to Advertisements, Job-printing, or Accounts, be addressed to the MANAGER.

And that literary contributions of every description be addressed to the EDITOR.

YOKOHAMA: SATURDAY, APRIL 16TH, 1881.

JAPANESE ERA 2541, MEIJI 14TH YEAR, 4TH MONTH, 16TH DAY.

Hans Andersen tells us, that a travelling beetle once stumbled against a piece of broken crockery-ware behind which several families of earwigs dwelt. One lady earwig had a son whose greatest ambition was to creep, some day or other, into a clergyman's ear. Mr. Pfoufies, *alias* Omoi Tetsunosuke, will excuse us if we say that he reminds us irresistibly of this romantic young earwig. He seems to be bent upon creeping into the ear of the English public by hook or by crook. He has been striking sundry attitudes since a certain philanthropic but not too judicious magnate "brought him out," and finding, perhaps, that nature has not endowed him with the qualifications necessary for the æsthetic pose, he has now descended to a more practical platform. "The result of his experience," as he told the Art Society, "is that one of the most crying needs for successful English commerce in China and Japan is more competent agents. For want of these, most important work is committed to natives, who, of course, use the information they obtain for their own benefit. Again, the old-fashioned system of English trade there is on far too expensive a scale—a greater part of the time of the agents being spent at the club, tiffin, or full-dress dinners—the consequence being that our trade charges are out of all proportion to those incurred by the more thrifty of our continental competitors. Again, in the consular service, young men, admirably trained in many respects, are sent out, but they are not allowed to engage in trade; they know nothing of trade matters, and cannot compete with the representatives of other countries."

Very good indeed, Mr. Omoi Tetsunosuke! It was a most plucky thing to assume that your audience knew nothing of your own history, and that nobody would be likely to ask whether an ex-consular constable is a trustworthy judge of mercantile and official ability. It is conceivable that you may have understood something of trade charges, nay even that you were an adept at multiplying them, but what of the club, and the full-dress dinners? "The line must be drawn somewhere" Mr. Omoi, as the Captain of *H. M. S. Pinafore* sapiently observed. You are not without our sympathy. A social state, free from such impedimenta as clubs and full-dress dinners, would be less unpleasantly exclusive than this "old-fashioned English system," and the "thrifty continental competitors" will no doubt open their arms to you when they comprehend your merits. But be advised: do not advocate the cause of "Trading Consuls." The British public has certain fantastic prejudices about official integrity, and your progress to the parson's ear will be seriously impeded if you have to creep over such stubborn fancies *en route*.

Li-Hung-Chang's letter to a Korean gentleman, to which we alluded last week, is as follows:—Of late years Japan has adopted western customs. She seeks to make herself a wealthy and powerful State, and the result is that her national liabilities having largely increased, she is casting her eyes about in search of some convenient acquisition which may recoup her. Now Korea is her nearest neighbour, and the fate of Riukiu is at once a warning and a regret to both China and Korea. China is not without means of defending herself, and it is for Korea to look to her military resources, to organize her forces, and to provide for the protection of her frontiers. The obligations imposed by foreign relations are strict observance of treaties and due appreciation of their bearing. The Japanese men-of-war are always cruising in the vicinity of Fusan, and although, in the event of any emergency, China would exhaust every effort to aid Korea, it must not be forgotten that distance between the two countries would render effective aid difficult. Moreover, if Japan should ally herself with England, France, or America—or perchance with Russia—Korean independence would be gravely jeopardized. It is well that the Korean Government should keep all this before them. A treaty has already been signed with Japan, and other nations will surely look for a similar concession. Poison is the antidote to poison. Japan's aggressive designs upon Korea will be best frustrated by the latter's alliance with Western nations, and that Japan is infected with "nibbling" propensities can scarcely be doubted. China herself is preparing to oppose them, but Korea will hardly be able to do so unassisted. Her best plan is to establish commercial relations with foreign countries, and employ them for the purpose. Western international law forbids unjustifiable aggression, since such a proceeding would be prejudicial to the interests of commerce. Insignificant States like Belgium and Denmark, are thus enabled to preserve their territories intact. The question, too, is not one of Japan

alone. Russia also is only separated from Korea by a narrow strip of sea, and her juxtaposition is not without menace. Korea, by entering into treaty relations with England, France and America, will be enabled to resist Russian aggression as well as Japanese. It would not be necessary to open any new port, the places already allotted to Japan for purposes of trade would suffice. Japan ought not to derive any greater benefit than Korea from a mutual trade, and having formed a treaty with one country, it will certainly be to the advantage of the latter to accord similar privileges to others also. This, in my opinion, is the best method of warding off aggression.

The Mitsui Bishi Company, by its purchase of the Takashima coal mines, has undoubtedly acquired a very powerful instrument for preventing opposition. If the Directors adopt the policy of refusing to furnish coal to any coasting steamers other than those that fly the three-lozenge flag, there will be a good deal of tribulation in some quarters, and a grievous outcry among "independent" journalists.

The letter we publish in our correspondence columns to-day calls attention to a point which we should otherwise have been disposed to leave unnoticed. We are most unwilling to admit the construction placed upon the *Gazette's* assertion by "A Friend of the Truth," seeing that such an admission would constrain us to describe our contemporary's action in terms which we have never believed, and still refuse to believe, applicable. In reply to a charge less unworthy of attention, since it was more candid, we stated some time ago, that this journal is *entirely independent* and that the opinions its columns contain are from first to last the outcome of honest conviction. We can only now repeat that statement, and we do so most emphatically, astonished indeed at the new title arrogated by our contemporary, but not disposed to fancy that it is anything more than an injudicious method of advertisement. There we shall let the matter rest, pending the explanation our contemporary is called upon to give.

Most reluctantly do we incur the risk of wearying our readers by placing before them matters that concern ourselves alone, but since there are some who seem to take an inexplicable interest in such things, we beg to state, that this journal is entirely the property of its present editor, and that no one else has any share in it or lien upon it of any sort whatsoever.

"It burns throughout the day and night without attention. The quantity of the fire, as well as its intensity, may be regulated at pleasure. When set to any quantity or intensity it continues to burn with but slight variation. It consumes nearly all its smoke. The fire is always bright and clear, no black coal being seen. It is very clean when in use and requires no fire-irons. It gives a large supply of pure warm air. It burns anthracite coal, coke or cinders, or any continuation of these. The chimney flue does not require sweeping oftener than once in four or five years. The cost of it can be no objection, fuel for it is one penny for six hours. No coal box is required in the room."

What a very delightful and marvellous grate! No wonder that Mr. William Burges, A.R.A., doubted its very existence. We are pretty much in the same predicament ourselves, so we shall simply reprint, for our readers' consideration, Mr. Samuel Russell's description of his invention, as given at a late meeting of the Royal Institute of British Architects:—

"The grate is provided with two flues, one passing upwards in the ordinary way from above the fire, the other commencing below the fire and passing up behind it, the two communicating at any point above the fire. At the junction of these two flues a valve is formed capable of being regulated so as to divert the draught in either direction. When the valve is open, leaving a free upper draught, the fire is very mild, and in proportion as it is closed the fire increases in intensity, and produces almost a white heat when quite closed. Thus any fire desired may be obtained by simply turning the knob which regulates the valve. Another portion of this invention consists of a vertical tube or chamber for containing the fuel, the lower end of which opens into the back of the grate. It is charged from the upper end which is then closed airtight. The fuel by the action of its own gravity continues to supply the consumption of the fire. The double flue and valve, as already stated, regulate the intensity. To regulate the quantity, the front bars are made to draw forward with a counterbalance weight always tending to draw them back, with a catch to fix them in any desired position. When the catch is removed the backward pressure stops the fall of fuel, the fire becomes gradually less, and is finally extinguished. By this arrangement a small quantity of fire may be kept burning throughout the night, the bars in the morning being drawn forward, and a scuttle of coal supplied, starts it afresh for the next four and twenty hours. As the fuel enters at the back the smoke is evolved from it before reaching the fire, and whether the up and down draught, or both, are in force, it is consumed, the only escape for it being through the fire."

The impression all this conveys is that we shall presently be warming ourselves by machinery, which would, after all, be a very comfortless sort of proceeding. The heathen in holy writ, who performed so many vagaries with a log of wood, only succeeded in amusing himself once and that was when he saw the fire and cried, ha! ha! So it is with civilized beings too. A large hearth, with blazing billets and glowing coals, is an arrangement neither economical nor scientific, but when we abandon it for finnikin fires, regulated by valves and counterbalances, our geniality will certainly lose what our exchequers gain.

We described last week the constitution of the New Department of Agriculture and Commerce (*Nōshōmushō*) as well as the general duties of the Minister. The functions of the various Bureaux remain to be noticed. They are as follows:—

The Bureau of Agriculture will conduct all business connected with the development of agriculture, fisheries, hunting, reclamation of land, geological surveys, agricultural schools and similar institutions, compilation of agricultural statistics and affairs having relation to the Deliberative Board of Agriculture.

The Bureau of Trade will conduct business having reference to the development of trade, mercantile companies, weights and measures, mercantile marine,* collection of commercial statistics, and affairs connected with the Chamber of Commerce.

The Bureau of Manufactures will conduct business having reference to the development of industries, patents, trademarks, manufacturing schools and other institutions of a similar nature, compilation of industrial statistics, and affairs relating to the Deliberative Board of Manufactures and Arts.

* This business has hitherto been conducted in the Marine Office, a subdivision of the General Post Office, but it is now transferred to the Bureau of Trade.

The Bureau of Forests will conduct business connected with forestry, as for example the maintenance, planting, felling, etc. of trees in forests belonging to the State as well as to private individuals.

The Bureau of Museums will have charge of all museums and take measures for the preservation of antiquities and the encouragement of the fine arts.

The High Deliberative Board † of Agriculture, Trade and Manufactures, will be convened by order of the "Minister of Agriculture and Commerce" at fixed periods or on special occasions, and will discuss matters—submitted by either the Privy Council or the "Minister of Agriculture and Commerce"—connected with agricultural, commercial or industrial interests. The members of the Board will be appointed by the Privy Council, and the Minister of Agriculture and Commerce will sit as President, *ex officio*.

Any Privy Councillor, or any chief of Department, or Commissioner, whose special duties are connected with the question under discussion, may attend himself or be represented by deputy at the meetings of the Board.

Members of the Board will be assigned, on appointment, to one of the three Bureaux (Agriculture, Trade, Manufactures), and it will be within the competency of the "Minister of Agriculture and Commerce" to convene a meeting of members belonging to any one Bureau, or of the whole number.

A schedule of matters which it will come within the province of the board to discuss, as well as the principles to be observed in the selection of members, and other rules of detail, will form the subject of a separate notification. ‡

The new Department will rank next below that of Education and above that of Public Works.

It will be seen from the above that the New Department consists, with one exception, of Bureaux which already existed, but are now transferred from the Home Department &c. to that of Agriculture and Commerce. The exception is the Bureau of Manufactures, which is created for the first time. We have not thought it necessary to include either the Secretariat or the Accountants' Bureau in our list as their functions have reference altogether to the interior economy of the Department.

In some respects the matters coming within the province of the Nōshōmushō are of a more varied nature than those over which the English Board of Trade exercises control, but on the other hand, railways do not appear in the catalogue of the former's responsibilities. Why this should be so, it seems difficult to divine, for railways certainly constitute a most important factor in the development of commerce.

The "High Deliberative Board" is a novel feature, but its counterpart exists, in a less practical form, in our own polity, for the English Board of Trade is nominally under the direction of a Committee of the Privy Council, composed of a President with certain *ex-officio* members, the Archbishop of Canterbury, the Lord Chancellor, the First Lord of the Treasury, the Chief Secretaries of State, the Chancellor of the Exchequer, and others. Naturally this committee exercises no practical control over the functions of the Board, which for all intents and purposes is a distinct branch of the Government. It is plain that the scheme adopted in Japan is more sensible than our own, since, while the new Department remains virtually independent, its connection with the Privy Council is sufficiently preserved by the High Deliberative Board. On the whole the institution of the

Nōshōmushō seems calculated to facilitate the conduct of State business, and certainly there is no lack of subjects to occupy its attention at present in Japan.

Probably the considerations which have led to the establishment of this Department will be best understood by a perusal of the memorial submitted to the Emperor by their Excellencies Okuma and Ito, as that memorial has undoubtedly been the cause of the Department's creation. The following is a *resumé* of its contents:—

The main object to be accomplished in the administration of the national finances at present being economy, combined with a simple and facile method of conducting affairs, it is essential that every possible effort should be made to curtail expenditure as well as to introduce reforms into the general system. A scheme for the improvement of the local (provincial) administration has been already clearly indicated in No. 48,* Imperial decrees, and although as regards the Central Administration, the first step has been taken in the notification ordering the sale of Government factories &c., no scheme has yet been proposed for the rearrangement of the Departmental functions, though executive improvements must of necessity commence there. An order indeed has been issued to all the Departments directing them to limit the range of their functions, but being addressed to each Department and Commission severally, it can only be carried out *within* such Department or Commission, and its benefits cannot therefore extend to the executive body as a whole.

Now, the reform which appears to be most urgently required in this direction, is the creation of a Department for the conduct of business relating to agriculture and commerce, so that the functions now parcelled out among various offices may be concentrated in one. At present affairs connected with agriculture and the mercantile marine are controlled respectively by the Agricultural Bureau and the General Post Office under the Home Department, those of commerce are under the direction of the Bureau of Trade in the Finance Department, while, since the abolition of the Bureau of Manufactures (Kankoriyo) no office exists for the management of industrial concerns.

The present system of official management in agricultural and commercial affairs, suggests that a very secondary importance attaches to the true duties of the legislature in such matters; duties which may be defined as the enactment of measures calculated to afford universal encouragement and protection to farming and trade industries, and the establishment of an uniform, impartial system, under which all agriculturists and merchants will have equal incentives to

* Reference is here made to a decree issued November 5th, 1880, of which the preamble ran thus:—"Whereas, it having been deemed expedient to curtail the State expenditure and thereby increase the capital available for redeeming paper currency, as also to facilitate the local administration, the following regulations have been framed and are hereby notified:—

The regulations are (1) that species of *Local taxes* levied upon land to be in future one third instead of one fifth of the (National) land tax. (2) Three items of local expenditure, viz, expenses connected with the construction and maintenance of provincial Government offices, expenses for maintenance of provincial prisons and expenses connected with provincial prison buildings, to be in future a charge upon the Local taxes instead of on the National Treasury, as heretofore. (3) The grant of money hitherto made by the Central Government to cover a portion of the expenses of local engineering works, as the construction and maintenance of rivers, harbours, roads, embankments, bridges &c., to be discontinued from July 1881.

This decree was accompanied by another which provided for the appointment of "Permanent Committees of the City and Provincial Assemblies, whose duties should be to advise the authorities on the best method of carrying out the public works described in the first decree. It will thus be seen that although an additional burden was placed upon the people by the increase of the local taxes, yet they acquired for the first time the right of advising the local authorities on the conduct of works accomplished at their own expense. The enactment was therefore justly regarded as a step towards the improvement of provincial administration, and met with universal approval.

† This Deliberative Board was accidentally omitted from the list we published last week.

‡ This notification has not yet appeared.

industry. Those now in office appear sometimes to transgress the limits of encouragement or protection, making themselves responsible for the conduct of various undertakings, or favouring only a limited number of agriculturists and traders by lending them capital &c., thus, unwittingly no doubt, assuming that most pernicious rôle of competing for profits against the general body of merchants and farmers. This state of things must be altered, for the *general* control only of agriculture and commerce should be accounted the primary duty of those in office.

Now the conduct of agricultural and commercial affairs is delegated at present, in part to the Home, in part to the Finance Departments, and, as a consequence, constant inconvenience is caused by an absence of uniformity in the methods of procedure adopted by each Department with regard to one and the same matter. Needless expenditure is also incurred. Thus the annual outlay for the Bureau of Agriculture is yen 314,479 : for the General Post Office, yen 1,163,364 ; for the Marine Office (a branch of the preceding yen 55,708 (apart from the subsidy—240,000 yen—to the Mitsui Bishi S. S. Company for the carriage of mails) ; for the Bureau of Trade, yen 66,617 ; for the Bureau for Storage of Grain, yen 31,941 ; and for the Bureau of Forests yen 200,000, making a total of yen 1,832,109. If to this be added the expenses of the nursery garden at Mita, the Agricultural college at Komaba and the farm in Shimosa (viz. yen 144,793) all belonging to the Bureau of Agriculture, the grand total reaches yen 1,976,902. If these various Bureaux were combined under one Department, there ought not to be much difficulty in effecting some saving in expenditure. But even though no such saving were feasible, it is beyond question that the transaction of business would be much facilitated by the amalgamation, unnecessary outlay avoided, and the entire system of fostering trade and agriculture improved. It thus appears that an executive reform, unattended by any additional outlay, nay even calculated to effect an economy, is possible, and that such a reform is in strict conformity with the objects the Government now has in view, is manifest.

The Postal Service is, however, a special one, and being charged with foreign services requires to be left somewhat independent. The offices of Postmaster-generals should therefore be kept as before, but brought under the general direction of the Department of Agriculture and Commerce.

The memorial then proceeds to instance various cases of European States where Departments similar to that proposed, or of a slightly different nature, exist, and where the postal service forms a separate Department or a semi-independent Bureau.

It is scarcely necessary for us to make any comment on the nature of the proposed reform. We have never doubted that the object of the Government in affording exceptional aid and facilities to certain industries, was both legitimate and honest, but it has been impossible to avoid the conviction that not a few abuses had gradually grown up under the system pursued, and that those abuses were eminently calculated to bring discredit upon the polity that made them possible. The proposal for reform might have come from many another quarter less hampered by private and party obstacles, but this is a point upon which it were obviously indiscreet to enlarge, however much it merits our admiration. The new department has ample scope to be useful, and precedents that ought to deter it from vexatious interference or ill-advised generosity. We read the record of its constitution very falsely, if it be not a matter for genuine congratulation, not alone to those with the tutelage of whose interests it is en-

trusted, but also to those who found in the old system too easy opportunities for "busying themselves with much serving."

Commenting on the two American-Chinese treaties, the notification of which is now subject to the consideration of Congress, the *Penn Monthly* appositely remarks that the document which deals specially with commerce is not of such immenso importance as some of the newspapers seem to think. Trade between the two states is "small and declining." Even where the Chinese are purchasing more largely than formerly of American fabrics, such as cotton, "their purchases are generally made through other countries and not directly." The writer thinks that the agreement is notable chiefly in throwing open what commerce the United States have to the freest competition of Chinese ships and sailors. "While we claim the right to regulate their immigration, for the benefit of workmen on land, we renounce the American sailor to the merciless competition of a race that can live and save money on five cents a day. As a consequence we shall soon see our trans-Pacific commerce entirely in the hands of the almond-eyed Celestials, and their mercantile marine driving ours from that great ocean, except its scanty coasting trade." Already indications of the possibility of such result are not lacking. The freight list of the *Oceanic*, on the latest occasion of that vessel sailing from Hongkong hither *en route* to San Francisco, suffered considerably through a combination of Chinese firms or compradores. Already the flag of the China Merchants' Steamship Company has been seen in the harbour of the Golden Gate ; and the experiment having proved successful will be extensively followed—with what effect upon American rivalry can readily be foreseen. The critic only in part appreciates "the want of fairness as regards the proposed regulation of the opium traffic. No American ship is to take it to China while English ships are allowed to do so." The real injustice is that, while opium may not be carried in American bottoms no like restriction is placed on Chinese vessels. As we have indicated on a previous occasion, an American shipmaster, compelled to refuse an opium cargo in Bombay, might see it accepted by the commander of a Celestial craft. Of course this is all wrong. To be of any moral value the convention should have provided for reciprocity in this case at least.

The Chinese question continues to exercise the minds of the virtuous politicians of the Pacific slope. The State of Nevada, stigmatised by the magazines above quoted as a "mining camp," has taken a vote on the subject, and by a great majority has declared that "the Chinese must go." Our contemporary says that the only thing remarkable in the matter is that the camp in question should think its idea worth quoting. "There is no community in the United States whose opinion has less moral weight ; and there is no sin in the record of the republican party greater than the erection into a State of this barren wilderness ; with a population of money-hunters, stationary in numbers though constantly shifting in composition, and with a soil poisoned beyond any hope of redemption." In California assent to the new agreements has been made a party question in the legislature, where they are supported by the republican majority. The minority and its constituents are, of course displeased, because no provision is made for the prompt and wholesale banishment of the hated race. The *Monthly* deems that the whole people of the country, with a few exceptions, would regard the expulsion as an act of the grossest cruelty to a large body of poor creatures, most of whom have risked their whole substance and the best years of their lives in pushing

their fortunes in America. On the other hand, the writer observes, the Chinese colony contains but few families, and gains little by natural increment. "Its members come with no intention of staying permanently in this country; and by the moderate exercise of the power secured in the treaty their numbers will be so much reduced that their competition will be so much less formidable to the white laborer than it has been." Considerable discussion is still expected; and it is hoped that one achievement will be the cessation of the sectional alienation which has arisen between the Pacific coast and other parts of the country, and forms one of the serious perils of the national situation. Whatever may be the future of the much abused and usefully laborious yellow race in America, the fact will always remain that it has put ten times as much value into, as it has removed from, the territory of the republic. But for the patient, plodding, frugal Asiatic, the fortunes of the west of the United States must have been delayed by at least two decades.

An amusing story is told of an inspection performed by the late Minister of Marine in the early days of his appointment. The ship inspected was to all appearances in excellent order, and the Admiral's silence as he walked from place to place was not unnaturally construed into an absence of any pretext for fault finding. When about to reseat himself in his barge, however, the inspecting officer turned to the Captain and enquired whether his ship was for sale.

"For sale, Sir," replied the Captain in astonishment. "Certainly not, so far as I know. May I ask what has suggested such a question?"

"Merely this," was the answer. "I have always understood that things which are for sale are generally burnished and cleansed on the sides exposed to view, while the parts not so easily seen are often dirty and neglected. I have not heard myself that there is any intention of placing your ship upon the market, but my inspection suggests to me that you may have received some instructions to that effect."

It does not appear that this Captain was one of those who displayed a disposition to tender their resignations at the same time as Mr. Yenomoto.

Late one night in the beginning of last February a visitor knocked at the door of a house in the village of Hataya, prefecture of Yamagata. The house belonged to one Kurata Koyemon, a wealthy farmer of some repute in the district, and a man of conservative creed both as regards superstitions and the duties of hospitality. It was a bitter season. The roads had long ceased to be anything more than furrows in the piled up snow and a ceaseless scud of flying flakes swept from mountain to moor like a phantom that finds no rest. Men scarcely ventured abroad even when the feeble sunshine kept them company, while with the nightfall came utter desolation, and a silence only broken at times by the snow slipping from its bed of bamboo leaves. Gently, therefore, as the visitor knocked, the farmer's servant, Harakichi, was immediately roused, though not to prompt activity. Like his master he associated midnight guests with the inhabitants of a ghostly world, and would have been content to ignore a good many repetitions of the summons, had it not been accompanied by an exceptionally musical female voice. A woman wayfarer at such an hour and in such weather might not be left waiting without, whatever contingencies were connected with her coming, and so Harakichi drew back the bolt and opened the postern. Beyond the threshold stood a lady of beauty so refined that to rustic eyes she seemed a goddess. She might have been some thirty years of age, but time had used her so gently that its passage seemed to

have mellowed rather than withered her charms, while her garb and bearing betrayed a dignity more than sufficient to overawe the most independent yeoman in Hataya. As for the farm servant, dazzled and bewildered, he thought of nothing but gazing, and if some mechanical formulae of enquiry passed his lips, he was quite startled at receiving a reply such as any polite human being might have uttered. She lived, the lady said, near the Tarn of Hataya, and she had a request to prefer which she trusted the yeoman would permit her to state in person, for to that end she had made her way through the night and the snow. Something like a shadow of suspicion crossed the servant's mind that his master's conjugal fidelity had once been tried and found wanting, and that the old, old story of woman's faith and man's fickleness was about to be again rehearsed, but it seemed to him impossible that frailty so lovely could ever cease to be lovable. At any rate it was not a business that would yet bear to be shouted from the house-top, so stealing into his master's room, he roused him gently and whispered the terms of the lady's message with an exclamatory description of her surpassing loveliness.

The yeoman, however, had an easy conscience together with a wholesome sense of marital obedience. He would have been glad to meet the beautiful wayfarer alone, had he been quite assured of her human nature and his wife's ignorance, but being doubtful of both, he took his better half into his confidence. The result justified his prudence. Mrs. Kurata indignantly refused to sanction any meeting at which she was not herself present, and accordingly the two repaired together to the guest chamber where the midnight visitor awaited them.

The reality seldom satisfies the expectation, but in this case the terms of the aphorism might have been reversed. An angel painted by Rian* or an incarnation of Rifuji† could scarcely have been more charmingly lovely and graceful than this lady wanderer. Neither did her beauty alone distinguish her. This must have won the yeoman's welcome, indeed, but his wife might have proved less facile had not she, in her turn, been subdued by the visitor's dignity. The worthy couple were in short completely fascinated, and it was with a multitude of apologetic expressions that they ventured to enquire the purpose of their guest's visit. There was little likelihood that such humble folk could be of any service to one in her position, but if their good fortune should make it possible for them to do anything useful, they pressed her to give them the opportunity. The lady received these assurances with a sweet smile. The yeoman's and his good wife's generous dispositions were well known to all their neighbours, she said, and it did not therefore surprise her to find them so considerate. Her business was, however, of such a delicate nature that she might not disclose it in public, and she therefore begged that the servants, who by this time had assembled in the room on one pretext or another, should be desired to withdraw for a moment. This done she moved close up to Mr. and Mrs. Kurata and addressed them in a low tone:—

"I pray you not to be startled by the disclosure I am about to make, for under all circumstances you may be assured that my coming bodes nothing but good to you and yours. I know that for centuries back the inhabitants of your village have worshipped their tutelary goddess, *Benten* who when she visits the earth, assumes the form of a Dragon and lives in the Tarn of Hataya. I am that goddess, and if I have visited you to-night, it is because your hospitality is

* A celebrated Chinese artist, who flourished under the Sung (960-1279).

† The Helen of the Orient.

understood and appreciated by those to whom all human hearts are legible."

By this time the heads of the yeoman and his wife were bowed upon the mats, and their visitor's voice seemed to come to them from some region immeasurably raised above the sphere of their own lowly existence. The lady, observing their disquietude, continued in a tone if possible more gentle.

"For the sake of their subjects on earth the gods themselves are sometimes doomed to suffer no small inconvenience. Such is now my case. My presence at this season is essential to the well-being of your village, but the Tarn, my abode, is, as you know, covered with a thick coat of ice. This were a small matter under ordinary circumstances, but it so happens that I am about to become a mother, and I am thus obliged to choose between the risk of exposing my child to the hardships of such a wretched domicile, and that of leaving the people of Uzen to the misfortunes from which my presence alone can guard them."

This was an alternative that seemed equally terrible to the yeoman and his wife. Not yet daring to raise their heads, they assured their visitor of their respectful sympathy and earnest desire to be of service, if that were possible. "It is not only possible," she replied, "but easy. All that I require is the use of your godown for three days' and three nights. Other places in the village might be more convenient and luxurious, but the heart of a host is more to the gods than the nature of his hospitality."

Need it to be said that Kurata and his wife assented readily to this proposition. The man perhaps had some fond fancies about the gentle favours his acquiescence might win for him in the future, but even had the suppliant been a wrinkled hag, he might not have hesitated, seeing that the welfare of his fellow townsmen was at stake. So soon therefore as the lady had taken her departure, preparations were made to carry out her wishes. The godown in question contained a considerable quantity of goods and chattels, but as the lady had desired that these should not be removed lest public attention might be attracted, they were merely packed away in one end of the building, while the other was furnished with everything rich or sumptuous the yeoman could provide himself or borrow from his neighbours.

That night the garden gate and the iron door of the godown were left open, but Kurata and all his household shut themselves in and closed every aperture of the farmstead, for they knew that inquisitive eyes are hateful to the deities.

A little after midnight the sound of feet crushing the frozen snow was heard, and Kurata set himself to tell his beads while the farm servants huddled together round the kitchen hearth. Apparently the dispositions made for the reception of the goddess were not entirely satisfactory. All through the hours of darkness until the tardy twilight began to struggle with the frost-fog, the inmates of the farmstead could hear people coming and going, and more than once noises issued from the godown such as those that accompany the discharging of cargo or the shifting of scenes in a theatre. By the dawn of day, however, all was quiet. A well-trodden track from the outer gate to the godown shewed that the strange visitor had availed herself of the yeoman's hospitality, but beyond this there was no evidence of life, nor did any sounds of active existence again issue from the dragon's lodging.

On the morning of the third day Mr. and Mrs. Kurata stole reverentially to the door of the godown, and enquired, not without perturbation, whether their humble preparations had found favour in the eyes of the goddess. They were not surprised at receiving no answer, for their sacred guest had intimated her intention of returning to the tarn before the third sunrise. But they

were surprised when, on opening the door, they found the building perfectly empty, not only their own furniture and that they had borrowed, having disappeared, but also every one of the goods and chattels they had so carefully piled up in the end the goddess did not occupy.

The police are now busily engaged in an attempt to catch the dragon, but Mr. Kurata still visits the frozen tarn from time to time, unable to persuade himself that the beautiful *Benten* will never made him any amends for the eighteen hundred yen he has lost in her service.

There are, it appears, no less than sixty-five thousand two hundred doctors practicing in Japan, of whom five hundred and four only have received legitimate diplomas, and of these latter, fifty are denizens of Tokiyo. It follows therefore that there are sixty-four thousand, six hundred and ninety-six individuals playing fast and loose with the lives of their fellow-creatures throughout the country, that is to say, an average of one quack to four hundred and seventy quacked.

Some strangely contradictory elements distinguish the character of the Kiyoto citizens. Economical almost to penuriousness, they are yet the most persistent votaries of pleasure Japan possesses. As buyers they will chaffer hours over the fraction of a cash; as sellers they will sacrifice a customer rather than abate a cent without long reflection, and yet from the time the first plum-blossom bursts till the last maple leaf falls, they will lavish their time and money upon amusements that could scarcely brighten hearts not by nature sunny. The Tokiyo trader is a man whose demands bear some ratio to his respectability. A reduction of ten per cent is, in his eyes, perfectly consistent with dignified dealings; fifteen, he will grant you at a pinch, but beyond that he will not pass without a pretext. It must be a plausible pretext too, and one that will in nowise compromise his reputation. Thus if he sells to you for the first time, there need be no limit to his complaisance, because it is the first time; and that being so, he does not fail to leave himself an ample margin when confronted by a stranger. Again, although you are an old customer, any lengthy cessation of dealings is held to furnish a sufficient plea for exceeding the wonted reduction, and a similar license is permitted at certain seasons, as for example, the New year or the last day of every month. With these exceptions, however, he must tax his invention if he desires to lower the standard. In ninety-nine cases he will tell you that the article in question was originally purchased with several others, and that the latter having been well sold, he can afford to let you have the former at an apparent loss; in the hundredth instance, he will say that the thing does not belong to him and that he will send round to ask the owner; while if he be a vulgar retailer, he will have recourse to his *soroban* and extract from it some inexplicable excuse. Sell he will, however, if he can, and the sooner the better. In Saikiyo, on the other hand, a totally different practice prevails. There the tradesman asks what he thinks he can get without the remotest reference to what he means to take. So reluctant too is he lose any infinitesimal chance of improving his bargain, that he can seldom consent at one sitting to a tithe of the abatement he has long resolved to make. If you are a resident of the Western metropolis you may only hope to overcome this reluctance by importunity; by repeating your visits and your offer again and again until the merchant has become reconciled to the latter, or convinced that a continuance of the former would cost you less than an amendment of your terms. If you are a tourist you may be tolerably confident that some offer, perhaps of unconditional

assent, perhaps of compromise, will reach you on the eve of your departure from the city. In short the Kiyoto man of business can never endure to part with his possessions, whether they be in coin or kind, until he is assured that no profit can be earned by patience. He prefers problematical prizes and endless procrastination, to trifling gains and speedy returns, and hence he is justly accounted the worst man of business and withal the most penurious householder in Japan.

Nevertheless from spring to fall Kiyoto seems to wear the raiment of perpetual merry-making. A haze of holiday mellowed everything. The air is full of music and mirth echoed and re-echoed from innumerable "pavilions of pleasure" that dot the slopes of the surrounding hills. The streets are a may-fair of stalls and booths, and whether on artificial lake or among the rocks in the river's bed, every available space is converted into a lounge for light-hearted revellers. Business indeed appears to have been banished for life, and you shall see the fat merchant, who an hour ago wrangled over a tester, disporting himself among the booths and blossoms, and bestowing his largesse, right liberally on sunny-eyed damsels who flutter hither and thither, their rainbow raiment and long flapping sleeves making them look for all the world like gigantic butterflies.

The dancing and singing girls of the Western metropolis have long formed a sort of guild possessing, in common, schools for the cultivation, and halls for the periodical display of, their graceful accomplishments. Without these coy little damsels no revel is complete nor any genuine festivity possible. They may be said to come out with the cherry blossoms, for when a tinge of pink is just beginning to show among the leafless branches, the "Geisha" hold their yearly exhibition of dancing, the "Miyako-odori" or minuet of the Metropolis. This performance takes place at the "Kaburenjo" or principal dancing saloon, a compact building, small indeed since it is only capable of accomodating four hundred spectators, but neat and dapper like its light-footed lessees. It consists of a low stage extending right across the end of the saloon—which is nearly square—and continuing in the form of narrow boarded passages along each side of the enclosed "pit." The pit itself is a large carpeted area—somewhat lower than the stage—without benches or division, and behind it are two or three tiers of raised seats, forming a kind of dress circle. Farther back still are three spacious matted rooms, entirely open at the front. These are boxes for "distinguished visitors." The orchestra of singing girls lines each wing, being seated on a raised dais behind the side passages. They are twenty in number, equally distributed on the right and left; those on the right are playing the *samisen*, while of those on the left, one performs on a fife, two on cymbals and five on hand-drums (*udzumi*). After a prelude from these musicians, who wear robes and girdles of an uniform tint, rather sombre than gaudy, the dancing girls slowly advance along the side passages towards the stage, and while the heads of the two lines are still a few feet apart, they halt, half on the stage, half on the passages, and go through that strange performance of rhythmic oscillation and lithesome gesture, so entrancing to the Japanese, so incomprehensible to Westerns uninitiated in the mysteries of the "music of motion." After this the two lines pass on, crossing one another, until they have completely changed places, when they repeat the dance, if dance it may be called, amid the delighted ejaculations of the spectators, who distinguish their favourites by name and do not even hesitate occasionally to suggest supposed improvements in style or bearing, though on the whole they are far less demonstrative than an European audience. This second dance concluded, the girls on the stage kneel down with their backs to the pit, while

the rest file out through the stage entrance, and the curtain falls. In the next scene the dancers appear with different costumes, and are first seen grouped on a balustrade verandah before a garden, designed to represent the scene of the annual exhibition. Thence, after a few graceful motions, they advance in two lines as before, and perform the well-known fan dance. Again the curtain falls and rising for the third time discovers the same garden, now, however, gay with paper blossoms, hanging lanterns, rocks, trees and so forth, while the girls, each wearing a hat of flowers, dance in pairs, and disappear dancing, and if they do not carry with them the hearts of a good many among their audience, it is certainly not for lack of winsomeness or artless grace. Probably that fat merchant in the pit will follow them and pass the night carousing, but for all that if you go to-morrow to his shop, you will find him as reluctant as ever to sell you a bronze vase or Imari plate at anything like a reasonable profit.

POLICY FOR KOREA, by Kwo-in-ken.

(Continued from last Saturday.)

Korea will no doubt easily credit the necessity for drawing closer her bonds of amity with China, but she will probably be divided in her sentiments with regard to Japan. It is conceivable that many of her people will say:—"The Japanese are our hereditary enemies, for did they not, in Hideyoshi's time, invade our territories, assault our capital, slaughter our ancestors and lay the whole country waste, until they were at last driven back and completely defeated by the forces of the Min? Of late too they have adopted western customs, borrowing even their models' aggressive policy, so that it is impossible to conjecture what schemes they may be hatching. At the time of the Ko-kwa trouble, Saigo Takamori strongly urged an immediate recourse to arms, and his proposal would have been carried out but for the strenuous opposition of Iwakura and Okubo. What grounds then have we for supposing that the feelings of the Japanese are changed towards us? If we once make a treaty with them, we must needs observe it, and would not that be a proceeding pretty similar to the conduct of the householder who opened the door himself to the burglars? Saigo's proposal was only opposed by two or three of his colleagues. The majority would have been too glad to plant colonies in Korea and possess themselves by degrees of her coast line, but reflection demonstrated their inability, and so they abandoned the idea. They remembered that Korea has never lacked brave and able leaders during all the centuries of her existence, and they felt that there was little hope of coming off completely victorious in a struggle with her. Nay, even though they should be entirely successful for the time, it was certain that Korea would rebel the moment their forces were withdrawn, while to keep an army always in the peninsula would be impossible. China too would assuredly range herself on Korea's side, and if the conquest of the latter alone were problematical, in alliance with the former she would be almost impregnable. It was for these reasons Saigo's project was not executed."

All this may be very true, but it must not be forgotten that Japan's vicinity to Korea forbids indifference to the latter's fate. It would be a serious danger to Japan if Korea fell into strange hands, and it is consequently the policy of the Japanese to ally themselves with Korea for the purpose of strengthening her, so that she may become the puppet of the western sea. There is no other really sagacious course under existing circumstances. Japan, strong as she seems, is really in a state of exhaustion; her Government is at issue with its subjects, her treasury is empty, she has no leisure to strengthen her defences. An ancient strategist has said, "take heed to your enemy first, to yourself afterwards." If the Koreans understand that Japan's purpose in seeking an alliance with them, is not suspicious, they will have no hesitation themselves in accepting that alliance.

It may, however, be argued that the natural defences of Korea will cease to be valuable if the Japanese are allowed to surrey the country and draw maps of it: that the port of Jinsen is, as it were, the gate of the peninsula, and that to allow others ingress and egress, is like a voluntary

abandonment of a strong position: and finally, that if Japan had no aggressive designs, she would not trouble herself to survey out-of-the-way reefs along the coast or to take up posts of vantage near the Capital.

In bygone ages indeed the sale of topographical surveys to other states was prohibited by law on pain of death, and it was customary when foreign envoys came, to introduce them by some round-about way, and to prevent them from acquiring any knowledge of the nature of the country. But such habits no longer prevail. Universal intercourse is now the rule. Korea's neighbour China, as well as the far distant nations of Europe and America, compile and publish charts to facilitate navigation, while foreign representatives reside permanently at the various capitals.

At whatever part of the world we look we shall find, that a nation which has not strength to keep foreigners out, is invariably the object of their aggression. Thus the frontiers of Annam have been seized by France, and England interferes in the polity of Burmah. Again a nation may be very powerful and yet she does not hesitate to grant others free ingress. Thus Englishmen live at St. Petersburg and Russians at London without any evil results. In short a country's power to remain secluded, is not at all measured by her apparent facility of intercourse. Moreover, Japan, as I have before remarked, is no longer in a position to be aggressive, and therefore her knowledge of the Korean peninsula might rather enable her to be serviceable to its inhabitants in the event of an emergency. Korea, too, is ignorant of navigation, so that she can find no better way of becoming acquainted with the geographical conditions of her coasts and seas than by allowing Japan to survey them; nor is such an acquaintance by any means unimportant from a strategic point of view. Japan herself once refused stoutly to permit the residence of foreign representatives in her capital, and would fain have limited her action to opening the port of Hiogo, but after one or two battles she soon changed her mind, and has ceased all opposition for more than ten years. Does her action tend to show that a country's security depends upon concealing her topography from foreigners?

It may be objected again, that although the Koreans certainly do crowd about the Japanese—whose language and appearance are strange to them—and occasionally even make use of abusive terms, still the Japanese cannot be acquitted of rudeness and violence, seeing that even their Consul drew his sword, and wounded a Korean officer; conduct which does not bespeak much respect for treaties of amity or anxiety for more intimate relations.

In answer to this I would say, that self-restraint is not a characteristic of the ordinary Japanese. Eager for profit he is susceptible to trifles, but blind to matters of graver importance. If, therefore, such imprudent acts have been perpetrated, they must be referred to ignorant people's suspicions and not at all to the will of the Japanese Government. Originally, the only port opened by Korea to commerce was Soriby, near Fusan, and she did everything in her power to restrict and suppress trade even there. This has long been a source of bitter feeling in Japan. Moreover, the Japanese residents at Fusan are for the most part needy traders from the island of Tsushima, who being persons of ignoble origin, busy themselves entirely seeking their own profit, and take no thought for the benefit of their race. That their conduct should be suffered to affect the relations between the two countries would be most unjust. The Japanese Government was no sooner informed of its consul Tamanojo's act of violence than it recalled him, thereby affording conclusive evidence of its real sentiments; and under these circumstances Korea's wisest course is to observe her treaty obligations strictly, affording all due protection to Japanese residents so long as they behave properly, and having recourse to official remonstrance if they are guilty of any misdeeds. This is the only certain method of preserving friendly relations between the two countries. It is not the part of the wise man to give himself undue anxiety about trifles and so lose sight of vital occasions.

Admitting, however, that so far as Japan is concerned, proximity of position and affinity of race establish a necessity for alliance, it may perhaps be argued with regard to Americans or Europeans that their great distance, the difference of their customs, and the fact that their money is not current nor their language comprehended, are so many

arguments against the advisability of entering into relations with them; while the same considerations seem to show that their anxiety for such relations is the outcome of some motive partly selfish.

The truth of such reasoning cannot be admitted. America is sufficiently busy with the administration of the various parts into which she is divided. Her thirty-seven States give their president ample occupation, and she has no desire whatsoever to enlarge her territories. She even refused to annex Hawaii, for example, though such annexation was proposed by the Hawaiians themselves. She is the richest country in the world. Her soil teems with precious metals, and her people are deeply skilled in manufacture and commerce. That she has neither necessity nor wish to enrich herself further is a fact patent to all the world. If, like other countries, England, France, Germany, Italy and so forth, she seeks to form a treaty with Korea, it is because she, as well as they, is anxious to maintain what is called the "balance of power." for the aggressive attitude of certain countries is even more marked to-day than in that terrible "era of battles" recorded in the ancient history of China. Peace can only be preserved by guarding against all preponderance of power or excess of weakness. Should any one nation annex foreign territory, and so receive an undue access of strength, she at once becomes the object of her fellows' attacks. Hence that condition of mutual watchfulness observable among the states of Europe at present; a condition which renders it impossible for Russia to achieve the ambitions she has so long harboured against certain parts of the continent, and obliges her rather to turn her eyes eastward. Where will they be first planted? On Korea assuredly, for when that peninsula is hers, the whole of Asia will be within reach of her clutches, and should she then turn upon Europe with this enormous access of power, the possibility of restraining her will no longer exist. International law, as recognized in the West, forbids one country to seize the territory of another, but it also forbids interference in the event of aggression unless the country assailed be a "treaty power." It is for this reason that the Western States seek to establish friendly relations with Korea, because by maintaining its independence against Russia, they protect themselves.

And among these Western States the one that seems to have the best title to honesty, and has earned most confidence in China and Japan, is America. From the first her object in coming eastward has been not to injure others but to benefit them. To suppose that her eastern policy is dictated by any selfish purpose, is nothing but an idle fancy conceived by persons who know nothing of the world's present condition. "But," it will perhaps be said, "Korea is too small a country to enter into the comity of nations. Her resources could not possibly endure the strain that would be put upon them and the heavy expenses she would be obliged to incur. Her ceremonies and customs too, are so totally different, that some of her acts must inevitably seem offensive, to the serious detriment of the goodwill so anxiously cultivated."

It is very true that in ancient times weaker countries sought to provide for their independence by costly presents, such as castles, jewels, rare stuffs and so forth. This was the etiquette of those days, but it no longer obtains. Belgium, Switzerland and Holland are independent, and yet for all their insignificance, history does not tell us of any extortion practiced upon them by more powerful States. Foreign Representatives and Consuls reside at their own expense in treaty countries, and it is only necessary that they should be granted audience for the purpose of presenting their credentials, and that they should be entertained about once a year. The custom of making presents at receptions or leave-takings no longer exists, as it did in old times, so that foreign intercourse requires no special appropriation and entails no drain upon the national resources. Moreover Korea not being a productive country, commerce with her cannot be particularly profitable, and the presence of foreign Representatives and Consuls would therefore be unnecessary for the present. Western nations desire nothing beyond the establishment of treaty relations with her, for the reasons I have cited.

Yet another argument may be adduced by the Conservative Party. They may say that foreign missionaries will take advantage of the people's ignorance to bring about political disturbances, while if Korea takes measures to prevent this, disputes may arise and grave complications be brought about.

To this I reply, that though the evils attributable to the Roman Catholic propagandists are acknowledged by all the world, much of their arbitrary behaviour was due to the countenance of France. Since the latter power's defeat by Prussia, however, the Pope's body-guard has been disbanded, the rule of Rome has been taken out of his hands, and he has been deprived of his crown, so that his strength is a thing of the past. Of late, too, France has gone so far as to oppress the Jesuits, whose religion is consequently on the decline. But the religion of America is Protestantism, which though of common origin with Roman Catholicism, is as different from the latter as the tenets of Shien are from those of Riku among ourselves. Protestantism does not interfere in political matters, and many of its promoters are upright and good men. Since China first entered into relations with foreign countries, several attempts have been made by her people on the lives of Roman Catholics, but Protestants have never been molested, and this, in itself, is a proof that the latter are inoffensive. In fact the guiding principle of their faith is to instruct people to be virtuous, but for all that we believe the creeds of Shinko and Confucius to be far superior, and since Korea is already immutably wedded to those creeds, she is in little peril of proselytism even though a few of her ignorant subjects should adopt a foreign religion, nor has she anything to fear from the propagation of such a religion.

(To be continued)

TRADE MARKS.

IN the sixth year of Meiji (1874) a section of the Eastern University of Tokiyo was converted by order of the Government into an office for the examination of drugs and chemicals, whether imported from abroad or manufactured in Japan. Repeated accidents, owing in part to misconception of properties, in part to the prevalence of adulteration, necessitated this step. Western medicines in skilled hands had achieved marvellous cures, and the unprecedented faith in specifics which was thus engendered, did not fail to furnish unscrupulous dealers with a method for imposing on public credulity. Trade marks of foreign manufacturers were forged without restraint or compunction. Chlorodyne was counterfeited perhaps more extensively than any other patent drug. All the certificates, testimonials and advertisements in which Messrs. Brown and Collis envelop their invention, were reproduced, with many curious typographical errors indeed, but still sufficiently exact in colour, form, and general appearance to deceive not Japanese alone, but even foreigners who did not take the pains to peruse from first to last the long columns of matter printed on the wrappers of the bottles. Of what ingredients the spurious chlorodyne itself was compounded, analysis has not determined. It was probably innocuous though if possible more unpalatable than its original, but this does not seem to have interfered with its sale for a time, and there can be no doubt that whatever popularity the English makers' drug had justly acquired, was soon dispelled by the large quantities of worthless filth pawned off upon an unsuspecting public under the same title. Whether this well-known anodyne was the pioneer of fraudulent imitations cannot be distinctly determined, but its appearance in the Japanese market was only a little prior to the development of a wholesale system of forgery and adulteration; a system which has seriously impaired the fair fame of Japanese tradesmen and threatens to acquire for this country a most unenviable notoriety. If a foreign article found any measure of favour it was immediately imitated. Trade marks were forged without the very smallest symptom of compunction, and a

respectable printing office did not hesitate to execute orders for the production of Bass or Guinness' labels by the gross. There is at the present moment in Tokiyo a shop called the Kaikoba, or "Institution for the Development of Manufactures," which has been established for the express purpose of trading in native imitations of foreign articles. There, among other things, one may see bottles labelled "White Wine, Reims," with the marks of two crossed triangles in a diamond; or boxes containing "The Baby's complete Nurser," with the well-known picture of that implement and the words "Manufactured by the Good Year Rubber (sic) Company" printed on the covers. One maker is more ambitious than able, for while achieving an exact facsimile of the popular American crayons, he stamps the box thus:—"One Gross School Crayon. The very best. examination. The beginning to make. Koyash. Tokiyo." Not Miss Bird alone, but all who have been so credulous as to furnish themselves with stores from a Japanese shop, know that old and familiar labels and signs are no longer reliable, and that native Crosse & Blackwells perfectly satisfy the definition of "whitened sepulchres." It is said that at a certain well-known restaurant labels "of sorts" are always in stock, so that a customer can be supplied with any liquor he desires, provided only the bar-man has leisure to affix an appropriate ticket. We cannot vouch for the truth of this rumour, but it would not betray a degree of mercantile immorality much in excess of what certainly does exist. From the National Exhibition at Uyeno to the shelves of the humblest trader in the purlieus, counterfeits of everything worth counterfeiting are to be found. Sometimes these are very tolerable manufactures *per se*, and being much cheaper than imported articles, deserve the patronage they command. Sometimes, however,—and such cases constitute the large majority—an imitation possesses nothing in common with its original. If not absolutely noxious, it is certainly useless either as medicine or aliment, nor could it keep its place in the market for a moment did men's discernment bear any reasonable ratio to their credulity. We are not indeed prepared to assert that the Japanese public is especially gullible, but most assuredly its purveyors are gifted with craftiness of no common order. A method of advertising often practised in the capital will illustrate this. Some novel drug, for example, is devised, and two or three wholesale dealers in the extreme north and south of the city are entrusted with the sale. At first the demand is slack, but presently retail traders begin to purchase large quantities of the new invention, so that the producers are often unable to furnish it with sufficient rapidity. Every fresh sale, too, becomes on occasion for reiterated panegyric. Chronic distampers and decayed constitutions will soon cease to be the companions of humanity, though of course etiquette forbids the publication of cures achieved in particular instances. The wholesale dealers are perhaps a little sceptical for a time, but they may not doubt the evidence of their ledgers. In less than a month five or six hundred cases of the specific have passed through their hands, and now, when ventilating the stories with which they have been so often entertained, they no longer hesitate to add the weight of their own testimony. The rest is easily imagined. The necessary noise has been made, and one by one *bond fide* customers are persuaded to follow where so many of their

fellows seem to have led. Meanwhile, what has really taken place is this. A steady interchange of stock from the north to the south of the city, and *vice versa*, has been kept up. In both quarters the retail dealers—who are accomplices—carry the cases they purchase from the wholesalers back to the producers, and these, in their turn, re-issue them to the wholesalers. Nobody has tried the medicine—perhaps, indeed, a bottle has never been opened—but at the same time, that large quantities of it have passed through the dealers' hands, and considerable commissions on its sale found their way into the wholesalers' pockets, are facts beyond dispute. The initial impetus has been imparted, and though western moralists might be disposed to call the process a conspiracy to defraud, Japanese merchants would probably deem it not more culpable than lying advertisements and forged testimonials. Our present purpose, however, does not include any necessity to discuss these points. We might without much difficulty adduce many another instance of devices that trespass on debatable ground, but this one will suffice to prove, that the process of counterfeiting trade-marks, *with intent to deceive*, is not inconsistent with some standard of commercial morality in Japan. To defend such a proposition at all may, indeed, seem superfluous, but there are not wanting men who refuse to perceive any moral obliquity in the character of this "interesting people," and who maintain that foreign trade-marks are employed here without a knowledge of their true nature and in the belief that they are only descriptive of the quality of the goods to which they are attached. This may have been partially true once; in the days when to deal in any species of western goods or follow any fashion of foreign trade, necessitated the employment of a sign-board bearing an English, French or Russian superscription, which never could have been, and never was intended to be, intelligible to customers. To manufacture desiccated milk without using the "Eagle brand" or distil brandy without a "three-star" label, may have been deemed a proceeding quite as fractional as to vend wine without a bush, or keep a laundry without some Roman characters over the door. But such simplicity has long ago ceased to be credible. We may dismiss it altogether from our calculations, assured that men who will give twice or three times its original value for an empty bottle, *provided the foreign label be intact*, have well attained the point at which ignorance of the law ceases to palliate its infraction.

Fraud had not, however, become quite so shameless in 1874 as it is at present, and the establishment of the "Test Office" exercised a most salutary effect in the matter of drugs at any rate. In one respect the constitution of the office was peculiar. Its chances of usefulness were entrusted altogether to the good sense of the people. No attempt was made to construct any legal machinery for rendering the inspection of drugs compulsory. Manufacturers and importers were at liberty to submit their wares or not, just as they pleased, but citizens were cautioned that if they purchased any drug which did not bear the test stamp, their own judgment was their only guarantee. It was of course prophesied that such a measure would be totally inoperative. It has on the contrary proved an unqualified success. Scarcely a medicine is sold to-day in Tokiyo that has not passed the Test

Office and received the proof mark. In not a few cases the absence of this mark makes a difference of as much as one half in the value of an article, and a traffic in untested drugs is no longer carried on except in remote country districts. European producers would not be flattered to learn that their long respected patents and trade-marks are held in less esteem than the certificate of Oriental analysts, however carefully the latter may have been trained by their Dutch instructors, but such is nevertheless the fact. The Japanese urban population, by an almost unanimous verdict, has declared its confidence in the integrity of the Test Office as compared with that of any foreign guarantee.

Now there are two things to be learned especially from the history of this Test Office. First, the authority which called the institution into existence thoroughly understood the influence attaching to an authentic stamp, and foresaw that producers would be compelled, by a power stronger than legislation, to submit their wares to analysis: second, the value of a reliable mark is even more accurately apprehended and appreciated in Japan than in Europe. The import of these two inferences is not to be over-estimated, for they furnish clear proof of the moral and utilitarian obligation under which the Government of Japan rests to provide legal protection, not only for the trade-marks of its own subjects, but also for those of foreigners. To perform analyses of articles offered for sale in private interests is neither a legitimate function of the State nor one it can ever hope to carry out effectually. Successful as the Test Offices have been in protecting the public against dangerous impositions, their influence does not extend beyond the suburbs of the chief cities, and while examining articles intended for the cure of maladies, they give themselves no manner of concern about those calculated to destroy health. Things that are in daily use, and therefore most likely to be generally noxious or beneficial, are subjected to no supervision, so that all sorts of quasi-European beverages and comestibles find their way into the hands of a public ready to accept poison for nectar on the strength of a label or envelope. Of course time alone is needed to ensure the extension of the Test Offices' influence, but they must always remain illogical in constitution, insufficient in scope, and condemnatory in motive: the first, because if their existence is necessary in one case, it is equally so in all; the second, because they afford no protection to the larger portion of the public interests; and the third, because their authors, while confessing obligation, exhibit incompetence. What the Test Offices are to Japan on a small and totally inefficient scale, the whole system of trade-marks, with their Registration and Amendment Acts of 1875-6, are to the United Kingdom in a most thorough and effective fashion. The merchants' interest compels him to preserve the quality of goods bearing his mark; the public learn to rely on that mark, and the law protects it. All this entirely consists with the logical relations of Society and the State, and is therefore the only system calculated to be permanent or capable.

We shall be able, however, to form a juster estimate of Japan's present position in the matter of trade-marks by glancing briefly at her commercial customs and the attitude assumed by her merchants of late years. *She has never possessed any legislation affecting trade-marks*, and the

only law of patents ever framed by the Government, was in force for such a brief period that it can scarcely be said to have existed at all. It was enacted four years after the Restoration and abandoned within a few months. Why? Because in the first place its provisions were incompetent to protect imitations of Western specifics—which imitations comprised the majority of the new inventions (!) then appearing—and in the second, the inevitable extension of those provisions to foreign wares would hamper the reproductive faculties of the Japanese. Strange reasons indeed, but none the less historical, and comprehensible enough when considered in connection with the prevailing custom of trade-marks. These, as we have said, were not recognised by the law, but they nevertheless existed in three forms; signs (*noren-jirushi*), labels (*fucho*) and stamps (*shina-jirushi*). Foreigners resident in Japan cannot have failed to remark how many firms of the same designation exist in each branch of commerce; so many indeed that the name of a street is often added as a distinguishing prefix to the name of a shop. This is simply because a manufacturer was not considered to possess any right of property in the reputation his skill had acquired for him. If he introduced some improved process, that process thenceforth belonged, not to the inventor, but to the article itself; and anyone selling the article, might, if he pleased, hang out the same sign or use the same mark as the inventor. There was, in fact, no public appreciation of the *jus in rem* on which our English Merchandise Marks Act and its successors are based. A manufacturer of Soy, who employed as his stamp the character “man” in a hexagon, and sent twenty thousand barrels per annum to the market, had no remedy whatsoever, though ten times that number were sold in his name, all marked “kikkoman.” Under these circumstances it is not at all surprising that the reasons we have cited were sufficient to interfere with the action of a law of patents. Of course there was no legal restraint upon counterfeits under such a system. People were obliged to take care of themselves, and so long as they trafficked in goods of which they had long experience, no very serious imposition was possible. But the case was different when western productions were concerned. Then the disposition to deceive increased in the inverse ratio of the knowledge necessary to detect fraud. Articles possessing only the appearance of their originals were sold in quantities to an ignorant public by men who, however little they might have been expected to comprehend the right of property, showed at any rate that they thoroughly understood how to abuse that right.

But the Government of Japan ultimately began to regard these things from a western standpoint. In 1878, the Home Office submitted for the consideration of the Tokiyo Chamber of Commerce, the draft of a “Bill for the regulation of Trade-marks.” The provisions of this Bill were borrowed with but little change from European codes, and protection was consequently denied to marks which had ceased to have a distinctive character and were used by the trade at large. But, as we have already shown, this fate had long ago overtaken the signs, labels and stamps employed in native commerce, and the Chamber not unnaturally concluded, that to exclude these from the benefit of the act would be an injustice to some at least of their possessors. They objected also to the Bill as a whole, because it was moulded too exactly on a

foreign model, and so returned the draft to the Home Office, where it lay inoperative for two years. Curiously enough, however, it was again forced upon the attention of the Government by a circumstance exactly similar to those which furnish such just grounds of complaint to foreign manufacturers. The silk producers of Shimamura discovered that the cards they sent to Italy were counterfeited there and their sale seriously prejudiced in consequence. They applied to the Home Office for relief, and once more the rejected Bill has been presented to the Chamber of Commerce, where it is now again under consideration. The Chamber does not seem to have changed its opinion much in the interim. It is divided into two parties: one favorable to the Bill as it stands; the other opposed to it on the grounds that it is premature, and calculated to infringe existing rights. The latter appears to be in the majority, though we confess our inability to apprehend its line of argument. How is it possible to violate rights that have no real existence? The law by its inefficiency has already allowed trade-marks to be irremediably invaded, and its protection is now denied in the present and future alike, because the absence of that protection in the past has been productive of hopeless confusion. Whether is it the greater injustice to neglect the legitimate interests of those who are now suffering manifest injury, or to run the very hypothetical risk of doing violence to rights which are so indistinct as to be no longer discernible. If among the many dealers who now mark their goods with a rabbit's head, or a barred lozenge, there be any who can establish an original claim to those devices, they surely will not be ineligible for protection; but if there are none such, then the mark must be regarded as common property and cannot confer a *jus in rem* on any of its employers. The opinions of western jurists on this subject may not be conclusive in Japan, but here at any rate is the lesson taught by the latest English legislation:—“In some departments of business (and especially in the cotton piece-goods trade) there are many stamps, devices, headings, and other marks not the exclusive property of any one firm, but used indiscriminately by several, or even by many. If any one trader, A., attempts to appropriate such a common mark by applying to have it registered as his, it will be in the power of others, B., C., and D., either to give notice of opposition to the registration of A., or themselves to apply severally in like manner to be respectively registered as owners of the same mark, upon proving that they, equally with A., have been accustomed to use the mark. Two courses will then be open to the Registrar. He may register all four of them, or he may refuse to register any of them, and submit, or require them to submit, their rights to the Court. If, instead of doing so, he should register some one of the applicants only (say A., the first applicant), any of the others may apply to the Court for a rectification of the register, which the Court may grant either by striking A. off, or by directing the applicant, B. or C. or D. to be also entered on the register as a proprietor of the mark. As it would seem unjust to give these four merchants, after the lapse of five years (the period prescribed by the Act), an absolute exclusive right to a mark which has really been openly in common use by many others, it is probable that the Registrar will in such a case prefer to register none of them. In that case any one or more

of them may either apply to the Court for an order directing the Registrar to register him, or may obtain from the Registrar a certificate of his refusal to register him; in which latter event, he will become exempt from the prohibition to bring an action in respect of an unregistered mark, and may take proceedings against any one else using it, although, of course, those proceedings will fail if the mark is proved to be a common one. If he does neither, but simply acquiesces and gets no certificate, he will be unable to bring any action against any person for using the mark."* This extract will show the Tokiyo Chamber of Commerce that the difficulties by which they are now confronted had to be encountered a few years ago by English legislators, and that they were not found insuperable.

The objection raised to the Bill on the ground of its similarity to Western codes, deserves no special comment. America, England, Austria, Germany, Belgium, Columbia, France, Italy, Russia and the Zollverein, are so unfortunate as to possess an almost identical law of trade-marks. To be singular would certainly be a distinction for Japan, but up to the present she has not given many signs of desiring to be noted for independence of European models. She cannot of course, be expected to protect alien rights before she has secured those of her own subjects, but it may not be amiss to remind her that the procedure of most, if not all, continental countries gives the person, foreigner or native, whose trade-mark is invaded, a summary mode of obtaining redress by criminal proceedings, and in some cases by confiscation of the articles and award of damages. Every day she delays to provide similar enactments is an added occasion for fraud and a postponement of the time when her traders' action will cease to merit unqualified opprobrium.

THE "NIPPON TETSUDO-GUWAISHA" OR NATIONAL RAILWAY COMPANY OF JAPAN.

THE general scheme of the proposed Railway Company reminds us of a project for "covering Japan with a network of railways," enunciated some years ago in England by one of H. M. the Mikado's Ministers. Probably the phrase had not been translated into money by its employer, and we suspect that the projectors of the plan now before the public, have not gone very accurately into the meaning of a thousand miles of railway. Neither do we propose to do so at the moment. It will be sufficient for our purpose to examine such portions of the design as appear reasonably feasible within a space of three or four years, since an analysis of this presently practicable section will exhibit ample grounds for postponing discussion of the remainder.

It will not, however, be irrelevant to observe that the proposed capital of the Company—nineteen million yen (paper)—is professedly a sum that can only be raised by subscription among those to whom a guaranteed interest of eight per cent may afford sufficient inducement. Few merchants or farmers will be likely to be attracted by this prospect alone, and we may safely predict, that capital will only be furnished by the inhabitants of those districts whose trade promises to be profitably developed by the lines in question. Thus the people in the western or southern provinces would scarcely contribute much towards the construction of a line in

Musashi and Kodzuke, the extension of which in their own direction might well be counted problematical, while conversely, provinces in the route of the main line would concern themselves little about branches offering no direct advantages. This would be self-evident anywhere, but it applies with special force to a country like Japan, where the local influences fostered by the feudal system are still powerful, and the principles of permanent investment, stocks and so forth imperfectly, if at all, understood. The nobles, indeed, who are the original promoters of the scheme and whose interests are more general, might not be deterred by this apparent inequality of advantage, but the limit of the aid they may reasonably be expected to furnish will lie far within the margin of the aggregate required, even supposing that aggregate not to exceed the present estimate of nineteen millions. That it will so exceed, however, is morally certain, and there were little wisdom in ignoring liabilities which, discovered too late, cannot fail to aggravate the difficulties of the promoters even more than an exaggerated statement at the outset. Long before any provinces on the outer circle of the plan can hope to see the smoke of a locomotive, the surplus revenue of the nobles will have been mortgaged for the cost of lines in the immediate vicinity of the capital, and it is difficult to divine from what source funds will then be drawn, failing that catholicism of combination which, so far as we can at present foresee, seems incredible.

Five years ago a scheme was mooted for the construction of a railway from Tokiyo to Awomori; a scheme which, having regard to the comparative poverty of the districts in question, may be described as one of the least rational speculations that have ever been soberly suggested. The public was then given to understand that the nobles proposed to set aside annual sums sufficient to form an aggregate of three million yen in the course of eight years, and the project has apparently been put into execution, so that about two millions are now banked. This sum probably corresponds with the "tenth part of the whole capital," which, we are told, is to be first subscribed. To these two millions, at present actually available, we may add a few hundred thousands per annum in the immediate future, and thus a total of something more than three millions will have been invested by the nobles in railway stocks within the next three years. This estimate seems most reliable, though three millions in the present and a million per annum hereafter, are stated to be the correct figures; credible only on the supposition that the extension of the project beyond its original limits may have been the means of interesting a greater number of capitalists. On whichever supposition we proceed, however, it would appear that the construction and equipment of the first section, namely the line from Tokiyo to Takasaki, might be at once taken in hand, and as this in itself would be a work of greater magnitude than anything hitherto attempted, we shall confine ourselves for the present to its consideration.

The distance to be traversed is about seventy miles. During the past year the ground has been surveyed and the line actually set out by the Government Railway Department, so that the Tetsudo-guwaisha will have this benefit at starting. The country between the two termini is also very thickly populated, and the establishment of communication by rail, between the capital and a large producing district, combines to assure the commercial success of the project. Moreover, these prospects receive additional, though fictitious, brightness from the proposed method of construction. This, it appears, is to be on the American model, which is supposed to be a cheap one, and an opportunity is therefore apparently presented for earning large dividends on a small outlay. Now the "American

* Supplement to a Treatise on the Law of Trade-marks, by Ludlow, Jenkyns and Bryoe.

model" is a very wide expression. There are not two pins of choice between a good American railway and a good railway in any other country, English, Colonial or Continental; but there have been many thousand miles of lines constructed in America such as no rational man would think of laying down in Japan. In fact it may be said that competent American engineers, if required to make a line suitable for heavy traffic through populous districts, would proceed on exactly the same principle as any other engineers; that is, would make the best possible line their funds permitted. Certain desiderata are imperative, whether the old world or the new be in question. The rails and appurtenances must be of sufficient strength to carry the best class of rolling-stock at a good speed; all bridges of any importance must be of a permanent character, and the arrangement of stations, workshops, etc., must be in accordance with the laws modern experience has proved essential to cheap and convenient traffic. These things are well understood by the engineers of all countries where railway construction is not a thing of yesterday, and American engineers have had, in their own land, an experience of bankrupt railways sufficient to teach them what must be avoided. Insolvency has been the invariable fate of lines too cheaply laid down; for excessive economy means bad work, and bad work signifies the transfer of all earnings to the column for repairs. We shall scarcely be overstating the case if we say that every originally "cheap" American railway, which now holds a good position in the Share market, has been almost entirely reconstructed from end to end. Each year with its added knowledge and accumulating statistics, helps to assimilate the practice of different countries in the matter of railway construction, and we sincerely hope that Japan will have the benefit of experience more trustworthy than that which would put upon her most flourishing districts the insult and inconvenience of a "back-woods" track.

A reliable estimate of cost for a railway such as might be laid down between Tokiyo and Takasaki, with a good prospect of financial success and general convenience, shows that at the present value of paper money about forty-five thousand yen per mile would suffice. Of this, however, a large proportion would necessarily be devoted to the purchase of imported goods, such as rails and fastenings, locomotives, wheels, axles, springs, etc., for rolling stock, bridge iron-work and workshop machinery. These things would have to be paid for within two or three months of the date of manufacture, and as they must be in the country some time before they can be placed in their required positions, it follows that the bulk of the money needed would have to be subscribed within the first eighteen months, on the supposition that twice that period sees the line completed. More explicitly; at least eighty thousand paper yen, at current quotations, would be required per month, during the first year and a half, for the purchase of credits abroad. It is said that this inevitable outlay was sufficient to render nugatory an order issued last year by the Daijokwan for the construction of the Tokiyo-Takahashi line. At any rate the order was revoked after some of the stores, lumber, etc., had been actually laid in.

It may be remarked that these dealings abroad demand a class of agencies very different from those that consist with the ideas of too many Japanese merchants. It is apparently incredible to the inferior stamp of Japanese commercial mind, that transactions with foreign countries should not carry commissions and squeezes sufficient to make the fortunes of the intermediaries, and this incredulity is only too likely to be played upon by enterprising traders with convenient connexions among the promoters and their managers. Not once, but over and over again, has the public been entertained by stories of colossal profits realized by the Agents of the Im-

perial Railway Department in England; profits amounting to a greater number of pounds sterling than the aggregate cost of the whole works! As a matter of fact that Agency procured for the Japanese Government Railways whatever was required, *free of every commission except the rate fixed beforehand and plainly entered upon each invoice of goods shipped*, neither were there any other incidental charges beyond the appointed salaries of one or two gentlemen of known probity, as that word is understood among English professional men. The Nippon Tetsudo-guwaisha will be fortunate should its import agency be modelled upon that of the Government Railway Department, for thus only can the Company hope to escape the process of speculation too often practiced upon the patient Asiatic by merchants of tolerable repute in collusion with confidential managers, who are loudest in their denunciations of their rivals and predecessors' reputed misdeeds in such matters. Much might be written upon this subject, but it is one that ventilation does not purify. If the Japanese Government has been obliged to pay for some of its public works more than their market value, the surplus has not gone into the pockets of either the foreign agents or native artisans. For the former, testimony beyond the reach of aspersion can vouch, while the reputation of the latter is vindicated by the evidence of experts who have examined working estimates and found an almost unappreciable margin for profit. It does not, however, come within the scope of our present purpose to enter into this question in detail. The arguments we might advance would require an accuracy of reference unsuited to the columns of a newspaper, and we shall content ourselves with saying that until some system of contract and supervision similar to that obtaining in Europe be established here, there can be little hope of carrying out public works economically and efficiently.

(To be continued.)

TRADE PROSPECTS.

By STEPHEN BOURNE, F.S.S.

It has often been remarked that trade moves in cycles, depression and elevation alternating and succeeding each other at intervals, not indeed of exactly the same duration, but with such approach to regularity that at any particular period we may, with some pretension to accuracy, predict what is likely to follow within a short period of the time at which the observation is made. It is generally found, too, that activity is not confined to one or more countries; but, unless some special cause intervene, that prosperity or adversity pervades the whole trading world at very nearly the same time. The moving cause many originate in one place or in one branch, but it soon becomes more or less diffused; and this will necessarily become the more marked as rapidity of communication and facilities for transport are extended. The duration of these cycles is supposed to be about ten or eleven years, and, starting with 1837—the commencement of the present reign—in which, following upon severe banking and commercial embarrassments in the United States in the preceding year, there was a panic in London, we find that 1847, the year of the Irish famine, was also one in which, after the collapse of the railway mania of 1845, the commercial panic of 1846 attained its height. In 1857, again, the year succeeding the Russian War, and that in which the Indian Mutiny broke out, the Bank Act had to be suspended. In 1866, there was a panic amongst commercial and joint stock companies, the losses by which exercised a fatal influence upon the trade of the three following years; and since then, 1875-6, there was severe depression, from which the country did not commence to emerge until the autumn of 1879.

Between each of these dates there came a period of great commercial and manufacturing prosperity, producing an inflated condition, to be succeeded by the next wave of depression. It may be noted, however, that, as might naturally be expected, the interval between the height of

one period and the depth of the other has generally been shorter than that of the following rebound. When once the tide begins to rise, it flows on with rapid progress, then descends rapidly, and leaves a long ebb, or at least a slight flow, until some event or condition of things sets the current of speculation moving, renders everything buoyant for a time, and then, having exhausted its force, a collapse ensues. The rise of the last decade commenced soon after the termination of the Franco-German War, in 1871, proceeded with unparalleled rapidity through 1872 to 1873, and had scarcely descended much in 1874; but 1875-6 were years of deep depression, those of 1877-8, with the first eight months of 1879, remaining at a very low level. The first indications of revival were observed in August, 1879; and though there have been ups and downs—rapid transitions since then—there has been a well-sustained general improvement through the year just ended, seeming to justify hopes of still further progress which may lead on to yet greater inflation than any we have before witnessed. The present condition of trade, and the forecast it offers, is the subject with which it is proposed to deal on this occasion.

England is so essentially a manufacturing and trading community that, notwithstanding there may be distress in other of her interests, when these are progressing well, the country may be said to be prosperous; at least, it wears the aspect of being so, notwithstanding that, as at this time, the agricultural interest may be suffering severely. The United States, on the contrary, is so markedly an agricultural nation that, even when the condition of her manufactures is not encouraging, she may, on the whole, be said to be flourishing. Therefore, without in the smallest degree underrating the importance of our agriculture, the place of first importance must be given to our trade, of which manufactures form an important branch. Herein lies a real difference between the United Kingdom and the United States, that the one has a large trade irrespective of her manufactures, whilst the trade of the other is principally in and with her own productions. British merchants, beyond purchasing for our own need or selling our own surplus, deal with and in the produce of every part of the world, whilst at present—we do not say how long it may be so—American traders are chiefly employed with the interchange of goods which she produces for sale, or imports for consumption. Almost everything that is grown or made finds a market here, and, what is of immense importance, may be made the means of raising money, until the state of the market suits for or compels a sale. It is through this that we are so deeply concerned with the welfare of every land—share in their prosperity or are partners in their adversity.

Trade, in the widest acceptance of the term, has to be divided into two separate branches, the home and the foreign—which, though closely connected and greatly dependent upon each other—are often very differently circumstanced and exercise a greatly differing influence on the general welfare. The profits of the home trade depend upon its activity, and they do not add to the wealth of the country as a whole. That wealth, so far as it arises from home industry, is the surplus remaining of that which labour produces, after that which the support of the labourers consume is deducted. If, as on a former occasion* I attempted to prove, every worker does, on an average, produce twice as much as suffices for his own support and that of the non-workers dependent upon him; one-half of that which he produces may become the subject of trade, and, unless wasted or consumed, be so much additional wealth to some one. Its transfer from hand to hand by the traders through whom it passes, though profitable to one or more of these, does not make it the more valuable as a contribution to the wealth of the nation. Not so with our foreign trade. Whatever difference of the value there may be between an article brought hither, and that with which it is paid for, is, if on the right side, so much added wealth; directly so, if in a permanent shape; indirectly so, if consumed in the sustenance of those whose labour produces something. But, once imported, no trading can give it additional value to the country; for, though one man may gain, it is at the expense of another. Home trade is the result of acquired wealth, and betokens, by its extent, the

existence of prosperity. Foreign trade, always supposing it not a losing one, is the creator of prosperity. For this reason, then, it is the prospects of Foreign trade which demand the chief consideration. One more distinction it is necessary to draw, that between the trade itself and the traders by whom it is carried on. Ordinarily, if the trade be good, the trader profits by it, but not necessarily so. A merchant may purchase a bale of cotton goods with so much money, expend so much more upon conveying it to a foreign market, and there sell it at a loss. He may have directed the proceeds to be expended in purchasing so much wheat, which, when it reaches him, may sell for less than it has cost him, and so make a double loss; yet, after all, the wheat, when it arrives, may be of more value than the cotton originally sent away. The country has been a gainer, though the trader has been a loser. It is the gain or loss which accrues to the country from this trade which it is proposed to consider, not that which pertains to the individual trader.

Again, our foreign trade must be divided into export and import. There is no need here to raise the much vexed question as to which of these it is that best evidences the prosperity of the country. That has been fully examined in a paper on the "True Relation in which Imports should stand to Exports;"† but, in the belief that, in the present conditions of the country, it is the exports on which our trading prosperity depends, they will, in the first place, occupy attention. This opinion receives striking confirmation from the following figures, commencing with 1872, admittedly the year in which the inflation of trade reached its greatest expansion, when, also, our exports of British produce and manufactures attained a higher value than any previous or succeeding year has seen, whilst our imports have not progressed in the same sequence. The goods exported, after having been previously imported from abroad, are excluded from both sides of the account‡:—

	Exports.	Imports.	Excess of
	In M'ion £'s to two Decimals.		Imports.
1872	256·26	296·36	40·10
1873	255·17	315·45	60·28
1874	239·56	311·99	72·43
1875	223·47	315·79	92·32
1876	200·64	319·01	118·37
1877	198·89	340·97	142·08
1878	192·85	316·14	123·29
1879	191·53	305·74	114·21
1880	222·81	350·00 (?)	127·19 (?)

As trading prosperity waned so did the amount of our exports fall off, as it waxed so have they begun to increase. They have not yet reached the level of 1872, but a growth similar to that which has taken place in the last year, would bring the present one up to almost the exact amount of 1872, the decade thus ending as it began.

A somewhat closer examination of these figures is necessary for an estimate of their true import. It would be tedious to go through all the various articles of export, and this having been done elsewhere, the result has been to show that, taking the three great industries of cotton, wool, and iron, the teaching they afford does not differ from that of the whole. It will be sufficient to take the three years—highest, lowest, and last—thus:—

Exported.	1872.	1879.	1880.
	£	£	£
Cotton manufactures	80·13	63·97	75·56
Iron including hardware and machinery	49·35	29·73	41·08
Woollen Manufactures	38·49	19·57	20·60
	167·97	113·27	137·24
Per-centage of whole exports	65	59	62

With these amounts, it may be useful to compare the quantities, so far as they are shown in bulk in the published returns, viz:—

Expected.	1872.	1879.	1880.
Cotton piece-goods (yards)...	3,535·16	3,724·65	4,496·34
Iron and Steel (tons)	3·39	2·88	3·79
Woollen piece-goods (yards)	384·82	232·90	240·00

* Same volume pp. 162-192.

† The tables throughout are constructed in millions to two decimals: thus, for 256·26, read 256,260,000.

* "Trade Population, and Food." London, 1880. pp. 114 et seq.

This comparison brings out the fact that, whilst the quantity of cotton piece-goods is larger 1880 than in 1872, by 25 per cent., the money value is actually smaller. For the same years, the price of the raw cotton imported having been in 1872, 68s. 5d.; 1879, 55s. 1d.; 1880, 55s. per cwt.

The tons of iron exported were 10½ per cent. more in 1880, the money value 21 per cent. less, the price of pigs being, in 1872, 102s. 2d.; 1879, 45s. 2d.; 1880, 53s. 10d. per ton.

The quantities of woollen piece-goods had fallen 42 per cent., the money value 46 per cent., whilst the price of the wool imported was—1872, 1s. 2½d.; 1879, 1s. 2½d.; 1880, 1s. 1d., per lb.

The inference to be drawn from these variations is, that in each class of goods the profits realised by the sale must have been much smaller in the last year than they were in the first of the three periods.

A glance at the values of our imports given above, will show that their amount, in the several years, does not vary with the degree of trading prosperity. In this they differ from the exports, and for more than one reason. For our exports we get the best price we can, and if the markets to which they are sent rule low, we must be content with small profits or none at all; whereas, with the imports, we must buy largely for our own sustenance, and if the prices are high we are compelled to pay them. The supplies of food we need depend much upon seasons of fertility or otherwise at home, but are steadily increasing with the growth of our home population; the whole of which increase must necessarily be thrown upon foreign sources, since we grow less by more than one-half than suffices to feed the existing numbers. Three classes of articles may be selected to illustrate the relation which these bore to the whole, in the same three years as were taken for the exports, thus:—

Imported.	1872. £	1879. £	1880. £
Articles for consumption as food and beverage	148-25	173-97	187-20
Materials for textile manufactures	92-40	73-11	84-23
Other manufactures, &c.....	50-79	46-81	61-82
	291-44	293-89	333-25

These figures disclose the fact that, whilst our food imports, as between the period of the highest prosperity and revival, 1872 and 1880, have increased 26 per cent., and other articles 22 per cent., there has been a decline of 9 per cent. in the value of the supplies taken for the support of our textile manufactures. But if the comparison be made between last year and its predecessor, it will be found that all have increased in the proportion of 8, 32, and 15 per cent. respectively.

A point of considerable importance, as regards the indications these figures afford of growing prosperity, is to ascertain whether these increases owe their existence to the sale or purchase of larger quantities or at higher prices. A series of very elaborate calculations into the values of 1879 and 1880 give these results as to the exports, that the gain in the value is due on:—

	Cotton £	%	Wool £	%	Iron £	%
To volume of export ...	9-01	83	69	70	6-16	70
To price at which sold..	1-87	17	30	30	2-70	30
	10-88		99		8-86	

From this it would appear that the additional profit obtained by our cotton manufactures (of 17 per cent.) has been, proportionately, far less than in our iron or wool, in which the relation of volume to value is exactly the same—30 per cent. So with our imports, the additional values in the one year over the other have arisen, in—

	Food £	%	Textile Materials £	%	Other £	%
From volume of imports	5-23	40	7-22	65	10-50	70
From price of imports	8-00	60	3-90	35	4-51	30
	13-23		11-12		15-01	

Showing that, to the higher cost of our food we owe 60 per

cent. of the increased payment, and to the other classes only 35-30 per cent. This is important, seeing that the one is consumed, the others are, to a considerable extent, recovered in the prices obtained on the sale of the manufactured goods.

Putting together the whole of the articles which have been included in these calculations—being all the principal ones that, from the nature of the information supplied, admit of such investigation—it will be seen that of exports, to the value of £203-12, in 1880, the excess over 1879 was £26-26, of which £18-68 was due to greater quantities, and £7-58 to higher prices. Of imports of foreign goods, to the value of £333-25, the excess was £39-36, of which £22-95 arose from greater bulk, and £16-41 was due to greater cost. That is, that for the extra receipts for exports we had to give 71 per cent. more in quantity, whilst out of our extra payments for imports, only 58 per cent. went for additional bulk.

From what has now been said, it is evident that there has been, during the past year, a real and substantial revival in the export trade of the country, accompanied by a still greater expansion of its imports. The real start in both, from the lowest point of 1879, is really greater than has been shown; for the turning point having been in August of that year, the gains in the latter months hide some of the losses in the former ones, as may be shown by altering the period of the year to which the twelve months are compiled, thus—

	Total Exports.	Imports.
12 months, ending 31st July.....	£214-24	£404-31
" " 31st Dec	222-81	409-99

Before proceeding in an attempt to forecast the future progress of our foreign trade, from the evidence afforded by the past, and especially the recent past, it may be well to inquire somewhat into the condition of the home trade; premising that the facts being much more difficult to ascertain, the results they give are inferential rather than positive.

Of the extent to which cotton has been manufactured for home use in the three several years, it is possible to form a tolerably correct judgment. By deducting from the weight imported the quantities exported in the raw condition, and then calculating at the generally accepted rate, of five yards to the lb., we can guess at the quantity that has, during the year, been absorbed in the manufacture of goods for domestic consumption. Thus—

	1872. cwt.	1879. cwt.	1880. cwt.
Raw cotton imported	12-64	13-17	14-55
Raw cotton exported	2-43	1-68	2-01
Retained in this country	10-21	11-49	12-54
Cotton piece goods exported....	6-30	6-60	8-00
Yarn and thread.....	2-—	2-20	2-—
	8-30	8-80	10-00
Leaving for home use.....	1-91	2-69	2-54

There is thus reason to think that the home demand cannot have been greater during the past year than in the previous one, though both considerably exceeded that of 1872.

As regards the progress of woollen manufactures, we are not able to calculate so closely, but some information is afforded by the quantities of the raw material imported and exported.

	1872. lbs.	1879. lbs.	1880. lbs.
Wool imported	380-80	500-20	568-37
Do. and yarn exported.....	184-91	292-40	281-02
Retained for use	195-89	207-80	287-35

It is not possible to estimate the weight of wool employed in the manufacture of the goods exported, but as these, in 1880, have not, in the gross, exceeded those of 1879, by so large a proportion as the raw material retained for use in the latter years has done; there is room for supposing that there has been a greater consumption at home, although the trading reports scarcely bear out this supposition.

Coming next to the iron industry, the raw material for which is principally of home production; we find that the impetus given to manufacture for export, has induced a more than corresponding increase in the number of furnaces put into blast, and hence the manufacture of a larger out-

put. It has been estimated that the quantities may stand thus:—

	1872. tons.	1879. tons.	1880. tons.
Pig iron produced	6·74	5·99	7·20
Importation of iron ore	·80	1·08	2·63
Exportation of manufactured iron	3·39	2·88	3·79

It is generally admitted that the stocks in hand are larger than they were last year; and, if so, it is difficult to see how there can be such a greatly increased demand for home consumption as is supposed. There can, however, be no doubt that the additional number of ships known to be on the stocks, or recently off them, must have required more iron for their construction. It is significant, too, that the exportation of iron in December last was some 22,000 tons less than in the same month of 1879, and that the stocks in bond in the United States, which has been our best customer of late, are greater than they were.

Another feature, which is generally and rightly taken to indicate the briskness of trade, is the amount of railway traffic receipts, which, as published, have during the past half-year amounted to £226·27, being an increase of £1·01 on the corresponding period of 1879. This, however, must not be attributed wholly to the home trade, for the carriage of goods, especially iron to the ports of export, and the transport of grain from the ports of import, will have added largely to this extension of traffic.

The London Clearing-house returns again are evidence that something which is worth money is passing from hand to hand. Yet this may not be so much from trade in goods as from speculation in funds, stocks, and shares, as may be inferred from the very large figures of settling days—1879, £4,859 millions; 1880, £5,716 millions.

Any review of our trading position, or attempt to estimate its progress during this or following years, must be incomplete if attention be not paid to the state of our finances. The low rate of interest at which money is to be lent, and the high price at which Consols or other stocks are to be sold, may evidence either that trade is so profitable as to provide large surpluses for investment, or so contracted as to leave little room for the employment of capital already acquired. As a rule, however, when trade is brisk, money is dear, and cheap in times of limited employment. This has been and is the case in the last and the present years, and the gradual hardening of the market induces the belief that money is now finding employment in trade rather than in fixed investments. Yet, it will not be safe to rely too much upon this as evidence, for with increasing facilities for interchange of money securities and credits, the plethora or scarcity of available money in this country may be affected by circumstances other than those of trade, at home as well as abroad. An attentive survey of the state of the money market, as evidenced in the Bank rates, the stocks of bullion held by the Bank, the prices of the public funds and other securities yielding a fixed income at the different periods of our commercial history, cannot fail to throw much light upon our trading condition at the present moment, and its probable progress in this and following years. But this subject is so much complicated by the operation of political movements in other countries as well as our own, and influenced by a variety of other causes, into which there is not time now to enter, that it must be passed somewhat lightly over.

The mere fact that money is plentiful or otherwise in New York, Vienna, or Paris instantly acts upon the available supply in London. Nor is it possible at all to ascertain where the money employed in any one trading or mercantile centre is really owned. Thus, English mercantile bills are constantly discounted in Paris and *vice versa*, just as the current rates of interest in the one place or other may make the process easy to be effected; and purchases of English funds or stocks may be made on American account without any movement of either bullion or goods. There is reason to believe that, during late years, when the balance of trade between England and the United States was increasingly against us, American securities held in England were largely bought back in payment for our excess of imports; and, though now it is stated that very large purchases of American railway and other stocks have been made here by *bona fide* investors, it is difficult to see how the purchase-money has been transmitted to the other side of the Atlantic; seeing that a comparatively small

amount of bullion has been sent over, whilst our obligations for imported food have been very large. Judging by present appearances, it would seem that there is no lack of money for trading purposes, or for increasing means of manufacturing articles for export, but very little disposition to put it fully to such uses; thus evidencing very little confidence in any great expansion of trade being about to arise.

Too much stress has been laid upon the great rise in the prices of all public securities, which is variously stated to have been 16 and 17 per cent. within the year, equalling upon three to four thousand million pounds sterling—the estimated amount held in the United Kingdom—an addition to capital of 450 to 600 millions, and this is spoken of as though it rendered the country actually more wealthy. No one really believes that the country's wealth has thus increased. An individual holder, or even a number of such, seeking to realise investments, may now do so to an advantage; but let the whole, or even a large number of such holders seek to turn their stocks into money, and prices would immediately recede. Yet this nominal growth of wealth is, to a great extent real for trade purposes. Bankers and others will lend on such securities more when they are high than low, or, at any rate, their owner can obtain more credit with which to traffic. It is this credit that creates so many fluctuations in trade. A belief arises that more goods will be required for exportation or consumption, and forthwith purchases are made, in the expectation of selling again. Prices go up, as willing buyers increase, until it is found that the real demand is small, and forthwith there is a rebound. This has been evidenced in the transactions of 1879-80. Orders came from America for iron, principally in the form of rails, or pigs to make rails; production was increased; prices went up, then fell, and now have partially risen—to fall, it is probable, still more when it is found that the demand has slackened or ceased. This demand really arose from two causes: the excessively low figure to which our prices had fallen, and the lamentable deficiency in our late harvests, which rendered large purchases of grain necessary. The ready sale which American agriculturists found for their produce induced the belief that extended cultivation would be profitable. To do this, additional railways were necessary, and, our rails being cheap, they, instead of money, were taken in payment. This saved us from the expected drain of bullion for the time, and, should our harvest this year prove good, may save us from it altogether. If so, the anticipated expansion of trade with the United States will not go on for any length of time. Other causes have acted in a similar manner upon other branches of trade, as evidenced in the following figures, showing the destinations of our additional exports during the twelve months ending 30th September last, as compared with the trade to the same countries in 1872 and 1879.

Value of Exports.	1871-2	1878-9	1879-80.
	£	£	£
To United States	40·53	16·80	31·99
„ British India	22·37	23·64	31·15
„ China and Japan	11·34	9·28	12·33
„ all other countries	173·02	138·32	142·01
Total	247·26	188·04	218·38

Thus the increase in our exports in the one year was:—

	£
To United States	15·19 = 90 per cent.
„ British India	7·51 = 32 „
„ China, Japan	3·05 = 33 „
„ Other countries	4·59 = 3 „

The similar figures for the year ending December last, are not yet published. The total, however, for the year, as found in the monthly return, is £222·81, or £4·43 above that for the twelvemonths ending in September, that being the excess of the last quarter of 1880 over that of 1879. The larger portion of this excess will, probably, be found to be to India; some to Australia and Canada, with whom our trade has been little of late. Yet, even when this is added, it will still be seen how limited has been the area of enlarged export. The “other countries”—that is, all the world besides America, India, China, and Japan—taking from us 143 millions out of 218, have not, at farthest, increased their purchases by more

than 5 or 6 per cent. Nor does this represent greater trade, since the general rise in prices will account for some 4 per cent. of the additional value, leaving the quantities of the goods much as they were before. With one-third of our customers we have done better business in 1880; with two-thirds it has remained stationary, even during the recent expansion; whilst, as compared with 1872, it has been worse, by from 20 to 25 per cent.

These are serious considerations as regards the anticipations which are to be formed for the future, and should enforce the utmost caution in all trading and manufacturing engagements. Yet it is to the newer countries, those which have not yet become peopled, or, if peopled, where arts, manufactures, and commerce have yet to be introduced or developed, that we must look for any permanent or profitable increase of trade. It is to these we should send our capital and labour, if we would create new markets or raise up new customers.

History, it is said, repeats itself, and if trade prosperity is to proceed as in former times, the cycle must be near its end, and the advent of its highest tide be at hand. It is necessary, therefore, to study the course of the past fall and rise, that we may know how and when we may expect its completion. Such also would seem to be the general expectation of all who are engaged in trade. Most of the circulars issued at the commencement of the year speak of the past 12 to 16 months as those in which there has been much fluctuation, but withal a growing improvement which promises to become fully developed in the months or years soon to follow. The late depression has been longer than its predecessors, and from this it is inferred that the revival will be more rapid. But such repetition seldom or never is complete in all its features, and it may be well to look also at the points in which the present condition contrasts with that of the years during which the last flood was running.

In 1870, the exports of British produce and manufacture rose but ten millions; in 1880, they increased more than thirty; whilst the imports retained for home use, in 1870, were only swelled by the same ten millions, whereas in 1880 the addition has been to the extent of forty-five millions of money. The total imports retained may be thus divided:—

	1870.	1880.
Food.....	100 ...	185 (?)
Raw material	119 ...	120 (?)
Manufactured	40 ...	45 (?)
	259	350 (?)

In 1870, our imports exceeded our exports by £59 millions, in 1880 by 127. In 1870, we had had in succession three of the best harvests ever known: in 1880, with one exception, six of the worst. In 1870, the population which produced our 200 millions of exports, and consumed the 100 millions foreign supplies of food, was 31 millions; in 1880 it will probably have numbered 35 who were only able to export 222 millions, whilst consuming 185. In all these respects the condition of the country was widely different from that of the present time, and it seems impossible that trade should run the same course.

Again, 1870-1 was the year of the Franco-German War, which—whilst it rendered both countries in large measure dependent on this to supply their wants—paralysed their own trade, and lessened their powers of production. Now, ten years of peace has enabled both of them greatly to increase their trade, and that in many articles which rival ours. America was scarcely beginning to recruit the resources wasted in her civil war. Now she is entering upon a competition and race with Great Britain, the keenness and fierceness of which promises to exceed the wildest expectations which could have been entertained ten, or even five, years ago. The power of supplying the wants of the world has increased in greater degree than those wants have grown, or rather than the means of paying for their supply have expanded; and we have not preserved our relative superiority in producing power.

To take another view of the case; in 1870, we were at peace with all the world; we have now to meet the cost and overcome the disorganisation resulting from contests in India and the Cape; from the decay of the Turkish Empire, the trade with which was to us, formerly, a source of the greatest profit: and, however soon the condition of Ireland may change, there can be no doubt that its present

state is entailing losses which must have an effect upon our commercial progress.

All these considerations should check any exuberant hopes that the inflation of 1872-3 is about to be revived. The progress already made during the past year has been very spasmodic. Of this no surer token can be adduced than the fluctuations in the price of iron, the article of our trade with which the revival commenced, and on the continued demand for which much extravagant expectation has been based. It is but too evident that speculative action drove the prices of this and other things far higher than the extent of the trade in them warranted; and though at present prices may be at a fair level, they are not so as to yield great profits. Any permanent increase in cost or selling price would, in all probability, put a check to demands which, there is reason to believe, grew out of exceptional circumstances not likely to exist for any length of time.

It is the undue influence of this speculative element which threatens to revive the fatal inflation of 1872-73, for though during that period there was much real accession of wealth to the country as well as to individuals, there was still more that was false. Since then, and as the result in great measure of the course then pursued, there have been sad and heavy losses; not solely to the wild speculators the cessation of whose butterfly term of prosperity there is no reason to deplore. In such seasons the hard-earned savings of the prudent and careful, the provision made for widows and orphans, become placed in the hands of financiers, who unduly stimulate trade, only to prepare the way for renewed depression, and for all the misery which such catastrophes as the Glasgow and West of England Bank failures inflict upon the undeserving sufferers. Yet, altogether undeserving many of those who suffer can scarcely be said to be. It is the speculative spirit which seems to possess so many of all classes, that opens the door for those who thrive by its existence and cultivation. Since 1872, the number of these, and the boldness of their flights, have vastly increased, and it is painful to see how constantly the writers on trade subjects speak of speculation, as though it were the legitimate basis upon which the expansion of trade is entitled to rest. To judge by present indications, if trade does so rapidly revive, it will have very little firm ground upon which to stand. There is really nothing more solid to justify the extravagant anticipations so generally formed—nothing more likely than this speculation to wreck the prospects which may be safely entertained, that the gradual, though slow, improvement may be maintained.

What, for instance, are the prospects that our trade with America will next year, exceed that of the last? She found us in want of increased supplies of food, owing to our bad harvests; and from her extended agriculture supplies our wants. She found, too, that our iron trade was suffering great depression, that prices were so low as to permit importation into her country profitable, even under prohibitory duties (levied as such, more than for revenue purposes). We purchased her corn at good prices, and paid for it with iron, sold at the outset at poor prices. Believing that this state of things permitted of continuance, and flush of means from her profitable exports, she determined to lay down rails, to enable cultivation to be extended further inland; thus taking off our hands accumulated stocks, and even new supplies, at prices which became as they went higher, the stimulus to further production. Unless, however, in the meantime, new openings for trade can be found, it is not at all probable that this will continue. A good harvest at home, should we have one this year, will leave much of the grain now growing for our market as surplus stock in the hands of the Western growers, and thus prevent the continuance of the purchases from our manufacturers which has had so much to do with sending prices up. Should this be the case, it may, in the end, not be disadvantageous to us, for so soon as agricultural production in that country exceeds the demand, or from other causes prices fall so as to be less profitable, the growers there will become unwilling to protect their various manufacturing interests, at an excessive cost to themselves, and thus bring about the reduction or abandonment of prohibitive or excessive duties. This is the direction in which we may look for the growth in America of free-trade principles, the establishment of which must, sooner or later, be consummated. This may,

for a time, be allowing our manufactures to come in to competition with her own; but the progress she is making in the neutral markets of the world forbid the hope that she will long allow us to hold our ground where our products have hitherto predominated, still less increase her internal consumption of those imports which she has in herself the power of producing. The figures already quoted show that our exports thither are not on the increase, and when the next quarterly return of values appears, it will probably show that the trade with her in our own manufactures has already begun to decline.

If we turn to India, the country which, next to the United States, has contributed most to the revival of our export trade, the prospect is more hopeful. Yet, even there, the recent exports must be deemed exceptional. During the famine, her power of purchasing was limited; much that has been sent there during the past year has been to supply previous deficiencies, and it is understood that stocks of cottons are accumulating. Two-thirds of our exports thither consist of cotton manufactures, and though it may not be for some time to come, it is not probable that India, with the raw material on the spot, and with labour so much cheaper than here, will, any more than America, fail to manufacture for herself. There is greater likelihood of her requiring larger supplies of iron to extend her railway system, though this must come slowly; but the capitalist who would now erect cotton mills with the intention of manufacturing more largely for Indian customers, must be guided more by faith than reason.

The third principal quarter from whence large orders for our manufactures have come is China and Japan. Here, again, far more than the half of the goods these countries take from us are cotton in pieces and yarns—a trade which is likely to continue, and may greatly increase. At present there seems little opening for selling them iron in any quantity, but so intelligent a people are sure, before long, to see the advantages of railway communication; and unless we are beaten out of the market by our neighbours in Belgium and Germany, there is every reason to anticipate that these people may prove extensive customers. There is no absurdity, however, in the belief that when that day comes it will be accompanied, or preceded, by such an eruption of the Chinese labourers as may seriously compete with our own workers, in our own places of production.

It is exceedingly unsatisfactory to find that the Australian colonies have contributed little to the recent growth of our exports. Canada has done much better in 1880; but then 1879 was one in which she fell off in her demands for our goods. There seems but little reason for hoping that any great extension of trade to these colonies will speedily take place. The South African trade must receive a severe check—excepting for the necessities expended in war—from what has, and is, taking place there.

So far, then, as the present outlets for the products of our mining and manufacturing industries are concerned, there would appear to be very little solid basis on which to hope for any great extension of our trade in the present or coming years. It may even be that the revival has reached its height, unless wild speculation attempts to force our goods on markets in advance of their requirements.

It will be gathered from what has been now said, in connection with his previous expressions of opinion, accompanied by copious compilations of figures, that the writer sees but little to desire in the rapid extension of the import trade; and that he sees nothing to regret in the fact which last month's official returns manifest, that this expansion has received a check. The figures of the coming year will possibly prove this to have been something more than accidental or temporary. Without again going over the ground so well trodden on former occasions, it may now suffice to say that he sees no reason to doubt the soundness of two arguments, which he thinks the history of the past decade should remove from the region of controversy—namely, that a continued growth of imports, unaccompanied by a corresponding increase in the exports, cannot be an evidence of increasing wealth; and that it is by no means satisfactory to find that the whole value of our exports, deducting the cost of foreign materials which enter into their manufacture, now falls far short of the price we have to pay for the food which our increasing population requires for its support. Further, that so long as our in-

creasing population fails to spread itself over the unoccupied and uncivilised lands which lie ready for cultivation; and continues its present wasteful expenditure of substance, labour, and life, the prosperity of the country requires the expansion of its export trade far beyond the present bounds, or those that seem to be within reach. With one other remark, he would bring this already too extended paper to a close. It is this, that for such expansion the fullest freedom of trade is absolutely essential, and hence, that any attempt to fetter it with the shackles of reciprocity, or to crush it under the dead weight of protection, would be fatal to the continuance of that trade on which, under present conditions, our existence as a nation depends.

DISCUSSION.

Mr. Samuel Hill said he should have liked to have heard Mr. Bourne's criterion of value. His experience taught him that the prices put down at the Custom-house were nothing like the cost, or mercantile price. He would also point out that the import values were inclusive of freight, while the exports were not. He remembered the first shipments of rails to the American markets, when the prices realised, including an *ad valorem* duty, were no test of the price obtained by the English merchant. He did not agree that the large exports of rails to America had been principally paid for in cereals, for, in many instances, he believed they were paid for in American railroad and other securities. These were points to be borne in mind in determining our future trade with America. The late activity in this line was attributable to the facts that the price was very low, and that iron-masters were so desirous of increasing their trade, that they took securities, which, in cooler moments, they would not look at. A very important question, which had not been dealt with, was that of labour. There were two giant forces, capital and labour, and if they opposed each other the danger was as great as the collision between two steamships or two express trains; yet sufficient attention was not paid to keeping up good relations between these two forces, nor was the dignity inherent in labour sufficiently recognised.

Mr. Cornelius Walford was glad to find Mr. Bourne, in some degree, more hopeful than he had been in the past. He had been accustomed to think that if trade should never again revive, but become worse, Mr. Bourne would have been one of the greatest men alive, because he had always predicted it, but now he feared his fate would be more like that of Goodwin the astrologer, who predicted the burning of London, but he was so much ridiculed for having done so, that he denied having made the prophecy only a few weeks before the great fire occurred. He (Mr. Walford) thought there were decided indications of improvement in trade; but he was not at all sure that the cycle or sun-spot theory had not misled a great many people. It was quite true that, looking at the history of commerce for the last century and a-half, there were recurring periods of expansion and depression, and the latter had always been accompanied by predictions such as were now made. About 1819, the agricultural interest was believed to be as much depressed as it was now, and it was said it would never recover, but while it did recover, he was disposed to think that it was in a worse state now that it was then. There was no doubt that America was the great rival of Europe with regard to agricultural produce, and it must be so. It would be a bad day for America, if our harvests were more productive. But apart from details, the general question was this—was it possible, with the vast ramifications of trade, to bring together in one focus all the circumstances, which went to make up the greatness of a nation? He thought not. With all the skill and knowledge that even Mr. Bourne could bring to bear on the question, he did not think it was possible to truly forecast the future. And it was well it was so, or speculation would be more rife even than it was at the present. When he saw these great periods of expansion, when the exports approached or exceeded the imports, he did not consider they were the periods of greatest prosperity, but rather the immediate precursors of panics, when the fruit of the speculation of the past was becoming ripe. He hoped, therefore, that, taking a lesson by the past, whatever trade was doing now would be done with safety, and then, if individual or even national profits were smaller, the progress made

would be more secure. They would then have an honourable trade, and one which was good for all concerned in it. The thing required, in his mind, was steady progress, and he was quite sure that the discussion of these questions by Mr. Bourne, the Chairman, and others had done good. The problem had been considered all over the world, and though some of the colonies were taking a course with regard to protection which they at home might think wrong, still there two sides to every question, and the colonies which exported so much raw produce might be justified in taking a course which, to us in England, who imported so much, might seem wrong. No man could safely predict the future in these matters, for he must bow to the force of events.

Mr. Christian Mast thought there was a contradiction in the paper between theory and practice. The practice, as carried out in the figures, was excellent, but the theory at the beginning seemed to be that of cycles, which was not trustworthy. All the circumstances of trade must have causes, and in his opinion the causes were terrestrial only, and had nothing to do with the sun. If Europe was prosperous, it must result either from good harvests, or from the state of affairs and society. He thought periods of prosperity could always be traced to public tranquillity, and bad periods to a disturbed state, social or political. Nothing appeared to him plainer than that in 1871 England was prosperous because France and Germany were depressed, and so in other periods.

Capt. Bedford Pim, R.N., said he must join issue with Mr. Bourne as to the last part of his paper, wherein he deprecated reciprocity and protection. If any one looked around, at the results of free trade, he must feel unbounded astonishment that any one had been wild enough to follow such a Will-o'-the-Wisp. There was not a nation on the face of the earth which had followed Great Britain in this respect, and they could hardly suppose they were the only people in the world who knew what was beneficial. Take the United States. In 1869, they owed £551,000,000; but, in ten years, they had paid off no less than 128 millions sterling, and were now progressing by leaps and bounds, whilst England had only paid off 10 millions of debt since the Queen's Accession. Free trade was to have given cheap food, but Mr. Bourne had admitted that provisions were dearer all round than they used to be. He would at once put a duty of 5s. a quarter on corn, which would produce five millions of revenue, and would only increase the price of bread 3d. on 14 quarters, while it would enable the English farmer to live. Mr. Read told him that it was impossible to grow corn in England under 40s. a quarter, whilst the Americans could lay it down here at 38s.; so that a 5s. duty would equalise matters. Again, in his own profession, it was most important that we should have grain brought in our own ships, but, owing to the repeal of the navigation laws, 80 per cent. of our seamen were foreigners. He was not going to run down foreigners, and the Russian Finns made splendid sailors, but suppose there were a war with Russia, they would not bring grain cargoes to England. Corn would, in such a case, no doubt, be made contraband of war. A Bill had just been declared urgent in the French Senate for giving bounties to French shipping, and no doubt it would very soon become law. What was England going to do then? Her sugar industry had already been ruined, and 20,000 men thrown out of work by the French bounty system. Steam and telegraphs came into being soon after the free trade system, and soon after came the gold discoveries in Australia and California, things caused an expansion of the trade, but that was a very different thing from extension. In conclusion, he expressed his opinion that there was never a more complete piece of humbug than free trade.

Mr. B. Francis Cobb said there could be no doubt of the value of the paper, whatever criticisms might be made upon it. He himself should be inclined to criticise some portions of it, as, for instance, where the author said that when a thing was once imported into this country it did not alter its value the more it was manipulated; but if that manipulation consisted of labour expended upon it, and was then re-exported, there was certainly a gain to that country. There was no doubt a great deal to be said on the question of freight, as bearing on the value of exports and imports. The value of money as an importing power was less than it was, and the same quantity of money did

more work now than formerly, owing to telegraphic communications. If he wanted to import seeds from India, he had only to give security to an English bank, and he could telegraph out a credit to his agent in India, who could purchase what he required at once, so that an immense amount of the capital which was formerly required to carry out such operations was saved. By this means a much smaller per-centage of profit would repay the merchant, because much less capital was required than in days gone by. All this made it more difficult to forecast the state of trade for the future. When a want arose it was immediately supplied, and there was not the same opportunity for speculation. With regard to Captain Pim's remarks about the colonies and free trade, he would recommend him to compare New South Wales and Victoria. The former, which was a free trade colony, was fast outstripping Melbourne, which was saddled with high protective duties. With regard to foreign sailors, though he had not the statistics at hand, he was convinced there were as many Englishmen under the British flag as there were 30 or 40 years ago; there were certainly as many British subjects.

Mr. Liggins said Mr. Bourne deserved their thanks for the able and exhaustive paper he had prepared, but he was surprised at the conclusion arrived at, to which Captain Pim had already referred. The author had given figures which he considered most disastrous for the future of English trade, and he had stated most truly that the growth of imports, unaccompanied by a corresponding increase of export, could not be considered as evidence of increasing wealth. He (Mr. Liggins) read in the *Times* that morning that one of the largest steamers belonging to the Steam Navigation Company, the *Libra*, had been in collision in the river, and she going to Hamburg in ballast to fetch a full cargo of manufactured goods for this country, and he did not see how that could be a transaction for the benefit of England. He had always understood that they lived by what they sold, not by what they bought. He was a West Indian proprietor, ruined by free trade, which he could not too strongly denounce. Another thing he saw in the *Times*, was the loss of an English ship, bound from Demerara to New York, with a cargo consisting of the produce of English colonies, intending to return from the United States with a cargo of manufactured goods. How could that be to the advantage of England? He had in his hand a West Indian newspaper, in which three out of four of the advertisements were from New York traders. One third of the crop of Antigua went last year to New York. All those islands were sending their sugar to America to be manufactured, and that only came to England which was mortgaged to English merchants. He was a shipowner, and the greater part of the sailors he had to employ were foreigners, and he feared that, in case of a war, we should find a difficulty in getting men to man our ships and fight our battles. Mr. Bourne's figures were black enough, but he did not think they were as black as the reality. He could corroborate what Captain Pim had said about French shipping, for only lately a French nobleman had told him that France intended to do all the trade of the world, and to drive England out of the market. But there was a worse feature even than that, for there was a strong agitation going on in America to subsidise American ships, in order to drive the large English steamers off the line. He held shares in one of the largest steamship companies, which last year paid no dividend, and he knew of one Liverpool vessel which lost £4,000 by one voyage. This could not go on. If England lost her ships, her colonies, and her commerce, the figures would soon be much worse than any Mr. Bourne had given. He did not think it was fair to compare 1879 and 1880, because accidental circumstances might show an improvement in one year; the comparison ought to be made with 1872. With regard to the sugar industry, he considered it a great mistake to take the duty off sugar. It produced five millions of revenue, and gave the working man an opportunity of contributing something to the revenues of a nation which gave him such high wages. Working men were beginning to see that a free breakfast table was a mistake, and meant low wages. The working classes should rather make the things they manufactured higher in price, and then they would get good wages; nine-tenths of them were now beginning to see that free trade brought them low wages. In the Kensington Town-hall £10,000 worth of Belgian iron was employed,

and in the Albert-hall, £70,000 worth, and that was certainly no benefit to the working classes. The figures showed they were importing more than they were exporting, which must mean ruin in the end.

Mr. Pfoundes said, when he was in Japan and China, he had many opportunities of mixing with the natives, and looking at trade questions from the native point of view, and the result of his experience was that one of the most crying needs for successful English commerce was more competent agents. For want of these, most important work was committed to natives, who, of course, used the information they obtained for their own benefit. Again, the old-fashioned system of English trade there was on far too expensive a scale—a greater part of the time of the agents being spent at the club, tiffin, or full-dress dinners—the consequence being that our trade charges were out of all proportion to those incurred by the more thrifty of our continental competitors. Again, in the consular service, young men, admirably trained in many respects, were sent out, but they were not allowed to engage in trade; they knew nothing of trade matters, and could not compete with the representatives of other countries. He could not agree with the criticism of a previous speaker, that Mr. Bourne's figures were not trustworthy.

Mr. Hill asked if Mr. Bourne could give an idea of the present purchasing power of money as compared with 1826 or 1828.

The Chairman said that though the discussion had been interesting, it had to a certain extent been discursive, one or two sentences in the paper having led into a discussion of the principles of free trade. He should not go into that question at any length, because, notwithstanding what had been said, he should assume that the majority of those present and at any rate the Society, as a whole, were sound free-traders. He must remark, however, that notwithstanding all the predictions which had been made as to the evils which would follow our free trade system, the ruin had been very long in coming, and he was prepared to maintain that, at the present time, there was no country in the world, not even excepting the United States, more prosperous than Great Britain, or where such a large mass of people had employment at good wages, and had so fair an opportunity of enjoying life in health and comfort. With regard to foreign countries imitating our free trade policy, he might remark that if they were at all logical, they would carry their protective system much farther; the United States, for instance, should not only have a tariff against foreign countries, but New York should have a tariff against Massachusetts, and so on, so as to get the utmost benefit from the protective policy. There was not the smallest foundation for the statement that 20,000 men had been thrown out of employment in the sugar industry; at the present moment there was more sugar being refined in the United Kingdom than at any former period, and if there were fewer people employed, it was owing to improvements in the mode of manufacture. Even if there were foundation for the statement, it would not follow that the less employment was due to the bounties given by the foreign Governments, and this question had never been faced by those who had been promoting the agitation against the sugar bounties. Coming to the paper itself, he should like to say that, so far as he could judge, although it was a little less gloomy in its statements than some former papers by Mr. Bourne, still on the whole, there was a tendency to too much gloom, both in the facts and in the anticipations put forward. For instance, in speaking of the iron trade, he threw doubt on the suggestion that the home consumption had increased. Now he had occasion, some time ago, to look somewhat narrowly into the figures, and satisfied himself that from October to the end of December, there had been an increase of something like 25 per cent. in the home consumption of iron; for although the foreign shipments had decreased, the increased stock, as compared with the same period of last year, was very small, so that the immense increase in the production must have been nearly all absorbed in various manufactures at home. With regard to the cotton trade, Mr. Bourne said that stocks were supposed to be accumulating in the East; but, as far as he could discover from trade circulars, those stocks were extremely well absorbed into consumption. Another fact, from which he seemed to draw a gloomy conclusion, was, that last year there was no increase of exports to Australia;

but he recollected very well, that two or three years ago, when our exports to foreign countries were diminishing, those to the colonies, and partly to Australia, were increasing. It was hardly fair to expect every year to show an increase to every country in the world; there must be ups and downs, and there might be special circumstances which lowered the export to Australia in one particular year and they might be well satisfied with the increase which had taken place in our Australian trade during the last nine or ten years. With regard to the main question, he must take exception to the apparently exaggerated importance attached to foreign trade; and he did not agree that in matters of home trade what one man gained must necessarily be at the expense of another; as a rule, every exchange which took place was to the mutual benefit of both parties. He believed the home trade, and not the foreign, was really the important matter. Mr. Bourne also seemed to found his anticipations for the future on the assumption that trade revived more quickly than it went back, and that when it began to revive, the highest point was soon reached, and he gave as an instance the period of the Franco-German war. Now he took exception to that altogether. The revival of trade there referred to, did not commence after the war, but long before, and was in full swing when the war broke out. He remembered noting the revival of trade which took place in Lancashire in the autumn of 1869, and 1870 was really a very prosperous year, so much so, that when the war broke out, it caught the stock Exchange in the full swing of speculation, and the result was a panic, unprecedented in the memory of the present generation. The proper year, therefore, to compare with 1880, was 1870. It was very likely that the present revival had been unusually rapid; but whether it would soon attain its maximum, and give place to a reaction, was a question which he agreed with Mr. Walford it would not be wise to discuss with too much obstinacy on one side or the other. They could never be sure, with all the pains they might take to form an absolutely correct anticipation of what would happen. According to past experience, there was reasonable ground for supposing that business would go on improving, but it would be foolish to attempt to predict with certainty. Some of the political causes for not expecting a very favourable result he thought Mr. Bourne had dwelt too much upon, for instance, the political troubles in India and at the Cape. The amount of money involved, though large, was very small when compared with the magnitude of our commerce. The succession of bad harvests had probably had much more influence. He would conclude by expressing his entire approval of Mr. Bourne's remarks with respect to the state of speculation at the present time especially in securities. There could be no doubt that the advance, which was the cause of so much satisfaction to many people, was only a change in the nominal expression of wealth, and represented no real increase. People were really no richer than they were before, and one of the dangers of the future was the length to which the speculator might go.

Mr. Bourne, in reply, regretted that the main purport of his paper had not received more consideration. The point for consideration was what lessons for the future could be drawn from the past, so that their operations might be guided accordingly; and he must remind the meeting that, having previously written several papers, which would be found collected in a volume in the Library, he had now omitted many points with which he had before dealt. For instance, he had fully considered the question raised by Mr. Hill with regard to the influence of freight on the value of exports and imports; and on the present occasion, his object being to compare one period with another, the figures being on the same basis throughout, their absolute accuracy was not of importance. The purchasing power of money was much too large a question to say anything useful upon at that late hour. His object had not been to give a gloomy view, but to put the facts fairly before the public, and he must congratulate himself that he had been the means of directing attention to the real state of the case, which had not been without some advantage in the influence it had had on the conduct pursued. He looked with a great deal of suspicion on the progress of our trade, and a great deal of the political economy of the present day, but, as for looking with any depression on the condition of England, he did not. He only wished

to point out the sources from which she might arrive at a grandeur and wealth far beyond what she had ever achieved. The two great requisites were the study of economy and an attempt to follow the American example by taking in our outlying territories, moving our population east, west, north, and south, and embracing in the sphere of our cultivation those portions of our dominions which would furnish prosperous and comfortable homes to those who were now in poverty and destitution. He had no pretensions to prophecy; he only reasoned on the past, to show why it justified an anticipation of the future, and wherein present circumstances differed from past, so that we might learn how best to meet that which was coming. This was the same as was now done with regard to the weather; we obtained information from America of what was passing there at the moment, and from that drew conclusions as to the weather we might shortly expect in Europe. If he had dwelt more upon the gloomy side, it was because it was more important to guard against possible evils, than to look out for coming prosperity. He had no belief in cycles or the sun-spot theory; but there was the fact, that alternate periods of the inflation and depression had hitherto occurred pretty regularly, and this led many people to suppose that the same thing must happen again, and so speculate largely on the first indications of a revival; and it was this he wished to guard against, as it led to artificial inflation and a corresponding depression which need not otherwise occur. When he said the rise was more rapid than the fall, he alluded to this influence. He was glad the Chairman agreed with him that the speculation at present going on was excessive; he feared it would produce an inflation, for which they would suffer severely afterwards. He could not now discuss the question of free trade, but it must be remembered that the circumstances of England differed so greatly from other countries, that we must needs follow a different policy. Here we had a population which we could not feed from our own stores; while America had a population which could not consume half of what she raised. As to the statement that we wanted an extension of trade, rather than an expansion, that was the argument he had constantly enforced; we wanted to enlarge our sphere of operations. With regard to the periods he had selected, 1872 was the period of highest elevation, and 1879 that of the lowest depression, and, therefore, he thought they were fairly selected. Mr. Liggins regretted that so much of our colonial sugar went to New York, but for his part he thought if we could get good customers in any part of the world it was matter for congratulation. The question of exports and imports he had treated fully elsewhere. He was surprised at the Chairman thinking he had taken too gloomy a view, but as he had already said, his only object had been to guard against possible evils, on the principle that forewarned was forearmed. Still, he could not take the cheerful view which was adopted by many writers at present. All the writings of the day seemed in favour of speculation and that led to the inflation, which caused a subsequent depression. With regard to the home consumption of iron, he had taken the figures from trade circulars. The assumed make and the annual export did not leave a sufficient balance to account for the enormous home consumption which was generally assumed.

The Chairman said that the exports were very large in the early part of the year, and the increased consumption at home was mainly in the last three months.

Mr. Bourne said he had only quoted the absolute figures. At any rate, he thought the exports of iron were likely to fall off. With regard to the troubles in India and the Cape, it was not altogether the amount of expenditure to which he referred, but to the fact that we had been killing our customers rather than encouraging them. The question of the morality of the proceedings was one which he would not attempt to enter upon. He was glad that Mr. Giffen endorsed what he said about speculation, for it was that they had most to fear at present. The belief that the trade must necessarily advance by leaps and bounds, was likely to produce a vast amount of that evil, and the growth of the speculative spirit in the present day had raised up and maintained a large portion of the community, who, instead of being producers, were living on the labours of others; and this was one of the most disastrous things connected with trade which could happen. No language can be too strong to condemn the fact of our having in our midst such a large

number of non-producers, who did nothing whatever to add to the wealth of the country, but simply by passing goods from hand to hand, and stimulating purchases to an undue extent, absorbed from the honest labourers a large proportion of their gains. This was one of the most fatal elements in the present constitution of our trading society, and the one most necessary to guard against.

Votes of thanks to Mr. Bourne and the Chairman concluded the proceedings.—*Journal of the Society of Arts.*

CORRESPONDENCE.

[Our readers must distinctly understand that we are in no sense responsible for the sentiments or opinions of our Correspondents, for the accuracy of their assertions or for the deductions they may choose to draw therefrom.]

TO THE EDITOR OF THE "JAPAN WEEKLY MAIL."

SIR,—I see that the *Japan Gazette* daily makes the assertion that it is "the only independent journal published in Japan;" that is to say, that all the other newspapers are under corrupt influence. Can the *Gazette's* statement be true? If so, then the entire press of Japan, with the solitary exception of the *Gazette* itself, is in a condition of lamentable dependence and shameful degradation.

As this is matter of general public concern, I shall send a copy of this letter to all the foreign newspapers whose honor is assailed by the *Gazette*, and shall await the reply which the accusation demands, which will be read with interest by every one interested in the integrity of the Press.

I remain,

A FRIEND OF THE TRUTH.

April 13th, 1881.

REUTER'S TELEGRAMS.

LONDON, 8th April, 1881.

The Chancellor of the Exchequer proposes a reduction of one penny in the income tax and the gradual abolition of the duty on plate, as he expects a surplus of £300,000 over the expenditure.

[SUPPLIED TO THE "HONGKONG DAILY PRESS."]

London, March 30th.

Potchefstroom capitulated to-day. The British loss was 108 killed and wounded. Peace conditions have been signed.

Mr. Parnell is organizing an English Land League. The Sultan has requested a contingent of the Egyptian Army in the event of war occurring with Greece. The Earl of Beaconsfield is very ill.

JAPANESE ITEMS.

[The following Notes on various Japanese matters are chiefly derived from the native papers, occasionally supplemented from original sources of information, and are carefully collated and edited, so as to make them readable and intelligible.]

COURT, POLITICAL AND OFFICIAL.

The *Hochi Shinbun* states that the newly established Agricultural and Commercial Bureau has been opened in the Home Department. His Excellency Kono, Minister, and Mr. Shimagawa, Vice-Minister, attended on the morning of the 8th inst., and conferred together on business connected with the department. His Excellency Fukuoka, newly appointed Minister of Education, went also to the Educational Department, the same day and made a systematic inspection.

The *Mainichi Shinbun* writes:—On the morning of the 8th instant His Imperial Highness Kita Shirakawa-no-Miya went to Yokohama, and visited the German corvette *Vineta*. At about half-past nine o'clock the same morning the *Vineta*, with His Imperial Highness on board, went for a short trip.

The same paper states that His Excellency Admiral Enomoto, Minister of the Navy, was made a member of the Senate, and appointed Envoy Extraordinary and Minister Plenipotentiary for France on the 7th inst.; it is also stated that he is likely to decline the appointment. The same paper says His Excellency Admiral Kawamura, Privy Councillor, has been appointed Naval Minister in addition to his present functions.

We learn from the same source that in the Foreign Depart-

ment, owing to the reduction of its appropriation, only one secretary will be kept in each of the Japanese Legations abroad, and the rest will be dismissed.

It is stated in another paper that the Russian Minister at Tokio, was received in audience by His Majesty the Emperor, at 11 a.m. on the 7th instant.

The *Akebono Shinbun* says that Their Imperial Highnesses the Empress and Empress Dowager intend to visit the National Exhibition shortly, and that two officials were sent from the Imperial Household Department to the Exhibition to make the necessary preparations.

The *Hochi Shinbun* states:—The grant for the newly established Agricultural and Commercial Department has not yet been fixed, so that the sum of 50,000 yen has been borrowed from the Home Department and appropriated for the payment of necessary expenses. The affairs of the two rice exchanges at the capital, which were heretofore under the control of the Finance Department, have been handed over to the new Department, and the brokers engaged seem to be more active in consequence, expecting some regulative reforms for the transaction of their business. The paper quoted adds:—"Even though a radical change may not be made, we believe some schemes better adapted to both agricultural and commercial interests than those which exist at present, will be effected by the establishment of the new Department."

The *Nichi Nichi Shinbun* writes:—It is stated that His Majesty the Emperor will visit the National Exhibition on the 14th inst., and that the visit of Their Majesties the Empress and Empress Dowager, which was announced for the 12th inst., has been postponed.

The *Mainichi Shinbun* states that His Excellency Okuma, Privy Councillor, in accordance with a previous invitation, visited the Italian Legation on the afternoon of the 9th inst.

The same paper writes:—We have stated before that the new commercial laws would be issued shortly; we further learn that they are being compiled with all possible despatch, and that five officials, from the Legislative Section of the Council of State, attend daily at the Tokio Saibansho in order to perfect the documents necessary to its completion.

The *Hochi Shinbun* says that regulations for the patenting of new inventions were issued some years ago, but from some cause or other were soon abolished. However, it is now reported that owing to the establishment of the Agricultural and Commercial Department, regulations will again be issued and the necessary steps are now being taken by the authorities.

Another paper states that His Majesty the Emperor will go to Atsuki, in the province of Sagami, in the early part of next month, to be present at a sham battle in which the Imperial guard will take part.

NAVAL AND MILITARY.

We learn from a native paper that the plans for Coast defence, which are being drawn up by the authorities, are almost completed, and that the Minister of War has informed the Sappers' Section, that plans and details will be issued immediately.

A telegram has been received to the effect that the *Riujo-kwan*, which was, some time since, despatched for Australia, arrived safely at Melbourne on the 8th inst.

The same paper extracts the following from the *Heiji Shinbun*:—There will be no further enrollment of cadets in the Naval College this year, as the present number is far in excess of the number of vacancies which may be expected to occur. However, twelve more cadets, between the ages of 14 and 16 years, are to be entered in the Engineering School at Yokosuka.

This paper further states that all the crews of the Japanese men-of-war at present undergoing repairs at Yokosuka, will shortly be drilled in shore practice.

The *Nichi Nichi Shinbun* gives the following:—The *Settsu-kwan*, after being repaired, will be mounted with guns in the Naval College, and then used as a training ship for exercising the naval cadets in gun practice. The hulk of the *Kanko-kwan* is so greatly damaged that repairs are considered useless, and she will be kept in use as long as possible and then broken up. In the

ammunition factory at Itabashi, 2,000 boxes of best gunpowder (each containing 30 *kumme*) are being manufactured; they are for use in coast defence service.

From the same source we learn that His Excellency Admiral Kawamura, newly appointed Minister of the Navy, visited his Department on the morning of the 11th instant, and on the afternoon of that day went to Yokosuka to inspect the men-of-war in dock.

INDUSTRIES, TRADE AND FINANCE.

It is stated in a native paper that the silver mine at Handamura, Dade-gori, Fukushima prefecture, the property of Mr. Godai, a gentleman at Osaka, has been latterly worked with great success, and quantities of pure silver are obtained. Two more pits, and an engineering office have been constructed there recently. The new office was opened on the 2nd inst.

The same paper writes:—In the Yokohama Bourse paper seems to be improving a little. The market opened on the morning of the 8th instant at 179.5 and improved to 178.8. Quotations against other specie have also gone up.

This paper also says:—We stated in a former issue that Messrs Okura & Co. had purchased the Senju Woollen Cloth Factory, but this must have been incorrect, as we hear now that someone has applied to purchase it, but the Government has refused to sell.

The *Nichi Nichi Shinbun* says that the sittings of the Cabinet have been altogether taken up by discussions on the finance question. The sessions have been unusually long and Ministers are very busy.

The same paper says that in the branch engineering office at Fukagawa, Tokio, a cement manufactory is being rapidly constructed in order to provide the cement to be used in the construction of the Imperial Palace.

We learn from the same source that all the buildings of the New Imperial Palace will be constructed of wood, covering about 3,500 *taubo* of ground, at a probable cost of over 5,600,000 yen; the reception room alone which is to be situated just inside of the front gate, will be built of brick stone, at a cost of 175,000 yen.

The *Hochi Shinbun* writes:—It is said that an office called *Koshoyakuba*, (Public Bond office) will shortly be established in the capital. This institution has already a parallel in France, the object being to secure to bond-holders the amount of their mortgage notes. Officials in it will be paid no fixed salary, but will receive a percentage on the returns.

Another paper says that an order for the manufacture of a spinning machine has been sent by the Home Department to the branch engineering office at Akabane. Its cost is expected to be 60,000 yen.

The *Nichi Nichi Shinbun* says:—Heretofore all the cable used for telegraphic purposes has been imported from England, but from this time forward quantities will be manufactured in the Telegraph-wire factory, which has lately been established. This will greatly facilitate the laying of any cable which may be required.

Owing to the establishment of the Agricultural and Commercial Department, the branch offices of the former Commercial Bureau, at Shanghai, New York &c., are, (according to the *Choya Shinbun*), to be transferred to the control of that Department, and some reforms will be introduced in the rules of trade.

Another vernacular journal informs us that the trade in Fusan, Korea, is improving, and it is rumoured that the Japanese settlement will be enlarged by reclaiming forest land to the extent of about one *ri*. Negotiations as to this enlargement have been pending since last year.

The *Bukka Shimpō* states:—In Yokohama there is little doing in silk and it is supposed that buyers are waiting for the new season's crop; however, about ten or twenty bales change hands daily. At present stocks amount to 2,320 bales altogether. Waste silk is scarce, but its price remains about the same. During last month arrivals amounted to 1,730 bales exports and to 2,626; deliveries taken to foreign firms 3,875, of which 1,272 were refused. Tea is somewhat scarce, and therefore the market is comparatively active, prices having

improved from \$2 to \$2.50 on those quoted in our issue of the 6th inst. Foreign yarn is very dull. No change worth mentioning has occurred in imported iron, but as the stock is comparatively small in Tokio, it seems likely to go up. On the 7th inst. 20,000 bags of sugar arrived unexpectedly. There is no demand for it, so holders are not offering it for sale at present.

According to the *Mainichi Shinbun*, a few merchants at the port of Ebisu, Sado island, and at Niigata, intend constructing a small steamer of 30 tons burden, in order to facilitate trade between these ports. The necessary funds are now being raised. This paper also states that the steamer *Tairu Maru*, which was being constructed in the branch engineering office at Kobe, by order of Mr. Imai, a gentleman in the Fukuoka prefecture, has been completed, and made her trial trip on the 1st inst. Her speed is over 12 English miles an hour; length 135 feet; breadth 25 feet; draught 8 feet; and she is over 170 tons burden.

This vernacular journal also informs us that up to the present only one third of the waste lands throughout the empire have been reclaimed. This is in part owing to the poverty of the agricultural population and also to the great difficulty of obtaining fertilizing materials and water in many rural districts. Great things are hoped for in this regard from the new Agricultural and Commercial Department, and the day is looked forward to when all the soil will be duly fertilized and cultivated. With this intent a company is shortly to be established under Government auspices at the capital, under the name of *Chiuo Kwai-sha* (Central Company), in which some private speculators will join, which will undertake to lend, for purposes of cultivation, implements &c., and whatever is requisite for the reclamation of waste lands, to the various establishments in different parts of the country, and to any responsible parties who apply for them. Rules for this company are now being drawn up by the authorities.

From the same source we learn that it is rumoured that the Chamber of Commerce at Osaka will, by mutual consent of its members, be abolished shortly. It is given as a reason that the institution had been supported by subsidiary funds out of the local taxes, but as the taxes have much increased the allotment of this amount is expected to be cancelled in the next ordinary session of the Local Assembly in that city, and the institution will cease to be maintained in consequence.

Another paper publishes the commercial report of the *Boyeku Shokuwai*, at Yokohama, under date of 11th instant:—Silk is dull and transactions few. It was thought that as the French and American mail steamers are to leave here on the 16th and 20th instant respectively, sales would have looked up, but there has been little improvement. The sales on the 9th inst. were:—

Shinshiu Hanks	13	bales	@	550
Echigo "	10	"		540
Mayebashi " (imperial) ...	4	"		450
Okusen "	7	"		480
Kakeda "	36	"		600

Total..... 70 bales.

The *Choya Shinbun* states that Messrs. Soné, Fukai, and two other gentlemen in the capital, have established a Dendrological Society under the name of *Ringaku Kiokwai*, for the preservation and extension of forests.

This vernacular journal also announces that the *Toyo Nokwai* and the *Tokio Nodankwai*, agricultural societies, will be united under the name of *Dai Nippon Nokwai*, under the new Agricultural and Commercial Department, for the further development of industry.

A company in Yatsuto, in the prefecture of Awomori, are (according to the same authority) endeavouring to raise some capital for the purpose of purchasing small steamers.

The *Mainichi Shinbun* notices the scarcity of foreign shipping at this port and points out the comparative desertion and 'silence' of the hatoba. The dearth of imports is commented upon.

A native paper states that Mr. Shimadzu Tadayoshi, ex-Daimio of Satsuma, has intimated his intention to subscribe the sum of 53,000 yen to the proposed construction of railways.

Another paper says that amongst the projectors of the

proposed railway, the highest subscribers are Messrs. Iwasaki-Yataro, who subscribed 150,000 yen; Iwasaki-Yanosuke, a like amount; Mitsui-Hachiroeyemon, 50,000 yen, and Sano-Rihachi also 50,000.

The *Hochi Shinbun* contains rather an interesting item about the line of the Nakasendo being selected as the general direction of the proposed railway between Tokio and Kioto. It says that when a high official was lately asked why it had been decided to construct the new line along the Nakasendo, which is a precipitous highway stretching far into the interior, crossing mountain ranges and ravines, and seemingly totally unfit to be selected as a railway route, instead of along the Tokaido, a comparatively level road leading along the sea coast, which would afford far fewer and less considerable obstacles to such an undertaking, and would certainly effect a wonderful saving in the cost of construction, he replied that several lengthy conferences had been held as to the advantages and disadvantages of each route, that Mr. Enouye Priory Councillor preferred the Nakasendo, while Matsukata, Home Minister, strongly urged the Tokaido as the guiding road, and both gentlemen urged their opinions with considerable show of reason. The matter, on this account, had lain in abeyance for a considerable time.

When General Grant, during his stay here, was asked his opinion on the matter, he said that, besides the ordinary purposes of steam traffic, railways were laid down in Europe and America always with a view to their further utilization as a means of transport in the event of war. For this reason, no matter how much more expense the construction entails, they are directed as little along the coast as possible, and are made to traverse even mountainous regions in preference, though of course an infinitely greater amount of labour is necessary. If the proposed railway were to be constructed along the Tokaido, which nearly in all its length adjoins the coast, a decided saving would be effected, but in the event of a foreign war the whole line of route would have to be guarded, which would be a matter of the greatest difficulty. On this account, having regard to the geographical position of the Nakasendo, he advised it to be used to point out the general direction, of the proposed line. In accordance with this view, the Nakasendo was decided upon.

The *Choya Shinbun* says that Mr. Souke, a nobleman who lately went to Kioto, called a meeting of his class in the branch office of the *Kwa-zoku Bucho-Kioku*, on behalf of His Excellency Iwakura, Third Minister of State, and persuaded them to give some active assistance to the proposed construction of railways throughout the Empire. Almost all of them are said to have agreed to subscribe to the project.

According to the same paper, the money already subscribed for the proposed construction of railways has amounted to 13,000,000 yen, of which 3,000,000 are the subscriptions of projectors, and 8,000,000 belong to other business men. The paper does not state from what source the remaining 2,000,000 yen are to be supplied.

MISCELLANEOUS.

The *Hochi Shinbun* contains the following:—That statistics are necessary both in political and private affairs is beyond question. Nevertheless in our country those who knew the benefit of that branch of science, have been very few though there were always some to recognize it. Lately, many have begun to pay attention to this subject. A statistical periodical was published by the Statistical Union Society, last year. This was not issued with a view to make any profit out of the transaction, and was therefore only distributed amongst members, and was given gratis to others who desired it. With the increased experience of the utility of statistics, those asking for the paper have greatly increased, and therefore the second number of that periodical, published recently, is to be sent to anyone who is willing to pay the expense of posting. Increased demand will of course improve the publication, and not only the society, but the country at large, is to be congratulated upon this spread of useful knowledge.

The same paper states:—According to an official return we learn that during a period of ten years ending with the 10th year of Meiji (1877) the number of persons who went abroad on official business was 1,063 males, and 32 females; 4,726

males and 1064 females left the country on private business; and the number of persons who went abroad to study 487 males and 7 females; total 7,380.

This paper also gives the following:—We have stated before that a party of Korean gentlemen are about to pay a visit to Japan and we have further learned that they made an agreement to embark in the *Ansei Maru*, the property of Mr. Sumitomo, a rich merchant at Osaka, but as one of them was suddenly taken ill, their departure has been postponed, and they have paid the sum of 1,000 yen to the owner as compensation for breach of contract. It is not known when they will actually set out for this country, but it is thought they will not now arrive before October next.

During the week ending 9th inst., the total number of visitors to the National Exhibition were; On the 3rd (Sunday) 5,270; 4th, 7,044; 5th, 15,029; 6th 2,121; 7th, 6,506; 8th, 7,059; 9th, (Saturday) 15,376.

The *Mainichi Shinbun* states that over two hundred relatives and immediate retainers of Mr. Sho Tai, ex-King of Loochoo, are expected to leave Okinawa prefecture for Tokio by the steamer *Taiyu-Maru*, on or about the 20th instant.

The *Nichi Nichi Shinbun* says that the glass to be used for the new Imperial Palace will be manufactured at the glass factory at Shinagawa. Imports are to be used as little as possible in its construction.

We learn from the same source that in the Council of State, the Foreign Department, and the Tokio *Fucho*, a good surplus of their appropriations remains, and that a new club will be started with the amount, to be used by members of those departments.

The same contemporary states that a telegram was received by the authorities on the 12th instant to the effect that Cholera had made its appearance at Kawakita Mura, Osumi province; and that in the prefectures of Wakayama and Ehime, where the same pest broke out last month, there were some symptoms of recurrence of the danger.

IMPERIAL GOVERNMENT RAILWAYS.

TOKIO AND YOKOHAMA SECTION.

Statement of traffic receipts for the week ending Sunday, 10th April, 1881.

Passengers, parcels, &c.....	Yen 12,584.44
Merchandise, &c.....	" 1,087.50

Total..... Yen 13,671.94

Miles open 18.

Corresponding week last year.

Passengers, parcels, &c.....	Yen 10,430.54
Merchandise, &c.....	" 933.65

Total..... Yen 11,364.19

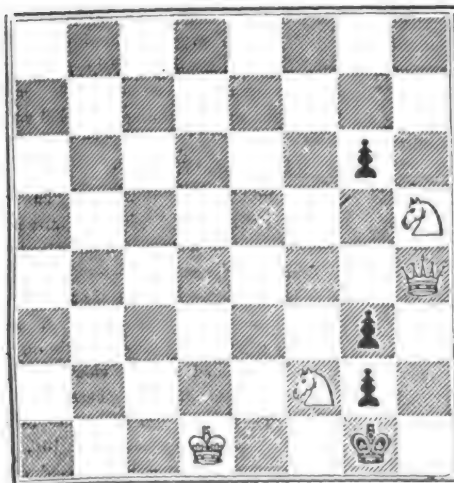
Miles open 18.

CHESS PROBLEM,

By S. LOYD.

(From "Design & Work.")

BLACK.



WHITE.

White to play and mate in 3 moves.

SOLUTION OF CHESS PROBLEM OF APRIL 9TH, BY D'ORVILLE.

White:

- 1.—P. takes P. ch.
- 2.—Kt. K. Kt. 6. ch.
- 3.—P. to R. 8.—Kt. checkmates.

Black:

- 1.—K. takes B.
- 2.—K. takes Kt.

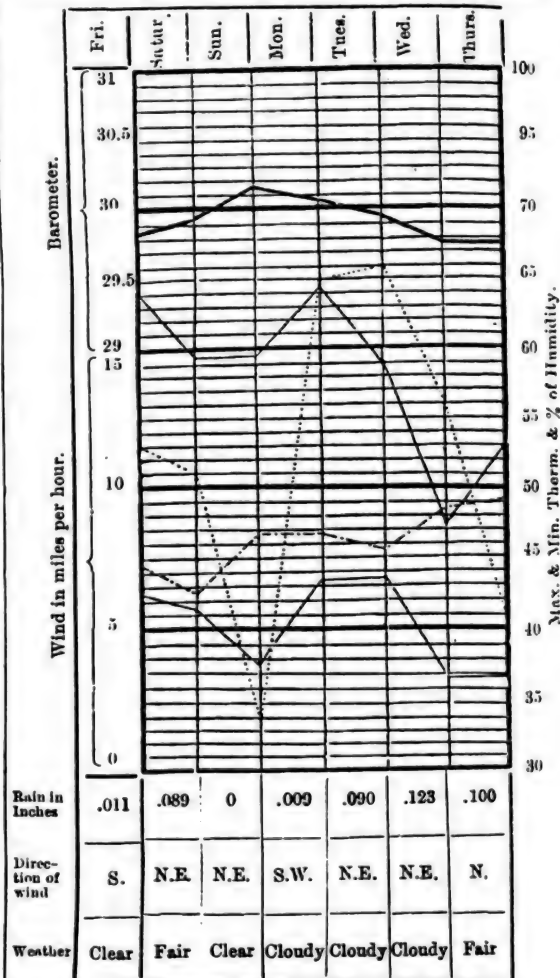
Correct solutions received from Omega and Q.

The White Rook in last week's problem should have been a White Bishop.

METEOROLOGICAL REPORT

FOR WEEK BEGINNING FRIDAY, APRIL 8TH, 1881.

Observatory of Daigaku, Moto-Fujicho, Hongō, Tokio, Japan.



REMARKS.

Heavy line represents barometer.

Light continuous line—max. & min. thermometers.

.....represents velocity of wind.

.....percentage of humidity.

Max. velocity of wind 29.0 miles per hour on Thursday at 4 p.m.

The barometer is reduced to the freezing point and to the level of the sea.

The highest reading of the barometer for the week was 30.195 inches on Monday at 10 a.m. and the lowest was 29.721 on Thursday at 6 a.m. The highest temperature for the week was 63° 8 on Friday and the lowest was 36° 9 on Wednesday. The maximum and minimum for the corresponding week of last year were 69° 3 and 43° 4 respectively.

The total amount of rain for the week was .412 inches against a total of .468 inches for the corresponding week of last year.

SHIPPING INTELLIGENCE.

I N W A R D S .

- April 10, British steamer *Belgie*, Davison, 2,627, from San Francisco, Mails and General, to O. & O. Co.
 April 10, German barque *Anna Dorathea*, T. Jansen, 343, from Takao, Sugar, to Chinese.
 April 11, Japanese steamer *Niigata Maru*, Wynn, 1,603, from Hongkong via Kobe, Mails and General, to M. B. Co.
 April 11, Japanese steamer *Tamaura Maru*, Carrow, 877, from Yokaiichi, Mails and General, to M. B. Co.
 April 11, British barque *Lady Bowen*, Pain, 892, from Newcastle, Coals, to Mollison, Fraser & Co.
 April 11, Japanese steamer *Tokai Maru*, Hogg, 1,042, from Kobe, Mails and General, to M. B. Co.
 April 12, Japanese steamer *Akitashima Maru*, Frahm, 1,146, from Nagasaki, Mails and General, to M. B. Co.
 April 12, British sloop *Albatross*, Comb. Errington, 894, tons, 4-guns, from a cruise.
 April 13, Japanese steamer *Shinagawa Maru*, Walker, 908, from Kobe, Mails and General, to M. B. Co.
 April 13, British steamer *Sunda*, Reeves, 1,704, from Hongkong via Nagasaki, Mails and General, to P. & O. Co.

April 13. Japanese steamer *Hiogo Maru*, Thomas, 896, from Hakodate, Mails and General, to M. B. Co.
 April 14. Japanese steamer *Takasago Maru*, Young, 1,230, from Shanghai and ports, Mails and General, to M. B. Co.
 April 14. American sloop *Palos*, Comd. Green, 306 tons, 6-guns, from Kobe.
 April 14. British steamer *Orestes*, Webster, 1,323, from London via Hongkong, General, to Butterfield & Swire.
 April 16. American steamer *City of Tokio*, Cobb, 5,050, from Hongkong, Mails and general, to P. M. Co.

PASSENGERS.

Per British steamer *Belgie* from San Francisco:—For Yokohama: Messrs. E. N. Whitehouse, U.S.N., David Mowat, U.S.N., J. Samson, Paul Heinemann, G. Boomer, W. C. Gaspar, R. Austin Robertson, Revd. Mark Williams and family, R. N. Brien and S. Fashiro in cabin; and one European in steerage. For Hongkong: Messrs. Frank Seyburn and A. C. Bryer in cabin; and 114 Chinese in steerage.

Per Japanese steamer *Niigata Maru* from Hongkong via Kobe:—From Hongkong: Captain Napier Ree, and Mr. W. H. Percival in cabin; and 6 Chinese in steerage. From Kobe: Miss Nakamura, Messrs. F. S. Goodison, Angus and Conder in cabin; and 106 Japanese in steerage.

Per Japanese steamer *Tamawra Maru* from Yokaiichi:—140 Japanese.

Per Japanese steamer *Shinagawa Maru* from Kobe:—Mr. Benjamin and 50 Japanese.

Per British steamer *Sunda* from Hongkong via Nagasaki:—Mrs. Haslewood, Mr. and Mrs. G. Dare, Mrs. Muir, Baron de Zeitang and servant, Messrs. Palgrave, Cottell, and Prince Wong Kong.

Per Japanese steamer *Takasago Maru* from Shanghai and ports:—Mr. and Mrs. D'Iffanger, D. A. Miller, Mr. and Mrs. Lovett and 2 children, J. Ashlon, H. W. Led, Mr. Barchard, Mr. and Mrs. Arnoux, Dr. Geerts, Mr. Prichard, J. A. Koosen, A. Milsom, Beattie, A. Pelikan, G. R. Leavitt, Posch, Mrs. Wright and child, and 26 Japanese in cabin; 4 European, 4 Chinese and 429 Japanese in steerage.

Per Japanese steamer *Hiogo Maru* from Hakodate:—200 Japanese.

Per British steamer *Orestes* from London via Hongkong:—Messrs. Lumley, Berull and Brull.

Per American steamer *City of Tokio* from Hongkong:—For Yokohama: Mr. and Mrs. Caxon, and Mr. Camelly. For San Francisco: Captain B. W. Tucker, Mrs. J. Bush and 5 children; and 1,050 Chinese in steerage.

OUTWARDS.

April 11, German barque *Anna Sieben*, Paulsen, 604, for Kobe, General, despatched by H. Grauert.

April 12, Japanese steamer *Kiushin Maru*, Davison, 690, for Kobe, Mails and General, despatched by M. B. Co.

April 12, German barque *Black Diamond*, Baade, 601, for Nagasaki, Ballast, despatched by P. Bohm.

April 12, British sloop *Albatross*, Captain Errington, 940 tons, 4-guns, for cruise.

April 12, Japanese barque *Taikei Maru*, Wm. Black, 700, for Nagasaki, despatched by M. B. Co.

April 12, Japanese barque *Sumanoura Maru*, Speigethal, 924, for Nagasaki, Ballast, despatched by M. B. Co.

April 12, Dutch schooner *Otago*, Pierce, 40, for Hunting Cruise, despatched by H. Cook.

April 12, German schooner *Adelä*, Golder, 50, for Hunting Cruise, despatched by F. Retz.

April 12, Japanese steamer *Suminoye Maru*, Frahm, 852, for Hakodate, Mails and General, despatched by M. B. Co.

April 12, British steamer *Belgie*, Davison, 2,627, for Hongkong, despatched by O. & O. Co.

April 12, Japanese barque *Kanagawa Maru*, Eckstrand, 1,184, for Nagasaki, Ballast, to M. B. Co.

April 13, Japanese steamer *Tokio Maru*, Swain, 2,119, for Shanghai and ports, Mails and General, despatched by M. B. Co.

April 13, British steamer *Cleveland*, Harvey, 792, for Nagasaki, despatched by Jardine, Matheson & Co.

April 13, Japanese steamer *Matsumai Maru*, Sakai, for Hakodate, Mails and General, despatched by M. B. Co.

April 16, French steamer *Menzaleh*, Homery, 1,273, for Hongkong, Mails and General, despatched by M. M. Co.

April 16, Japanese steamer *Niigata Maru*, Walker, 1,603, for Hongkong via Kobe, Mails and General, despatched by M. B. Co.

PASSENGERS.

Per British steamer *Belgie* for Hongkong:—Messrs. Frank Leyburn, and A. E. Bryer, in cabin; and 114 Chinese in steerage.

Per Japanese steamer *Tokio Maru*, for Shanghai and ports:—Mr. and Mrs. Miller, Mrs. W. S. Smith, Revd. Mark Williams and family, Captain Franck, Captain Hubbard, Revd. Stoot, Messrs. J. R. Reddie, Phlu. Sampson, Holtham, G. Booner, E. N. Whitehouse, U.S.N., J. Reid, Mouet, U.S.N., H. Kniffler, Macmillan, Craven, H. S. Rogers, Lieut. Andrejevovsky, Lieut. Eugnist, and 17 Japanese in cabin.

Per French steamer *Menzaleh* for Hongkong:—Mrs. T. D. Walker, and 3 children, Messrs. Romangalle, John Pitman, and Desautis.

Per Japanese steamer *Niigata Maru* for Hongkong via Kobe:—Captain Ryne and 6 Japanese in cabin.

CARGOES.

Per Japanese steamer *Tokio Maru* for Shanghai and ports:—

Treasure... .. \$ 52,500.00

Per British steamer *Sunda* from Hongkong via Nagasaki:—

Transshipment:—

Merchandise... .. 340 bales.

Sundries... .. 224 pkgs.

Total... .. 564

Local:

Merchandise... .. 70 bales.

Sugar... .. 813 bags.

Sundries... .. 793

Total... .. 1,676

Per French steamer *Menzaleh* for Hongkong:—

Silk, for France... .. 275 bales.

" " London... .. 130 "

Total... .. 405 bales.

REPORTS.

The German barque *Anna Dorathes* reports:—Very unsettled weather throughout the passage.

The British steamer *Belgie* reports:—Left San Francisco on the 15th March, at 2.52 p.m., experienced moderate to strong gales and westerly winds throughout the voyage. Arrived at Yokohama April 10th, at 1.46 p.m.

The British barque *Lady Bowen* reports:—Left Newcastle on the 4th February, at midday with continuation of E.S. winds with heavy rain until passing Caladonia thence light variable in to the Equator crossing in long. 1°33' E. Then squally unsettled weather to 10° N. Thence slight gales from E. with furious squall and heavy rains to 20° N. thence variable winds and calms to port. In the North Pacific the winds has not been steady for 12 consecutive hours.

The British steamer *Orestes* reports:—Strong S.E., E. and N.E. winds, with thick rainy weather from North end of Formosa.

NATIVE CURRENCY QUOTATIONS.

(For Week Ending 16th April, 1881.)

	Discount on Yen Satz.			Gold Yen.	Nibus.	Silver Subsidiary (Aren.)	Silver Subsidiary (Ola.)
	A. M.	Noon.	Closing.				
1881							
Friday	April 8	77 ³ / ₄	77 ³ / ₄	78	—	—	—
Saturday	" 9	77 ³ / ₄	77 ³ / ₄	78	—	—	—
Monday	" 11	78 ³ / ₄	77 ³ / ₄	78 ³ / ₄	—	—	—
Tuesday	" 12	78 ³ / ₄	78 ³ / ₄	78 ³ / ₄	—	—	—
Wednesday	" 13	79 ³ / ₄	80	80 ³ / ₄	—	—	—
Thursday	" 14	80 ³ / ₄	80 ³ / ₄	80	—	—	—
Saturday	" 16	79 ³ / ₄	80	80	—	—	—

NEXT MAIL DUE FROM,

AMERICA	P. M. Co.	April 23rd
AMERICA	O. & O. Co.	May 8th
EUROPE, via HONGKONG	M. M. Co.	April 21st
HONGKONG	P. & O. Co.	
HONGKONG, via KOBE	M. B. Co.	April 25th
HONGKONG	P. M. Co.	
HONGKONG	O. & O. Co.	May 5th
SHANGHAI, HIOGO & NAGASAKI	M. B. Co.	

2.—Left San Francisco, April 2nd, *City of Peking*.
 1.—Left Hongkong, April 12th, *Volga*.

NEXT MAIL LEAVES FOR,

AMERICA	P. M. Co.	April 20th
AMERICA	O. & O. Co.	May 7th
EUROPE, via HONGKONG	P. & O. Co.	April 16th
EUROPE, via HONGKONG	M. M. Co.	
HAKODATE	M. B. Co.	
HONGKONG, via KOBE	M. B. Co.	April 30th
HONGKONG	O. & O. Co.	May 10th
HONGKONG	P. M. Co.	April 25th
SHANGHAI, HIOGO & NAGASAKI	M. B. Co.	April 20th

The arrival and departure of mails by the "Occidental and Oriental," the "Pacific Mail," and the "Peninsular and Oriental" companies, are approximate only.

SHIPPING INTELLIGENCE.

VESSELS IN HARBOUR.

NAME.	CAPTAIN.	FLAG AND REG.	TONN.	FROM.	ARRIVED.	CONSIGNEES.
STEAMERS.						
City of Tokio	Cole	American steamer	5,050	Hongkong	April 16	P. M. Co.
Glencagles	Bamford	British steamer	1,836	Nagasaki	April 8	Jardine, Matheson & Co.
Orestes	Webster	British steamer	1,323	London via Hongkong	April 14	Butterfield & Swire.
Takasago Maru	Young	Japanese steamer	1,230	Shanghai & ports	April 14	M. B. Co.
Tanaia	Reynier	French steamer	1,735	Hongkong	April 4	M. M. Co.
Sunda	Reeves	British steamer	1,704	Hongkong via Nagasaki	April 13	P. & O. Co.
SAILING SHIPS.						
Anna Dorathea	T. Jansen	German barque	343	Takao	Apr. 11	Chinese
Cilurnum	Beadle	British ship	1,850	Hongkong	Nov. 8	Edward Fischer & Co.
Joachim Christian	Rickalefs	German barque	457	Takao	April 4	Yuk Chee
Koipenhaven	N. Meghieby	Danish barque	352	Takao	April 8	Chinese
Lady Bowen	Pain	British barque	892	Newcastle	April 12	Mollison, Fraser & Co.
Mary C. Bohm	Baade	German schooner	65	Kurile Islands	Oct. 24	P. Bohm
North Star	Jansen	Russian schooner	42	Kurile Islands	Nov. 16	H. W. Hohnholz & Co.

VESSELS OF WAR IN PORT.

NAME.	GUNS.	TONN.	H. P.	DESCRIPTION.	WHERE FROM.	COMMANDER.
GERMAN—Vineta	19	2,000	—	Corvette	Kobe	Zirzow
AMERICAN—Alert	4	1,020	700	Sloop	Kobe	Huntington
Palos	4	940	840	Sloop	Cruise	Errington
ENGLISH—Albatross	6	306	—	Sloop	Kobe	Green

VESSELS ON THE BERTH.

DESTINATION.	NAME.	AGENTS.	TO BE DESPATCHED.
San Francisco	Cilurnum	Edward Fischer & Co.	Unsettled
San Francisco	City of Tokio	P. M. Co.	April 20th, at daylight
Hongkong	Glamis Castle	A. J. Macpherson	About 25th April
New York	Lord of the Isles	Smith, Baker & Co.	Quick despatch
Shanghai and way-ports	Takasago Maru	M. B. Co.	April 20th, at 6 P.M.
Hongkong via Nagasaki	Glencagles	Jardine, Matheson & Co.	About 19 April
Hongkong via Nagasaki	Sunda	P. & O. Co.	April 17th, at 1 A.M.
For London via Kobe, Nagasaki & H'kong...	Orestes	Butterfield & Swire	April 18th, at 3 P.M.
Hongkong via Kobe	Kokonoye Maru	M. B. Co.	April 30th, at noon

COMMERCIAL INTELLIGENCE.

IMPORTS.—Business almost at a standstill and all quotations are more or less nominal. Kinsatsu fluctuate daily, and the Easter holidays interfere with transactions.

COTTON YARNS:—

Nos. 16 to 24, Common to Medium	per picul	\$28.50 to 30.50
" " Good to Best	"	\$31.00 to 32.25
Bombay, No. 20 do.	"	\$29.00 to 30.75
Nos. 28 to 32, Common to Medium	"	\$32.25 to 33.00
" " Good to Best	"	\$33.25 to 33.75
" 38 to 42	"	\$35.00 to 37.00

COTTON PIECE GOODS:—

Grey Shirtings:—7 lb. per piece	28½ yds. 39 in.	\$1.25 to 1.65
" " 8½ lb.	38½ " 39 in.	\$1.70 to 2.15
" " 9 lb.	38½ " 45 in.	\$2.05 to 2.40
T. Cloths:—7 lb.	24 yds. 32 in. per piece	\$1.35 to 1.55
Drills, English:—14-15 lb.	40 " 30 in.	\$2.30 to 2.50
Indigo Shirtings:—	12 " 44 in.	\$1.30 to 1.45
Prints:—Assorted	24 " 30 in.	\$1.25 to 2.25
Cotton Italians & Sateens Black	32 in.	\$0.06½ to 0.12½
Turkey Reds: 2 to 2½ lb.	24 yds. 30 in.	\$1.40 to 1.60
Do. 2½ to 3 lb.	24 " 30 in.	\$1.55 to 1.70
Do. 3 lb.	24 " 30 in.	\$1.70 to 1.80

COTTON PIECE GOODS:—Continued.

Velvets:—Black	35 yds. 22 in. per piece	\$6.50 to 8.50
Victoria Lawns	12 " 42/3 " "	\$0.68 to 0.74
Taffachelass:—	12 " 43 " "	\$1.70 to 1.90
WOOLLENS:—		
Plain Orleans	40-42 yds. 32 in.	4.50 to 5.50
Figured Orleans	29-30 " 31 " "	3.50 to 4.25
Lastings	29-30 " 31 " "	10.00 to 11.00
Italian Cloth	30 " 32 " "	0.18 to 0.30
Camlet Cords	29-30 " 22 " "	4.50 to 5.50
Mousselines de Laines:—Crape	24 yds. 30 in.	0.15½ to 0.16½
do. Itajime	24 " 30 " "	0.23 to 0.29
do. Yuzen	24 " 30 " "	0.35 to 0.40
Cloths, all wool plain or fancy	48 in. to 52 in.	0.80 to 1.60
Pilots	54 " to 56 " "	0.30 to 0.40
Presidents	54 " to 56 " "	0.40 to 0.50
Union	54 " to 56 " "	0.30 to 0.50
Blankets, green, 5 to 6 lbs.	per lb.	0.35 to 0.37

SAIGON RICE.—Stock, none.

KEROSENE.—Stock is reduced to 356,000 cases.

SUGAR.—Stock 107,500 bags.

Sugar:—Takao in bag New	per picul	\$4.20
" " Old	"	\$3.90
" Taiwanfoo in bag	"	\$3.90
Ching-pak and Ke-pak	"	\$7.75 to \$8.50
China No. 4-5, Kongfun & Kook-fah	"	\$6.50 to \$8.75

Japan Rice	per picul	\$2.67 to 2.85
Japan Wheat	"	\$2.05
Saigon Rice [cargo]	"	nom. \$1.78 to 1.90
Kerosene Oil	case	\$1.88 to 1.90

EXPORTS.

SILK.—There is very little change to report. Silk generally has been neglected and the market has been very quiet indeed. Prices are unaltered for re-reels, but for other classes they are weak and the tendency is downward. Stocks are estimated at all 1,400 shipping holes and total shipments to date amount to 19,868 bales. Sales for the week about 140 shipping bales.

Quotations Hanks.—No. 2	\$590	= 19/0 Nominal.
" " 2½	\$550	= 17/9
" " 3 & infra.	\$500 to \$530	= 16/2 to 17/2
Filatures.—No. 1	\$670 to \$680	= 2/7 to 21/11
" " 2	\$635 to \$645	= 20/6 to 20/10
" " 3	\$620	= 20
Kakodas—Best	\$660 to \$670	= 21/3 to 21/7
" Medium & Good	\$590 to \$630	= 19/8 to 20/4
Re-Reels Medium to Best	\$615 to \$635	= 19/10 to 20/6

TEA.—We have nothing as yet to report about the new Season. A few small musters have been received, not in sufficient quantity to form any opinion of the quality of the New Crop.

Common	...	...	...	Fine	...	...	...	...
Good Common	...	...	...	Finest	...	...	...	...
Medium	...	...	...	Choice	...	...	...	...
Good Medium	...	...	...	Choicest	...	...	...	...

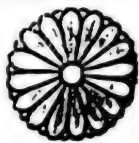
EXCHANGE AND BULLION.

STERLING—Bank 4 months' sight	3/9½	ON SHANGHAI—Bank sight	73½
" " Bank Bills on demand	3/8½	" " Private 10 days' sight	73½
" " Private 4 months' sight	3/9½	ON NEW YORK—Bank Bills on demand	90½
" " 6 " " "	3/9½	" " Private 30 days' sight	91½
ON PARIS—Bank sight	4.72	ON SAN FRANCISCO—Bank Bills on demand	90½
" " Private 5 months' sight	4.86	" " Private 30 days' sight	91½
ON HONGKONG—Bank sight	½ s/o disct.	KINSATSU	80½ dis.
" " Private 10 days' sight	½ s/o disct.	GOLD YEN	380 nom.

SHIPPING.

SHIPPING.—Few vessels disengaged. Vessels on the berth:—The *Cylarum*, for San Francisco; S. S. *Lord of the Isles*, for New York; and S. S. *Glamis Castle*, for Hongkong.

MISCELLANEOUS.



NOTICE TO MARINERS.

No. 1 of the 14th Year of Meiji, (1881.)

KAGENO SIMA LIGHTHOUSE.

ENTRANCE TO NAGASAKI HARBOUR.

THE GOVERNMENT OF JAPAN hereby gives notice that, on the night of the 1st day of the 3rd Month of the 14th Year of Meiji (1st March, 1881), and every night thereafter, from Sunset to Sunrise, a Fixed Red Light of the 6th Order will be exhibited from the tower built on the Northern point of Kageno Sima, at the Entrance to the harbour of Nagasaki, in the province of Hizen.

According to the Japanese Admiralty Chart No. 108, and the British Admiralty Chart No. 2415, the Lighthouse is situated in latitude 32 degrees 42 minutes 42 seconds North, and in longitude 129 degrees 49 minutes 37 seconds East of Greenwich.

The Tower is built of stone, and is 15 feet 8 inches high from the base to the center of the lantern.

The Light will have an arc of visibility of 206 degrees, the cut off bearings being N. 81° 30' W. and S. 55° 30' E. Bearings true.

The total elevation of the Light above the sea will be 40 feet, and its range of visibility, in clear weather, about 8 Nautical miles.

YAMAO YOZO,
Minister of Public Works

Tokai, February 3rd, 1881.



NOTICE TO MARINERS.

HIKU FLAT BUOY.

Westward entrance of Shimonoseki Straits.

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that the BUOY advertised as having broken adrift from its moorings on the 25th January, 1881, has been replaced.

BY ORDER.

Lighthouse Establishment,
Benten, Yokohama,
8th April, 1881.

THE "HIOGO NEWS."

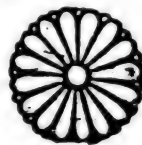
PUBLISHED AT HIOGO EVERY MORNING,
(Sundays excepted).

SUBSCRIPTION \$24 per Annum, payable half-yearly in advance.

Terms for Advertising can be obtained at
"JAPAN MAIL" OFFICE.
Yokohama, February 12, 1874.

tf.

MISCELLANEOUS.



LIST OF LIGHTHOUSES, ETC. OF JAPAN,

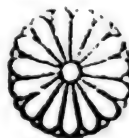
FOR

1881.

CAN be obtained (price 40 sen) at the following:—

LIGHTHOUSE ESTABLISHMENT, (Benten)	YOKOHAMA.
LANE, CRAWFORD & Co.,	"
" "	HONGKONG.
" "	SHANGHAI.
E. C. KIRBY & Co.,	KOBE.

Yokohama, April 12th, 1881.



NOTICE TO MARINERS.

No. 2 of the 14th Year of Meiji, (1881.)

BLACK BUOY OFF HANEDA LIGHTHOUSE
BAY OF YEDO.

THE GOVERNMENT OF JAPAN hereby gives notice that the Black Buoy, which was moored off Haneda shoal, Bay of Yedo, before the erection of the Pile-Lighthouse in the 8th Year of Meiji (1875) on said shoal, and which has remained in same position ever since, will be removed on the First day of the Seventh month of the Fourteenth year of Meiji (1st July 1881), experience having proved that navigation is now safe without the Buoy.

YAMAO YOZO,
Minister of Public Works.

Tokai, February 22nd, 1881.

NOTICE TO MARINERS.

SHIMONOSEKI STRAITS BUOYS.

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN, that KANABUSE BUOY and MIDDLE GROUND BLACK BUOY, which were advertised as having broken adrift from their moorings, have been replaced.

BY ORDER.

Lighthouse Establishment,
Benten,
Yokohama, 17th January, 1881.

MISCELLANEOUS.

[TRANSLATION



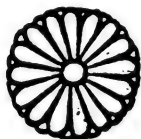
NOTIFICATION

No. 13 of Daijokwan.

IT IS HEREBY NOTIFIED that any Master, Mate or Engineer, holding a Certificate of Competency from any Foreign Government shall, provided the qualifications and requirements under which any such Certificate was issued are deemed to be in no ways inferior to the qualifications and requirements for a Certificate of a corresponding grade under Notification No. 82 of the 9th Year of Meiji, be entitled to a Certificate of Competency of a similar grade without undergoing any examination.

It is also further Notified that the regular examination of applicants for Masters, Mates or Engineers Certificates shall here-after only be held during the 3rd, 6th, 9th and 12th Months of each Year, on such day and hour as shall hereafter be Notified by Yekitei Kioku.

(Signed) SANJO SANEYOSHI,
Daijō-Daijin.



NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that in accordance with Notification of Daijōkwan No. 13, the regular examination of Applicants for Masters, Mates or Engineers Certificates will, till further notice, be conducted at Tokio on the third Tuesday in every 3rd, 6th, 9th and 12th Month of each year, commencing at 9.00 a.m.

H. MAYESHIMA,
Chief Superintendent.

Yekitei Kioku, Feb. 24th, 1880.

CHINESE
IMPERIAL GOVERNMENT
EIGHT PER CENT. LOAN OF
1878.

FOURTH DRAWING.

BONDS Drawn in Hongkong in February last, and the Fourth Coupon for Tls. 19.40 of above Loan, will be payable on and after this date, at the Offices of the HONGKONG AND SHANGHAI BANKING CORPORATION, where List of Draw Bonds may be obtained.

For the HONGKONG AND SHANGHAI
BANKING CORPORATION,
Agents issuing the Loan,
JOHN WALTER,
Manager.

Yokohama, March 21st, 1881.

MISCELLANEOUS.

NOTICE OF REMOVAL.

LANE, CRAWFORD & Co., beg to inform their numerous friends and customers that their

BAKERY BUSINESS

will, on and from the 11th instant, be carried on at

No. 87,

(formerly Messrs. NOWROJEE & Co.'s bake y)

Where all orders for

BREAD, BISCUITS, CAKES, &c.,

will be promptly attended to.

Yokohama, April 8th, 1881.

SARGENT, FARSARI & CO.,

No. 80, Main Street.

HAVE JUST RECEIVED another Invoice of the following well-known brands of Havana Cigars.

La Magda Chica	... ..	100 in box.
La Bella Diana	... ..	100 "
La Opera	... ..	100 "
No Me Olvides	... ..	50 "
Musas, Reinas Finas	... ..	50 "

As these Cigars come packed in sealed tin cases of only 200 Cigars each, they are not affected by any climate and retain their original flavor.

Yokohama, April 5th, 1881.

KEATING'S POWDER.
KEATING'S POWDER.
KEATING'S POWDER.
KEATING'S POWDER.

KILLS BUGS,
FLEAS,
MOTHS,
BEETLES,

THIS POWDER is quite HARMLESS to ANIMAL LIFE, but is unrivalled in destroying FLEAS, BUGS, COCKROACHES, BEETLES, MOTHS IN FURS, and every other species of insect. Sportsmen will find this invaluable for destroying fleas in their dogs, as also ladies for their pet dogs.

THIS ARTICLE has found so GREAT a SALE that it has tempted others to vend a so-called article in imitation. The PUBLIC are CAUTIONED that the tins of the genuine powder bear the autograph of THOMAS KEATING. Sold in Bottles.

KEATING'S WORM TABLETS.
KEATING'S WORM TABLETS.
KEATING'S WORM TABLETS.
KEATING'S WORM TABLETS.
KEATING'S WORM TABLETS.

A PURELY VEGETABLE SWEETMEAT, both in appearance and taste, furnishing a most agreeable method of administering the only certain remedy for INTESINAL or THREAD WORMS. It is a perfectly safe and mild preparation, and is especially adapted for Children. Sold in Bottles, by all Druggists.

Proprietor—THOMAS KEATING. London

MISCELLANEOUS.

**CROSSE & BLACKWELL'S
CELEBRATED OILMEN'S STORES.***Nine Prize Medals, Paris, Vienna and Philadelphia.*

PICKLES AND SAUCES,
JAMS AND JELLIES,
ORANGE MARMALADE,
TART FRUITS, DESSERT FRUITS,
PURE SALAD OIL,
MUSTARD, VINEGAR,
POTTED MEATS AND FISH,
FRESH SALMON AND HERRINGS,
HERRINGS A LA SARDINE,
YARMOUTH BLOATERS,
BLACKWALL WHITEBAIT,
PREPARED SOUPS, IN TINS,
PRESERVED VEGETABLES,
HAMS AND BACON, IN TINS,
PRESERVED CHEESE,
OXFORD AND CAMBRIDGE SAUSAGES,
BOLOGNA SAUSAGES,
YORKSHIRE GAME AND PORK PIES,
TONGUES, GAME, POULTRY,
PLUM PUDDINGS,
LEA AND PERRINS' WORCESTERSHIRE
SAUCE.

*Fresh supplies of the above, and numerous other table
delicacies, may be had from most Storekeepers.***CAUTION.***To prevent the fraud of refilling the bottles or jars
they should invariably be destroyed when empty.**Goods should always be examined upon delivery, to
detect any attempt at substitution of articles of inferior
brands.**All genuine goods bear the names of Crosse & Blackwell
on the Labels, Corks and Capsules of the Bottles,
Jars and Tins.*

CROSSE & BLACKWELL,
PURVEYORS TO THE QUEEN,
SOHO SQUARE, LONDON.

July, 1878.



JOSEPH GILLOTT'S STEEL PENS.	Gold.
JOSEPH GILLOTT'S STEEL PENS.	Medal.
JOSEPH GILLOTT'S STEEL PENS.	Paris.
JOSEPH GILLOTT'S STEEL PENS.	1878.

April, 1880.

MISCELLANEOUS.

**J. & E. ATKINSON'S
PERFUMERY,***celebrated for nearly a century past, is of the very best English
manufacture. For the purity and great excellence it has
obtained the following*

EXHIBITION PRIZE MEDALS,
LONDON, 1851. PARIS, 1857. CORDOVA, 1872. LIMA, 1872.
VIENNA, 1873. PHILADELPHIA, 1876.
GOLD MEDAL PARIS, 1878.

**ATKINSON'S CHOICE PERFUMES FOR
THE HANDKERCHIEF.***White Rose, Frangipanne, Ylang-ylang, Staphanotis,
Opopanax, Jockey Club, Eau Bouquet, Trévol,
Magnolia, Jasmin, Wood Violet, Gold Medal Bouquet,
and all other odours, of the finest quality only.***ATKINSON'S FLORIDA WATER,***a most fragrant Perfume distilled from the choicest Essences*

ATKINSON'S QUININE HAIR LOTION,
*a very refreshing Wash which stimulates the skin to a healthy
action and promotes the growth of the hair.*

ATKINSON'S

ETHEREAL ESSENCE OF LAVENDER,
a powerful Perfume distilled from the finest flowers.

ATKINSON'S WHITE ROSE TOILET VINEGAR,*a new and indispensable Toilet accompaniment, and most
refreshing Perfume for the Handkerchief.***ATKINSON'S WHITE ROSE TOOTH PASTE,***and other Specialties and general articles of Perfumery may
be obtained of all dealers throughout the World, and of the
manufacturers.*

J. & E. ATKINSON,
24, OLD BOND STREET, LONDON, W.

PRICE LIST FREE ON APPLICATION.

*CAUTION.—Messrs. J. & E. ATKINSON manufacture
their articles of the best and the best quality only. Purchasers are
cautioned to avoid counterfeits by observing that each article
is labelled with the firm's Trade Mark, a "White Rose" on a
Golden Lyre.*

ESTABLISHED 1799.

NOTICE.

No. 31, } **COMMERCIAL DINING ROOMS.** { No 31,
Water Street. } Water Street

ON and after this date, the following prices will be
charged:—

BOARDper month \$25.00

Very comfortable bed-rooms,

With European fire-places, and every comfort guaranteed

WM. CURTIS.

Yokohama, November 9th, 1880.

THE BEST REMEDY FOR INDIGESTION.

TRADE



MARK.

*CAMOMILE PILLS are confidently recommended as a simple Remedy for Indigestion, which is
the cause of nearly all the diseases to which we are subject, being a medicine so uniformly grateful
and beneficial, that it is with justice called the "Natural Strengtheners of the Human Stomach."**"Norton's Pills" act as a powerful tonic and gentle aperient; are mild in their operation, safe
under any circumstances, and thousands of persons can now bear testimony to the benefits to be
derived from their use, as they have been a never-failing Family Friend for upwards of 45 years.
Sold in Bottles at 1s. 1½d., 2s. 9d., and 11s. each, by all Medicine Vendors throughout the World.***CAUTION.***Be sure and ask for "NORTON'S PILLS," and do not be persuaded to purchase an imitation.*

MISCELLANEOUS.



ELLWOOD'S
PATENT AIR CHAMBER
HATS AND HELMETS
THE ONLY EFFECTUAL PROTECTION
AGAINST SUN STROKE.

To be obtained of all respectable Hatters and Outfitters
and Wholesale only of

J. ELLWOOD & SONS,
LONDON.

Beware of Useless Imitations.

"HIGHEST AWARD & PRIZE MEDAL PHILADELPHIA
EXHIBITION, 1876."

OAKEY'S
WELLINGTON KNIFE POLISH

PREPARED EXPRESSLY FOR THE PATENT KNIFE-
CLEANING MACHINES, INDIA RUBBER AND BUFF
LEATHER KNIFE BOARDS. KNIVES CONSTANTLY
CLEANED WITH IT HAVE A BRILLIANT POLISH EQUAL
TO NEW CUTLERY. PACKETS 3D. EACH; AND TINS,
6D., 1/-, 2/6 AND 4/- EACH.

OAKEY'S
INDIA RUBBER KNIFE BOARDS

PREVENT FRICTION IN CLEANING AND INJURY TO
THE KNIFE. OAKLEY'S WELLINGTON KNIFE POLISH
SHOULD BE USED WITH HIS BOARDS.

OAKEY'S
SILVERSMITHS SOAP

(NON-MERCURIAL).
FOR CLEANING AND POLISHING SILVER, ELECTRO-
PLATE, PLATE GLASS, &c. TABLETS 6D. EACH.

OAKEY'S
WELLINGTON BLACK LEAD

IN SOLID BLOCKS—1D., 2D. & 4D. EACH, & 15. BOXES.



WESTMINSTER BRIDGE ROAD, LONDON, ENGLAND.

July, 1879.

MISCELLANEOUS.

THE GREATEST
WONDER OF MODERN TIMES
HOLLOWAY'S PILLS.

Persons suffering from weak or debilitated constitutions will dis-
cover that by the use of this wonderful medicine there is "Health
for all." The blood is the fountain of life, and its purity can be
maintained by the use of these Pills.

SIR SAMUEL BAKER,
in his work entitled "The Nile Tributaries in Abyssinia," says, "I
ordered the dragoman Mahomet to inform the Faky that I was a
"Doctor, and that I had the best medicines at the service of the
"sick, with advice gratis. In a short time I had many applicants,
"to whom I served out a quantity of Holloway's Pills. These are
"most useful to an explorer, as possessing unmistakable purgative
"properties they create an undeniable effect upon the patient, which
"satisfies him of their value."

SIMPLE, SAFE AND CERTAIN!
HOLLOWAY'S OINTMENT.

Is a certain remedy for bad legs, bad breasts, and ulcerations of all
kinds. It acts miraculously in healing ulcerations, curing skin
diseases, and in arresting and subduing all inflammations.

MR. J. T. COOPER,
in his account of his extraordinary travels in China, published in
1871, says—"I had with me a quantity of Holloway's Ointment. I
"gave some to the people, and nothing could exceed their gratitude;
"and, in consequence, milk, fowls, butter, and horse-feed poured
"in upon us, until at last a tea-spoonful of Ointment was worth a
"fowl and any quantity of peas, and the demand became so great
"that I was obliged to lock up the small remaining stock!"
Sold by all Chemists and Medicine Vendors throughout the World
May 17th, 1873.

SAVORY & MOORE'S
ASTHMA,
FOR DIFFICULT
DATURA
TATULA
&c
BREATHING
Cigars, Cigarettes or Tobacco, also Pastilles and Powder for Inhalation.
SAVORY & MOORE, NEW BOND STREET, LONDON,
And of all Chemists and Storekeepers throughout the world.
December 1880.

DINNEFORD'S THE SAFEST MILD
APERIENT FOR DELICATE
CONSTITUTIONS, LADIES,
CHILDREN AND INFANTS,
AND FOR REGULAR USE
IN WARM CLIMATES.

THE BEST REMEDY FOR ACIDITY
OF THE STOMACH, HEARTBURN,
HEADACHE, GOUT AND INDIGESTION.



DINNEFORD & Co., Chemists
London,

N.B. ASK FOR DINNEFORD'S MAGNESIA.

FLUID
MAGNESIA.

And of Druggists and Storekeepers throughout
the World.

April 10, 1880

ly.

MISCELLANEOUS.

ANDW. HANDYSIDE & Co.

Limited.

32, Walbrook, London,

BRITANNIA IRON WORKS, DERBY

Manufacture all kinds of

IRON WORK,
Structural & Ornamental.

BRIDGES of every description. Girder Bridges. Arch Bridges. Suspension Bridges.

A. H. & Co. make every year for Foreign Countries some thousands of Tons of Bridges.

LANDING-PIERS AND JETTIES.

ROOFS AND BUILDINGS. MARKETS

*Illustrated Catalogue (A) free on Application.***ORNAMENTAL IRONWORK, ETC.***See Large New Illustrated Catalogues (B. & C.) with 1,300 designs.*

Railings. Balcony Panels.

Gates. Street Posts.

Lamp-pillars. Lamp-brackets.

Balusters. Newels.

Crestings. Terminals.

Columns. Column Capitals.

Brackets. Gratings.

Windows. Casements.

Fountains. Drinking Fountains.

Vases. Pedestals.

Conservatories. Band-Stands.

SMITH'S HEARTHS & PORTABLE FORGES

12 Shapes and Sizes.

*[Catalogue (D) free on Application.]***Andw. Handyside & Co., Limited,**
LONDON.

26 ins.

E. P & W. BALDWIN,
WILDEN WORKS.

STOURPORT ENGLAND.

SHEET IRON,

BRANDED

"BALDWIN-WILDEN," AND "SEVERN."

TIN PLATES,BRANDED "EP & WB" "WILDEN," "UNICORN,"
"ARLEY &," "STOUR."*Stamping Sheets, Button Iron, Sheet Iron, Pickled, Cold Rolled, and Close Annealed.*

Export Agents—

Brooker, Dore & Co., 2, Rood Lane, London, E.C.
April, 1880.**SCOTTISH IMPERIAL INSURANCE COMPANY.****FIRE** Insurance granted, upon desirable buildings and their contents, in TOKIO.
Apply to**C. ILLIES & CO.,**
Agents.

Yokohama, 7th September, 1880.

MISCELLANEOUS.

HONGKONG AND SHANGHAI BANKING CORPORATION.PAID-UP CAPITAL \$5,000,000.
RESERVE FUND... .. \$1,800,000.

Head Office: HONGKONG.

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YOKOHAMA BRANCH.

Interest allowed on Current Accounts at 2 o/o on Daily balances.

On Fixed Deposits, for 12 months, at 5 o/o

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LOCAL BILLS DISCOUNTED.

Credits granted on approved Securities, and every description of Banking and Exchange business transacted.

Drafts granted on the Chief Commercial places in Europe, India, Australia, America, China and Japan, and Circular Notes issued for the use of Travellers.

JOHN WALTER, Manager.

Yokohama, 26th February, 1881.

The "Japan Mail,"

A Daily, Weekly, and Fortnightly Journal,

ESTABLISHED, 1865.

TERMS OF SUBSCRIPTION.

WEEKLY EDITION. The "Japan Weekly Mail," a Weekly Review of Japanese Commerce, Politics, Literature and Art:—Per annum, \$24; Six months, \$13; Three months, \$7.

FORTNIGHTLY Edition, being a Summary of the foregoing, is published for transmission by the American Mail Steamers via San Francisco. Per annum, \$12; Six months, \$7; Three months, \$4.

THE JAPAN DAILY MAIL is published every morning (Sundays excepted) and contains the Arrivals and Departures of all Shipping, Passenger lists, Cargoes, Vessels on the Berth and in Harbour &c. &c. Also the latest Telegrams, Japanese news, Reports of Trials in the Courts of Law, Meetings of public bodies, and all matters of interest to the Community. Special attention is called to this Journal as a medium for circulating local advertisements. It has a large and constantly increasing circulation, its low price bringing it within the means of all classes of the community. It therefore affords exceptional advertising advantages, and secures to all announcements the utmost publicity, the object aimed at by advertisers.

SUBSCRIPTION PER MONTH—ONE DOLLAR.

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SHANGHAI..... China and Japan Trading Co.
HIOGO & OSAKA..... F. Walsh & Co.
NAGASAKI..... China & Japan Trading Co.

Who are authorized to receive Subscriptions and Advertisements for these papers.

*Printed and published for the Proprietor, by the Manager
A. HERBERT BLACKWELL, at the "Japan Mail" Office, 16
Bund, Yokohama.*

THE Japan Weekly Mail,

A WEEKLY REVIEW OF
JAPANESE COMMERCE, POLITICS, LITERATURE, AND ART.

Vol. V. No. 16.]

Yokohama, April 23rd, 1881.

[\$24 PER ANNUM.]

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The Japan Weekly Mail.

'FAIS CE QUE DOIS; ADVIENNE QUE POURRA.'

NOTICE TO CORRESPONDENTS.

No notices will be taken of anonymous correspondence. Whatever is intended for insertion in the JAPAN WEEKLY MAIL must be authenticated by the name and address of the writer, not for publication but as a guarantee of good faith.

It is particularly requested that all letters on business, relating to Advertisements, Job-printing, or Accounts, be addressed to the MANAGER.

And that literary contributions of every description be addressed to the EDITOR.

YOKOHAMA: SATURDAY, APRIL 23RD, 1881.

JAPANESE ERA 2541, MEIJI 14TH YEAR, 4TH MONTH, 23RD DAY.

It has been often said of Englishmen that their friendship is hard to win, but that when once won it is inalienable. The same attribute might perhaps with even more truth be ascribed to their esteem. Eminently staid and methodical in every-day life, they are yet capable as a nation of being roused to almost romantic displays of passionate sentiment, under the influence of which they have perpetrated vagaries quite as worthy to be called giddy caprices as anything history records. From one error, however, they have always been free. The men they have chosen to be their leaders have never belied their judgment. The crisis of a party struggle, or some accident of a disjointed time, may now and then have thrust into momentary prominence men of moral stature more or less below the standard, but they have always disappeared from sight with the occasion that made them visible. As a rule—so invariable indeed that the exception proves it,—the people of England have given their confidence slowly, and have never shown any permanent inclination nor found any just reason to recall it.

Of this no more noteworthy example could be adduced than the late Lord Beaconsfield. Slowly and with infinite pains did he gain a place in the hearts of the English people; so much so indeed that even after he had long become preeminently the first figure in the political world, and after it has passed into a national habit of thought to associate his name with the maintenance of British honour,

there were still times when the echoes of ancient satire made themselves heard not altogether indistinctly, and the story of the days before the celebrated "philippic" found sneering reciters and ready listeners. Yet it may well be doubted whether the shock of sorrow that thrilled Great Britain from hamlet to palace at Lord Palmerston's death, was sharper or more universal than its counterpart of last Wednesday. There is not an Englishman in the whole world to-day, however feeble his patriotism, or however callous his philosophy, who does not feel that not his country alone, but he himself, individually, has lost something not easy to replace and never to be forgotten.

After all it is natural that this should be, for if there be one thing an Englishman admires more than another, it is pluck; and pluck, indomitable pluck, was among the very first recognized attributes of Mr. Disraeli's character. A man of less extraordinary courage must inevitably have shrunk from the atmosphere of contemptuous ridicule that enveloped the bizarre politician of those first ten years, too justly described as "an almost uninterrupted series of follies and defeats." But Mr. Disraeli had within him that without which leaders of men are never born, an indelible consciousness of power. It would scarcely be just to say that he was misunderstood at the outset of his career, for the truth is, men never took the trouble to understand him at all. There was nothing about him that seemed to merit study. At one time romantic, at another satirical, his language was remarkable alike for recklessness,rodomontade and a wealth of vituperation that sounded excessive, even when coming from a "free lance" in those times of universal freedom. Great men are often odd by accident, but to be eccentric by design is generally a sign of utter mediocrity. Mr. Disraeli, however, made, or seemed to make, oddity an art, and it is not wonderful that the busy world of politics found no leisure to consider him under any aspect save that he constantly presented. Perhaps when the science of metaphysics shall have emerged from the region of impression and conjecture, some satisfactory explanation of such a phenomenon may be furnished, but for the present we must be content to record that the author of "Vivian Grey" was not as other men are. That which we can comprehend and must appreciate in his character, is the courage that made him refuse to accept the most palpable evidences of failure, and rise to utter his crushing philippic against the great champion of free trade with just as much confidence, as when, amid the jibes and laughter his maiden speech elicited, he sat down declaring, that the time would come when he should be heard. That speech was indeed the turning point in his career. It raised him at once to the post of chief command in the Tory ranks, and death alone, after a lapse of thirty four years, has robbed him of his supreme authority.

Many points there are no doubt in the deceased statesman's story about which men will have much to say and little to applaud. That he deserted the party under whose

banner be firmly established, will perhaps seem to his biographers as just a cause of reproach as it has always been a subject of recrimination to his opponents. But there can be nothing more unjust or illogical than the creed which requires a man to adopt a certain set of political tenets at the very outset of his career, and never afterwards to deviate from them. Our convictions are not born with us. They are the outcome of study and experience, and to demand that those shall precede these, were simply to substitute interested partisanship for honest faith. When Mr. Disraeli entered the house of Commons as Conservative member for Maidstone in 1837, he shewed himself an advanced liberal, ready to follow wherever Daniel O'Connell and Joseph Hume led. When he stood up to attack Sir R. Peel in 1846, he placed himself in the very van of the Tory army. It is impossible to imagine a more thorough recantation of faith, and equally impossible to suppose that it was simply interested. Yet on any other supposition all just cause of reproach vanishes. Since then, at any rate, there has been little wavering, for it will scarcely, we presume, be laid to Mr. Disraeli's charge that he was once a protectionist and afterwards a free-trader. He embraced free-trade just as he had embraced conservatism, and his action in both cases was, no doubt, equally sincere.

Occupying a position of prominence in the political world not second to Mr. Gladstone, and recognized as the leader of the conservative party after Lord Palmerston's death, Mr. Disraeli can scarcely be said to have sat in the seat of power before 1874. Office indeed he had often held, but always under conditions of disadvantage and embarrassment. When, however, after the failure of the Irish University Bill, and the enforced resumption of Ministerial duties, Mr. Gladstone suddenly, and with a display of what was at the time regarded as petulant impatience, dissolved parliament, the conservative chief found himself at the head of a Government strong in executive ability and strong also in the support of the nation. The history of what his ministry achieved, and of the dangers they were called on to face, is too fresh to need any comment. Whatever may be said of Lord Beaconsfield's "Imperial policy," it will certainly not be denied that, under his guidance, England has found her way back to the place she formerly occupied among the great nations of the world. Posterity will find warmer words of praise for the impassioned eloquence of Mr. Bright, and the polished gravity of Mr. Gladstone, than for the quick repartee and pungent epigram of Mr. Disraeli, but it will be long before Englishmen forget the name of the man who piloted their country through so many perils, and who remained to the last the same stout-hearted debonnaire politician, that early injustice could not damp, nor years of seemingly hopeless waiting discourage. *Leve fit quod bene fertur onus.*

With reference to an article which appeared in our issue of the 2nd instant, entitled "Korea and the Duke of Genoa," in which we attributed to the Prefect of Yung Hing a train of thought reflecting upon the motives of the Duke's visit, it seems not impossible that our words may have been considered exceptionable by His Royal Highness' many friends and countrymen in Japan. We therefore take the opportunity of most emphatically disclaiming any intentional discourtesy towards a Prince so justly and generally respected. It would be a source of sincere regret to us if by any chance such a construction were placed upon our expression, what we wrote was intended as a criticism not upon the real motives of the *Vettor Pisani's* expedition, but upon the somewhat grotesque report of that expedition published first

in an American, and afterwards in a Yokohama journal; a report calculated to make the whole affair ridiculous, and in some respects to mar the prospects of an enterprise whose progress we had all watched with much interest and hope.

The *Gazette* has set up for itself a "dummy" and is busy belabouring it with words and arguments that present a tolerably solemn appearance *en masse*, but taken in detail are irresistably comical. Thus the people of Japan are warned to stick to their produce and on no account to exchange it for the paper money of the Direct Trading Companies. Our contemporary is careful, however, to refrain from telling them how they are to dispose of that produce, and we can only conclude that they are to revert to the old system of commerce by barter of commodities, until the happy day arrives when specie payments are resumed; a day whose advent will be much hastened, no doubt, by the course the *Gazette* recommends.

Then we are treated to the old weekly *réchauffé*, a definition of money. "Money," says the *Gazette*, "is valueless *per se*, and will remain so until it is exchanged for the real wealth it represents." Of this recondite doctrine we are pronounced ignorant, and are further accused of the very ungrammatical assumption "that kinsatsu is a thing of value." This position our contemporary "rejects," but adheres steadfastly to the principle that if a producer does not receive one thing of value for another thing of value he is the subject of wrong." What then is the producer to receive? Not money, since that is valueless, nor kinsatsu, which are the object of the *Gazette's* crusade. Commodities we presume, and this would be in accordance with our contemporary's previous suggestion, though such a reversion to the fashions of the paleozoic age is not very palatable. For our own part we have been taught to believe that money, whether specie or paper, is only a medium of exchange, and we used to fancy that so long as kinsatsu retained any purchasing power, we were at liberty to offer them in exchange for goods to anyone who in his turn was willing to employ them as a medium. It would seem, however, that all the tradesmen we have hitherto patronized may now accuse us of having wronged them, unless indeed, our contemporary is poking fun at the public. This would not be in accordance with his wonted gravity of demeanour, but then we remember that even Tom Pinch once cut jokes. That too was at a time when little Ruth was engaged in the manufacture of the beef-steak pudding which was to turn out nobody knew what, and in the present instance, certainly, there's no foretelling what a hash our contemporary proposes to make of the Direct Trading Companies before he lets them out of his hands.

The *Gazette's* next position is even quainter still. Producers, we are told, will have been fraudulently treated if they be induced to part with their produce for notes which may and probably will, have a less purchasing power six months hence than at present. It makes no matter, of course, whether any other method of realizing is or is not open to the producer, or whether he be or be not capable of comprehending the subtle difference discerned by the *Gazette* between the paper money of the Trading Companies and that of any other merchant. Neither does it occur to our contemporary, that if a purchaser be guilty of fraud when he employs a depreciating currency, a seller will be liable to the same charge when he accepts an appreciating one. It will, however, occur to the *Gazette's* readers that the "Independent" journal's purpose can only be to dissuade the Japanese from all commerce except that with foreigners who pay specie—until the currency is restored to par. This is incredible, and yet the *Gazette* tells us that such "restora-

tion would cut the ground from under all its arguments :—an admission, we may observe, which need not have been put in the hypothetical mood since those arguments never had any ground to stand on.

A question is also propounded to us. The direct trader pays 18 paper yen for goods valued at 10 silver yen. He exports those goods and finds, on the completion of the transaction, that his ten silver yen are worth 20 paper yen. Will he offer to take back the 18 paper tokens and give in their place the ten silver ones? "Answer this plain question" says the *Gazette*. We reply, on the Hibernian principle, with another query. Has our contemporary offered to repurchase the kinsatsu he paid for his winter's supply of coal, at the rates current when that supply was laid in?

We can afford to be merry over such oddities of argument, but the case is different when we find ourselves confronted by a distinct and deliberate perversion of the truth. We are told that the Boyeki-Shokwai is an "institution which, though nominally a private undertaking, is truly the property of Government or of individual members thereof." This is simply untrue. The Direct Trading Company (Boyeki-Shokwai) does not number among its members a single Government official, neither has it received one sen from the Treasury. It is wholly and unequivocally a private enterprise.

Can it be possible that the *Gazette* deliberately ventures to make such statements on the authority of street rumours or to publish assertions diametrically opposed to the fact when that fact is easily ascertainable? This outcry about the Direct Trading Company is, plainly enough, dictated by a supposition that the project is under State patronage; that it is in short a fraudulent device of the Government to convert its paper into specie. But before announcing such a grave charge the *Gazette* was bound, not in justice to the accused alone, but also for the sake of its own reputation, to ascertain whether its information was correct. Had it done so, it would have found that the projectors of the Boyeki-Shokwai were one of the partners in a steamship company and a well-known nobleman; that the idea was suggested in great part by an examination of the books of the Mitsui Bussan-gaisha, and a consequent perception of that institution's success, and that the necessary funds have been raised by private subscription without any aid from the State whatsoever. These are the plain facts, quite as accessible to our contemporary as to ourselves, and it is because their perversion forms the basis of his argument, that we have ventured to term that argument groundless.

The *Gazette*, however, like Mr. Daniel Quilp, has an old "figure-head" which it batters and pounds week after week, disfiguring the "dummy's" visage a good deal no doubt, but producing no impression on anything else. A definition of money, a denunciation of Government industries, an essay on finance: these are the aspects which the figure-head assumes according to the point of view from which it is regarded. We cannot but think, however, that our contemporary would do better if he put his dummy in the corner and looked about him a little, for he would then see that the world is not moved by his invectives any more than the fortunes of Christopher Nubbles were perturbed by the blows Mr. Quilp inflicted on his wooden image in the solitude of the wharf counting-house.

The media through which we look at things around us having in all cases different indices of refraction, it is not at all wonderful that the truth should be strangely distorted in the process of transmission. Probably this will be inevitable to the end of the chapter, and we shall do better

on the whole to regard it as a dispensation for turning the world from a too matter-of-fact groove, than as a text for homilies. The public need not be at all exercised if it fails to find any foundation for airy tales set a-rolling by the *North China Daily News*, confirmed by the *Ozaka Nippo*, translated by the *Hiogo News*, and copied by the *Japan Gazette*. For there is a preface to these stories—the same preface for all—which says that the motto of certain journals in the East is, "raise a dust; with an honest wind if you can, but—raise a dust."

There was once a silversmith of repute in Hongkong who made it a habit to salute his customers with this greeting:—"Good morning, Sir. I know that my prices are exceedingly exorbitant." So they were in truth, but his honesty of speech palliated his avarice, and it fell out that the words taught him by a malicious wag, became in the end his best advertisement. Why should not sundry newspapers decorate their titles with some such announcement as; "Here you are, Sir. We know that our contents are utterly unreliable:" or; "the reader will observe that our object is to startle, not to instruct."?

Were this method pursued we should not be under the necessity of commenting on the marvellous tale reproduced some time ago by our "independent" contemporary: we should not be obliged to remind the public that they are expected to laugh not to look grave at the Japanese Governments' gigantic "scheme for monopolizing all the foreign trade of the Empire;" at the "bank with a capital of ten millions;" the "floating indebtedness of six millions to the Direct Trading Companies," and the "interference of the Foreign Representatives." It happens, however, that we have some Scotchmen among us, and for their sakes we feel bound to declare on behalf of the journals in question that this is a "goak."

An Imperial Decree, issued on the 18th instant, enacts that the rate of interest on deposits in the Post Office Savings Bank shall in future be 7·2 per cent per annum, in stead of 6 per cent as heretofore.

This change has been talked of for some time. It is no doubt owing to the high rates of interest now ruling generally in the money market, as well as to the recent establishment of several private Savings Banks, which pay from 7·5 to 9 per cent on deposits.

On the 29th of last month, the First Minister of State issued an Imperial Decree (No. 19) abrogating Decree No. 49 of July 6th, 1877. The abrogated Decree read thus: "It is hereby decreed, that if the Minister of Justice disapproves any judgment pronounced upon a case in appeal, whether of a civil or criminal nature, he shall have power to direct the advocate-general to demand a new trial of such case in the Court where the original judgment was rendered."

Shortly after the issue of this latter decree the Senate, on the motion of H. E. Yanagiwara (then a Senator and now Minister for Japan at the Court of St. Petersburg), memorialized the crown on the evident inconsistency of the decree with the fundamental principles of law, pointing out that its provisions amounted to nothing more or less than an interference by the Minister of Justice with the decisions of the Supreme Court of Judicature, the highest judicial authority in Japan—and it did certainly seem irrational that cases which—to take an extreme instance—might have been already adjudicated on, first by the local Courts, secondly by the Superior Court, and thirdly by the Supreme Court of

Judicature, should be subject to be sent back for re-trial on the *fiat* of the Minister of Justice alone.

The Senate's memorial prayed for an immediate abrogation of the obnoxious decree, and is no doubt the prime cause of the rescission (No. 19) of last month. Probably the long delay that took place in carrying out the Senate's suggestion is to be attributed in part to the fact that action was deferred pending the change of polity which took place last year. Until that change was consummated, the Ministers of Departments were, as is well known, Saugi, and had much larger powers than the present Ministers (of departments) whose functions are purely executive.

The supreme powers of the Government, both legislative and executive, are now vested in the Privy Council, and under these circumstances it was no doubt considered wise to comply with the Senate's memorial. The delay has indeed been long—almost unwarrantably long—but the issue proves that the Genroin (Senate) *sometimes* exercises independent functions, and that it is not always such a complete slave to the Privy Council as the foreign local journals are in the habit of asserting.

We need scarcely point out that this is a step towards the perfecting of the Japanese judicial system for by it, the Minister of Justice's power of controlling the carriage of justice is discontinued, and henceforth judgments pronounced by the Daishin-In will be supreme and final.

From the statistics lately compiled at the Home Office, it appears that the market value of Japanese cotton has been less affected than that of almost anything else by the social and financial changes that have taken place since the Restoration. The ratio of the present price to that which obtained in 1840 is about three to one, and this comparatively trifling (!) increase of value is attributed to the fact, that imported stuffs, such as camlets &c., having constantly been sold at low figures, native cotton goods have of necessity remained at nearly the same level. We recommend this circumstance to their consideration who declare that everything Japan needs should be produced in Japan. If any patriotic (?) guild employs articles of native manufacture in preference to imported goods, which can be obtained more cheaply, the result will be merely to set up a fictitious trade and injure the resources of the country by diverting labour from its profitable channels.

When the telephone came to us from America three years ago, everybody was delighted with an instrument which afforded the means of carrying on conversations at long distances by means of a single wire. At the same time many persons denied that the thing could have any practical bearing and maintained that the telephone would never be anything but a clever instrument, whose functions would be limited to experiments in drawing-room physics. The Americans were not long before they proved that this opinion was premature. As a matter of fact the telephone, so far from being simply a toy for the use of amateurs, constitutes, to-day, a means of rapid communication—superior even to the telegraph—in all places where the distances to be traversed are not too great.

Its use tends daily to be become more extended in Europe. All the towns of any consequence already possess a network of telephones, which connect the public offices, banks &c., with one another.

In some of the great centres, as London, Paris, Bruxelles, Anvers, etc., most of the merchants and artisans have telephones in their houses, and the advantages derived are easily conceivable, when we remember the rapidity and facility imparted to the conduct of commercial affairs.

In America the spread of telephony has been much more considerable. The Yankees, who appreciate the English proverb, "time is money," have from the first understood the advantages to be derived from this, their own invention. They have accordingly applied it to all the usages of daily life. It is not confined to public offices or commercial establishments. Private individuals themselves use it to carry on their household affairs. Here is a story told on the subject by a French traveller who has just returned from the United States:—

... "Mr. X., on his arrival in the town, presented himself at the house of the merchant to whom he was accredited. He was received with all possible politeness by the mistress of the establishment. After the usual compliments had passed, the lady said to him: "You must put yourself in my hands. First we shall go out and I will show you the town, after which you shall dine here with some people who may be of service to you. In the afternoon we will go to Niagara in a steam-yacht. To-morrow, the oil district; the day after we will pass at our country place. Meanwhile I am going to summon my husband to his office to announce you and discuss our plans. Then I shall order my carriage for we have had the stables placed at some distance since the invention of the telephone. Then I shall invite my guests; make arrangements with the engineer and the *maitre d'hôtel* of the yacht for our voyage and supper on board. My husband will order your ticket for the train which will take us to the oil district. Finally, I have a host of directions to give the servants."

After this very methodical discourse, the lady, with a smile, took up her telephone, which was lying on the back of the *casseres* and began to telephone. First she came to an understanding with her husband; then she made known to the central telephone office the addresses of the people she wished to invite. Then she summoned her carriage, and arranged, always by telephone, with the sailors of the yacht as well as with the *maitre d'hôtel*. After which came the turn of the country house, the overseer of which had first to be summoned—by telephone—from the farm.

After twenty or twenty-five minutes, this very kind lady, quite out of breath with her exertions, at last took the telephone from her mouth and said:—"I shall now go and get ready, and in the meanwhile the cook will replace me at the telephone in order to arrange with the tradespeople the menu of our dinner." Whereupon she went out, and the cook, coming in, took up the instrument. The traveller was utterly astounded when he heard the latter order joints, fish, vegetables and fruits from the principal tradesmen of the town, and enter into discussions with each of them on the nature of the provisions.

"While these various orders were distributed over a space of many square miles, "I reflected," he said "on the time it would have been necessary to spend in writing letters, journeys on foot or by carriage &c., to accomplish an affair which was managed in forty minutes by the tongues of two women." And indeed, for the rest every one knows the trouble, the annoyances, the misunderstandings, which the preparations for one solitary dinner in our own country give the poor mistress of the house, while in America, dinner, drive, excursion by steam-yacht, voyage by rail, supper, trip to the country, everything, was settled in the seclusion of a boudoir by a pair of smiling lips. It is inconceivable. Who will tell us after this "that the telephone is only a little instrument for toy experiments?"

This is the story told us by the *Conteur Vandois*. It sounds almost impossible, but nevertheless there is nothing in any one of its details that exceeds the capabilities of

telephony, even in its present stage of development. We say even in its present stage, because admirable as the telephone's achievements already are, it has so very lately emerged from the toy condition that one cannot but foresee for it a future which will throw everything hitherto done into the shade. As a matter of fact the American lady might easily have done everything attributed to her. Given an instrument capable of making distances of ten or even twenty miles conversationable; given a community of people each of whose residences is furnished with such an instrument, and given finally a central station where all the instruments converge and where arrangements are made for placing any two *en rapport*, by the mere manipulation of a peg: given all this and the least we can predict is something very like a social revolution. To speculate what will or will not be possible under such a system would be to travel into the domain of the fairies. Of what it has effected in America the *Conteur Vaudois* gives us a very fair idea, and it is probable, though not perhaps in the immediate future, that we shall have an opportunity of judging for ourselves. Indeed that Edison, who stands at the head of telephonists, has not as yet taken any very active steps to introduce his invention into Japan, is probably because his agents know that it would immediately share the fate of all patents in the absence of legal protection. The electric light is another instance of the same very natural reluctance on the part of inventors to trust the results of long trial and large outlay into the hands of men who respect such things no more than a school boy does a mechanical toy. There is, even while we write, an electric lamp of the most improved construction lying in a godown in this settlement, not because it cannot find a purchaser, but because the agents to whom it is consigned decline to let it incur the risks of piracy. We have good reason to hope that a remedy for this wrong is in process of preparation, but meanwhile the Chinese, acute, indefatigable, and most deeply versed of all nations in the value of combined enterprise, have anticipated their more versatile neighbours, and Hongkong is about to possess the first telephonic system in the East. Already more than two hundred native merchants in that settlement have undertaken to subscribe a certain monthly sum, and to-morrow's mail steamer carries the necessary plant southward. General C. W. Le Gendre has, we understand, been appointed Agent for Mr. Edison in China and Japan, and the duties of executive engineer have been undertaken by Mr. J. Morris, M.S.T.E., who for several years occupied the post of Principal Telegraphic Engineer to the Japanese Government. Plainly therefore the enterprise is not likely to fail for lack of ability in its promoters.

Strangely enough, some doubt seemed at one time to be entertained as to whether the telephone would be found competent to mark the peculiar intonation, of the Chinese language; a doubt scarcely worthy to be called reasonable in view of the fact, that the instrument had already proved itself equal to the task of transmitting the sounds, not of the human voice alone, but also of the pianoforte and other musical instruments. This point was, however, completely settled in favour of the telephone by the experiments carried out a short time ago at Yokohama. There it was conclusively proved that Mr. Edison's invention is of quite as much avail in China as in America, and probably the next very tantalizing news we shall have from Hongkong will be that a telephone exchange, after the fashion of those in all the chief towns of the United States, has been established. We sincerely hope that China will not long be singular in her enterprise.

Æolus of the teapot is not a whit less busy than the mosquitoes in Japan. Quite a little maelstrom of indignation has been stirred up among the editors of the Tokio native journals by certain utterances attributed to the first Minister of State in connection with the Saionji affair. Mr. Saionji, as the public has already been informed, is a nobleman who, after some years of European travel, returned lately to Japan and associated himself with a newspaper rejoicing in the title of the *Oriental Independent*. He was subsequently prevailed on by his friends to abandon his connection with journalism for reasons which were no doubt sufficient to convince him, but which have since been construed into official interference of a most vexatious character. The Government, it was said, could not possibly permit a genuine *Kwazoku* to join the crowd of truculent cavillers by whom it is perpetually harassed, and so did not hesitate to employ pressure of a somewhat questionable nature for the purpose of forestalling so untoward an accident. This, in itself, was more than enough to set men's tongues wagging, but the sequel has thrown everything else into the shade. The *Oriental Independent* has now—so rumour says—published a supplement in which the exact terms of dissuasion addressed by His Excellency Sanjo to Mr. Saionji are detailed. There the Minister is represented as warmly denouncing the idea of a blue-blooded patrician associating himself with such gentry as Messrs. Fukuchi (editor of the *Nichi-nichi Shinbun*), Narushima (editor of *Choya Shinbun*), Kurimoto (editor of *Itochi Shinbun*), Nakamura (*Akebono Shinbun*) et hoc genus omne; of whom all are partisans of the fallen Shogunate and some (Mr. Nakamura) Hakodate rebels. Their utterances indeed the Government could afford to treat with silent contempt, but when a gentleman like Mr. Saionji was added to their ranks, criticisms the world was once in no danger of misapprehending, and jeremiades hitherto little likely to disturb the public peace, assumed a new significance, and might become not only inconvenient but pernicious.

Such was the nature of the First Minister's remonstrance, and Mr. Saionji, recognizing his error, retired in good time from his false position. But what a chorus of indignation was raised by the malignant editors! Was it to be called a remnant of rebels that they had toiled through all these years with brain and pen, and was it to be accused of treason and duplicity that, trampling under foot their old prejudices, they had laboured to support the Government in its beneficent efforts or to restrain it on the verge of errors? Truly the thing was intolerable, and demanded nothing less than a direct appeal to the First Minister who must be compelled either to retract his obnoxious expressions or to justify them. The teapot, rocked by the storm, is in danger of losing its equilibrium and its dignity alike, after the fashion of that delicious "Lord that rules that water" in *H. M. S. Pinafore*; but fortunately a discovery is about to be made.

The First Minister never said anything of the sort, if Mr. Saionji is to be believed, and the *Oriental Independent* never published any supplement of the kind—if its editor is to be credited.

A new society called the "Nippon Nōkwai" or Agricultural Society of Japan, has just been formed. Its history is briefly this:—

In April 1879, the 'Eastern Agricultural Society' (Tōyō Nōkwai) was established, with an office in the premises of the nursery-garden in Imba (Shimōsa), and in March, 1880, the Tokiyo Agricultural Deliberative Society" (Tokiyo Daunōkwai) was organized, with an office in the compound of the nursery-garden at Mita, Tokiyo. Both these societies had for their object the encouragement and promo-

tion of agriculture, and had correspondents in various parts of the Empire. It was the rule of the former society to compile the reports of these correspondents and publish them in pamphlet form,* four times each year, for distribution among the members, while the latter society published a pamphlet of a similar nature for the first time in March last. As, however, the action of both societies was confined to the collection and publication of reports, they could not properly be called deliberative bodies, and some of their members, who recently visited Tokiyo in connection with the National Exhibition, took the opportunity of discussing the desirability of amalgamating the two societies. The proposal was accepted and hence the new society (Nippon Nōkwai). The purpose of this body is the diffusion of knowledge and experience in agricultural matters, and to this end a pamphlet containing contributions from the members will be published every month. The central office is to be at Mita (Tokiyo), and its members will be of three kinds, viz:—honorary members, *i.e.* native or foreign gentlemen, who enjoy the reputation of skilled agriculturists, and who will be elected by ballot but not entitled to take part in the deliberations of the society; special members, *i.e.* Japanese gentlemen subscribing 3 yen per annum or a lump sum of 30 yen down, who will enjoy all the privileges of the society; and ordinary members, *i.e.* Japanese paying 1 yen 20 sen per annum, who will receive the transactions but take no part in the deliberations. Committees will be appointed from among the members for the investigation of questions connected with Meteorology, Geology, Chemistry, Zoology, Botany, Animal Hygiene, Entomology, Seeds, Reclamation, Cattle-breeding, Forests, Agricultural Implements, Manures, Fisheries, Sericulture, Manufactures (silk, cotton, sugar, woollen cloth &c.) and Statistics.

So far as we can judge from a prospectus, the new society bids fair to be a very useful one. The importance of such associations cannot, indeed, be overrated, for they point to the disappearance of that old clan spirit which had formerly the effect of making Japan a conglomerate of sixty four separate and totally distinct principalities, and at the same time promise to foster the germs of combined enterprise without which great commercial success is impossible. It is a purely private association, though no doubt it will number many Government officials among its members, and it is not to be confounded with either the "High Deliberative Board" of the Nōshō-mushō, or the meeting which is now going on at Mita under the auspices of the Home Department. This latter is composed of officials of the provincial governments, charged with the promotion of industry in their respective provinces, who are now in Tokiyo as representatives of the Fu and Ken in the National Exhibition.

POLICY FOR KOREA.

by Kwo-iu-Ken.

(Continued from last week.)

It will probably be answered, that although America's character might justify an alliance with her, such a step would inevitably afford a precedent to England, France, Germany, Italy and other nations.

This, however, is exactly what seems desirable. Korea can find no better means of frustrating Russian aggression than to sign treaties with other European powers, for it will then be their care to preserve her integrity. Moreover, let her be ever so unwilling to admit them, they will inevitably compel her to open her doors sooner or later; for among the many hundred nations of the world, great and small alike,

* Five of these pamphlets have already been published.

Korea alone is closed to-day to foreign intercourse; a state of things that cannot possibly remain permanent. Should it so happen, however, that Russia is the first to establish a footing in the peninsula, England, France, Germany and America, who are the Muscovite's enemies, will not be content to leave him in sole possession, but will each take some portion for herself, so that Korea's partition will only be a matter of time. Some years ago Poland was divided between Russia, Germany and Austria, and last year the same fate would have overtaken Turkey, had not the Russian forces been withdrawn. For Korea, indeed, the birth-place of so many great warriors and the object of the God's special favour, a like misfortune may not be lightly prophesied; but there can be no doubt that if she persists in her policy of seclusion, she will at last have to cross swords with the Western powers, and defeat would signify nothing more or less than treatment such as Burmah and Annam experience at the hands of England and France to-day. Even though she abandon her policy of seclusion there is yet another danger to be guarded against. It is that she may be inveigled into making a one-sided and unjust treaty, which will deprive her for a time of her rights, and which she will not be permitted to revise until, in the course of years, she becomes sufficiently rich and powerful to insist upon doing so. If, however, she receives an American envoy first, he will draw up for her an impartial treaty, in accordance with the principles of international law, and other powers will be obliged to adopt this as a precedent.

The welfare of Asia is inseparable from that of Korea, and she has therefore no reason to doubt the sincerity of this advice.

Having thus examined and combatted the various objections that may be urged by the conservative party in Korea, it remains to point out how the policy recommended by the writer is to be put into practice. First, then, the treaties with China and Japan should be revised with the view of establishing more friendly relations, and envoys should be sent to Peking, Tokiyo and Washington. Fusan, Gensan and Jinsen should be opened to American merchant ships, so that the trade there may not be monopolized by the Japanese, and Koreans should be permitted to visit Nagasaki and Yokohama for commercial purposes. Application should also be made to China for permission to adopt the Dragon Flag, which Korea ought to take as her national standard; and students should be sent to China or Japan to receive instruction in military tactics, the manufacture of arms, and naval construction. Others also should be sent westward to study astronomy, mathematics, chemistry, mineralogy and geology, while schools ought to be opened at Fusan and elsewhere under foreign teachers for instruction in sciences of all sorts. This is the only true path to progress.

After all, too, it can only be for Korea's benefit to make impartial treaties with other nations in times of peace. She must not regard the treaties made by China and Japan with Western States as true examples. By those treaties the rights of China and Japan have been largely invaded, but this is attributable to those countries' ignorance of western international law and their inability to resist the armed pressure put upon them? The case would be different with Korea, for so long as she does not resist by force, no exorbitant and unreasonable demands can be made upon her. It will simply be arranged, that since European and Asiatic laws and customs differ, the foreign merchants resident in Korea, though subject to her municipal regulations, will be under the authority of their own consuls for purposes of jurisdiction, and this concession, too, will by degrees become unnecessary. Moreover, the powers of the consuls themselves will be limited, while the importation of poisonous drugs, and the preaching of strange religions, will be under due control.

Neither can it be doubted that foreign intercourse would largely benefit Korean commerce. Asia, with its great climatic advantages, is perhaps the most productive continent in the world. Ever since the Tang (618-907) and Sung (960-1279) dynasties, China, through the agency of her Board of Trade, has carried on commerce with other nations. The vast sums of money now in circulation throughout the Empire have all been imported in bygone centuries, and though of late specie has become more or less scarce, this is entirely owing to the opium trade. Japan, on her side, has not bettered herself by foreign commerce, but this is because she has adopted European dress and employs European commodities. If a country does not use foreign

goods, commerce with other countries must always be to her benefit. Korea, though comparatively poor, produces gold, silver, cereals &c. in tolerable abundance. The returns of Korean trade with Japan during the past year, show that the imports were 620,000 yen and the exports 680,000 yen, so that Korea's actual gain was sixty or seventy thousand yen, and under these circumstances it is plain that the result of a properly managed trade will be to enrich all classes. Moreover the customs duties may be applied for a part of the national expenditure, which in itself is a positive gain.

The benefits to be derived from foreign trade, also, are not entirely dependent on the natural resources of a country. Thus Britain produces coal; France, only grapes, and Peru, nothing but gold and silver; yet these nations are all renowned for their wealth. In ancient times India had no tea or silk, Java no sugar and Japan no cotton, but industry has remedied all this to the great profit of those countries. Australia in the extreme south and Kamchatka in the north, were utterly uninhabited once upon a time, but even their waste places are now converted into fruitful lands. How much more so then ought this to be the case with Korea, which is situated in the Temperate Zone, is comparatively fertile, and possesses a people naturally clever and skillful. If, with the aid of western science, her finances be carefully administered, her inhabitants educated and her industries developed, while the cultivation of what her soil already produces is extended, and the things she does not yet produce, introduced from abroad, there is nothing to prevent her becoming a wealthy kingdom hereafter. Thus, for example, if European mining methods were employed at her gold and silver mines, their yield would be immensely increased, a new field for industry opened up, and large profits realized.

Further the tendency of foreign intercourse is to strengthen a nation's powers of defence. The Chinese sages, indeed, in bygone ages taught that valour and military skill are not really worthy of esteem, and that the first object of State government ought to be a quiet and undemonstrative routine. In accordance with this doctrine the spirit of competition was checked and the development of arts tending to excite rivalry, discouraged, men being taught that greater victories were to be gained over oneself than over one's fellows. Now, however, powerful neighbours press upon us from all directions, constantly harassing and ridiculing us. In old times ships moved by sail; now they go by steam; carriages were drawn by horses; now, by an iron machine; communications were made by messengers; now by the telegraph, and soldiers' weapons were bows and arrows, whereas now they are cannons and rifles. If one nation possesses all these improvements and conveniences, and the other does not, the former of course will be the more able of the two; and it were not difficult to predict the issue of a struggle between them. In the event of Korea permitting foreign intercourse, her ideas will be enlarged and her knowledge increased year by year, and finding her old-fashioned weapons and her sailing vessels unworthy of the times, she will devote her earnest attention to improving her military and naval organizations and will set about strengthening herself in the true way. It thus appears that the results of foreign intercourse are both beneficial and invigorating.

However small a country be, it may reasonably hope for independence if it only possess money and a certain measure of strength. If Switzerland and Belgium, which are surrounded by powerful States, remain independent, how much more so ought this to be the case with Korea, which possesses good natural resources and territories touched by those of other countries at one point only. Should Korea really set herself to develop her resources, she may count on the aid of powerful European nations, whose policy it is to frustrate Russia's aggressive designs, since a regard for their own safety forbids them to sit idly by while the Northern Despot dismembers weaker States. The old proverb says; "Of two goods choose the greater; of two evils choose the lesser." Why then should Korea hesitate to adopt a course which is quite free from any disadvantage? She is surrounded by sea on three sides, and from the oldest times has been known as a country with excellent natural defences. She is connected by land with only one country, whose favours she has enjoyed and with whom her relations have been of the most intimate nature for thousands of years. Indeed it may be said that she has never known of the existence of any other country than China. The attitude of the Chinese Government towards its subjects is essentially beneficent and it has justly

merited their attachment. The literature and ceremonials of China are those of Korea and the peace of the one country has been that of the other also. Confucius, indeed, has said "that is a tranquil land where ships, carriages, weapons and warriors are of no use and where men, living entirely apart from one another, wait till death overtakes them in the fullness of old age." Applied to the case of a family, this aphorism means; if a father be bountiful and beneficent, his sons will enjoy ease and happiness, nor be called on to serve anyone. Such were formerly the relations that existed. But now the world is troubled by the overshadowing strength of Russia, who has made her way into Korea's neighbourhood and against whom Korea has no adequate means of defence. Nothing indeed has hitherto saved Korea from annexation except the reputed poverty of her people and sterility of her soil, otherwise she would inevitably have shared the fate of India, Australia, Luzon and many another no longer independent country. Up till the present, too, Russia has been busy with intrigues in the west and this has helped to secure Korea's immunity, but now that the Muscovite's eyes are turned eastward, it behoves the people of the peninsula to be on their guard. Of course the might of Russia may not be opposed by the comparative weakness of Korea, but the latter has for her natural allies China, her old friend; Japan who is drawn to her by a community of danger, and America, whose inclinations are favorable to Asia rather than to Europe and whose policy is essentially unaggressive. That so favorable an opportunity for establishing foreign intercourse presents itself to Korea, is in truth attributable to the tutelage and prayers of the souls of her founders, from Kishi downwards, who from heaven watch over her fate. She can never hope for so happy a chance again. More than thirty years ago China broke off commercial intercourse with foreign countries on account of the opium trade and fought with them at Canton and Taku, but now no less than nineteen of her ports are open and the powers with whom she has exchanged treaties are fourteen. Japan, too, twenty years back was forcibly compelled to admit foreigners, though she had persistently endeavoured to drive them out and fought twice with them. Now they reside everywhere in her territories and she herself busily cultivates western manners and sciences. Twenty or thirty years ago the ships and weapons of western nations were not so powerful as they are at present, and the demands of England, France, America and other countries, were simply for commercial intercourse. Consequently, although our refusal to entertain their proposals led to war, we did not suffer any very serious injuries. But now, on the contrary, Russia's sole and constant aim is self-aggrandizement and her military resources are far superior to what they were before; in spite of which Korea, ignoring the changes of the times and the lessons of experience, persists in pursuing the same seclusive policy that China and Japan followed twenty or thirty years ago; a policy that can only lead to war, and will certainly not result in peace on such favorable terms as China and Japan obtained.

This is in truth a state of things fraught with peril. Korea's opportunity may be of the briefest possible duration, and if she let it slip, she will be acting with no more wisdom than the bird in the cage that, seeing the door open, waited for the night to fly away. To appreciate so critical a juncture is the true province of ability; to seize so fleeting an occasion, the noblest effort of resolution.

It is much to be desired that some sensible men in Korea will take up this question and apply themselves to the subject of their country's safety. The best course that can be pursued, is, we repeat, a close alliance with China and friendly intercourse with Japan and America. The worst, vacillation and a vain aversion to change. That a country should obstinately isolate herself, and calling foreigners barbarians, refuse to associate with them until the issue is put to the sword and so comes to be settled amid the confusion that follows war when the conquering nation is ready to make any sacrifices for the sake of tranquillity, this in truth is the very essence of short-sighted imprudence. Surely in a country of such old civilization as Korea there must be some men of ability who will comprehend the folly of adopting this policy. The King should decide once for all and entrust the arrangement of details to his ministers. No discussion on the main question ought to be permitted. Government officials must divest themselves of ancient prejudices and open their eyes to what is going on in the world, while the people at large should rouse themselves on behalf

of their country. Upon the course her Government now pursues depends Korea's integrity or dismemberment. The fate of Asia is in the balance. Even as medicine, though bitter to the palate is essential to the health, so the truth, though offensive to the ear, is of vital importance to the moral being. Nothing is further from the writer's wish than to create unnecessary alarm, but the crisis seems so imminent that he cannot choose but speak, though he is very conscious of his own inability to demonstrate the measures he advocates with even a fraction of the force their importance demands.

THE NIHON TETSUDO-GUWAISHA.

(Continued from last week.)

NEXT to the question of means comes that of ways. Where is the National Railway Company to find a staff of executive officers fit to be entrusted with the superintendence of such a work as is at present in contemplation? It may be asserted without much risk of exaggeration, that the education of a competent staff will have to be undertaken by the Company *ab initio*. The history of the Government Railways is one of continuous involuntary contraction of the native staff, until it has come about that the lines now in operation are barely officered by qualified Japanese officials. No men of practical knowledge and experience can possibly be spared from their number, so that there remain, as a source from which executive assistants can be drawn, only the past pupils of the Tokiyo University and of the Engineering College, the best of whom have been sent to continue and extend their studies abroad. There is probably no lack of ability, certainly none of theoretical knowledge, among these students, but however carefully they may have been trained, the serviceable application of knowledge and its acquisition are not more immediately consequent for them than for others. They are only fitted to fill subordinate positions, and under what chiefs? This is the problem that is beginning to present itself for solution with a pertinacity more and more embarrassing each day, not in the railways alone but in all the public works of Japan. We have before us, as we write, a letter from a student, who, having successfully completed his course of studies at a Government College and received a diploma of competence, found that the first duty assigned to him was the supervision of artisans engaged in carrying out a work, of which both the general design and the details were diametrically opposed to the principles he had been taught to consider fundamental. His remonstrances were received with contempt and he had no difficulty in foreseeing that their continuance would bring him into fatal collision with men whose maintenance of office depended on the inertia of ignorance. He had therefore to choose between the sacrifice of his position or his principles, an election the result of which is never very doubtful. This is but one of a thousand instances that are either happening now, or will inevitably happen in the immediate future. Two forces have come into unwonted contact; the past and the present. That quiet and almost inappreciable process by which the new generally displaces the old has here assumed the form of an abrupt revolution, and we have little reason to be surprised if men's powers of adaptation are sometimes overtaxed by the transition. Thus in this matter of public works the Government is obliged to employ simultaneously two most ill-assorted materials; the official of the old school, perfect, ignorant and regarding all labour as a thing to

be delegated to a subordinate; and the student of the new, ambitious, theoretically wise and disdainful of authority that bases its title to respect upon accident, not merit. In the conflict between these two there is no hope of reconciliation or compromise. The student is not yet qualified to be irresponsible, while the official is competent only to discourage and impede him. Of course the healing of this, as of most other ills, is in the hands of time, but for the moment the Railway Company, at any rate, will find it no easy task to provide a staff from such elements as we have described. As for the army of paymasters, time-keepers, transport agents and purchasers of materials, without which no work can be carried on in Japan, it must be remembered that each and every individual is an active enemy of economy, partly from ignorance of business, partly from ignorance of integrity, partly yet from the vicarious sentiment that seems to inspire Japanese officials in the presence of work, and partly from the "Nunko pays" principle that pervades every undertaking connected, however remotely, with the Government. Add to this that the practice of trade combination is by no means unknown here; that from the lowest coolie upwards, every workman has an eye upon whatever arrangements may appear to diminish his prospects of an easy day, and that as a general rule the overseer is afraid of his workmen; and we are in a position to form some conception of the difficulties that impede economical execution of works in Japan. The conspicuous parts of railway construction as cuttings, banks, &c., are executed by coolie labour. When these are finished, amateurs are apt to suppose that all is done, and consequently the operation appears comparatively simple; but those who have to deal with masons, bricklayers, carpenters, blacksmiths and skilled artisans in general, know not only that they are indispensable, but that endless delays, expense and trouble are inseparable from their employment. If, in the course of constructing the Takasaki line, the managers of the Nippon Tetsudo-guwaisha should succeed in bringing under control the stubborn elements we have enumerated, they will have deserved well of the public, even though no dividend comes to the help of the Government guarantee. Such success alone will, in our opinion, relieve the further development of their project from embarrassments which at present appear almost prohibitory.

As might be expected, numerous subsidiary schemes are on the *tapis*, schemes chiefly devised, it would seem, for the purpose of disguising the fact that so large a portion of the equipment must be imported. It is said, for instance, that all the carriages and wagons will be made on the spot by an independent company formed for the purpose. Now as many parts of the fittings cannot possibly be manufactured in Japan, it is difficult to see how any economy can be effected by separating the import of these things from that of other essentials; for such separation would simply amount to an unnecessary reduplication of agencies requiring profit, that is, to increased outlay. The cost of importing these articles must be ultimately defrayed by the parent company, whether the import be direct or indirect, and the payments made abroad will be little, if anything, less. The subsidiary companies will merely add to the families of unhealthy children that already hang, crying for food, on the skirts of almost every Government undertaking; child-

ren that fail to earn a legitimate livelihood, though rent-free, tax-free, insurance-free, and supplied with pocket money.

The day is not far distant, we trust, when Japan will possess industrial undertakings which recognise the fact that before profits on working capital can be fairly realized, provision must be made for such items as rent, insurance, depreciation and interest upon fixed capital. Hitherto the tendency of the Government's action, however praiseworthy in motive, has been to relieve a concern of some of these charges and assume the responsibility of others, thus virtually subscribing a portion of the cost of production and enabling consumers to obtain articles at prices that cannot possibly remunerate producers. Of course the result of this is to deter independent enterprise and to promote a general disregard of the elementary conditions of commercial success, for every additional undertaking that depends for its existence upon special indulgences and bounties, is not a limb of the industrial body but a parasite.

This brings us to the general question of the guarantee. What benefit can accrue to the revenue of the country from the assumption by the State of a variable charge sufficient to ensure a profit of eight per cent upon an indefinite capital? Is the enterprise of a few men, within a limited district, to be a tax upon the whole empire, and on what principle can the nobles ask the Government, from which they receive annuities, to pay them interest on the surplus portion of those annuities? Or again, does the Government believe it more advantageous to the country that these surplus funds should be devoted to railway construction, than that they should be absorbed in trade, and are the nation's purse-holders consequently willing to guarantee the nobles eight per cent as a counter attraction to the eleven or twelve per cent, with of course increased risk, returned by commercially employed capital in Japan?

If this last be the case, we cannot escape the conviction that the Government is in pursuit of an illusion. It must be borne in mind that the construction of railways is a process of converting floating into fixed capital, and that it is very possible for a country to devote years of effort to establishing a system of railways for the development of commerce, and find at the end that there is no ready money available for an emergency. If, in such an event, recourse should be had to loans raised abroad on the security of railways, the money might just as well have been borrowed in the foreign markets at the outset, nay better indeed, for many countries have profited largely by attracting and fixing foreign capital, while keeping their own floating capital for current uses, and have found it better to pay interest abroad than to lock up money at home. It is the floating capital of a country that provides labour for its inhabitants in the mass, while fixed capital only localizes and renders permanent a more limited demand for special kinds of labour, and if in extreme proportion to the floating capital, must ultimately tend to increase the misery and destitution of the poorer classes.

Moreover, such a guarantee as that proposed is liable to gross abuse. Let us imagine, for example, a line cheaply constructed and demanding a large annual outlay for repairs; further, let us suppose it insufficiently supplied with rolling stock and therefore unable to earn profits on

a large traffic, the unaccommodated portion of which will support a competitive means of transport that only lacks opportunity to make producers pay monopoly prices. The Government guarantee, under such conditions, might be taxed to the utmost, while, on the other hand, the call upon it would probably be a minimum were the judicious expenditure of a larger capital made imperative, so as to provide for the full equipment of a substantial line, competent to accommodate all the traffic of the district, at a profit within fixed rates approved by the authorities in consultation with the representatives of local interests.

In a word, the issue we are disposed to predict for the scheme at present before the public is, that the Government will ultimately have to choose between paying exorbitant interest on misemployed capital, or doing in the end what they could have done with much greater advantage in the beginning, namely, taking, making, working and paying for the line themselves.

REGICIDES.

CONSIDERING how frequently during the present century European sovereigns have been the objects of attacks, deliberate and often most ingeniously and maturely planned, at the hands of assassins, the marvel is that the attempts upon their lives have so generally failed. It is strange that Russia should have afforded almost the sole instances of the success of regicides in the period in question. On the 11th of March, 1801, the wicked but luckless Paul, son of the equally vile and unfortunate Peter III. and the lascivious Catharine, was strangled in his bed with a towel by a band of his nobles, who showed their determination to effect their object or perish, by the fierceness with which they overcame the obstacles that opposed their approach to the chamber of the doomed monarch. The demise of Nicholas in 1855 is by many believed to have been due less to anxiety and fatigue than to the effects of poison. A military conspiracy which aimed at his murder as an essential preliminary to reform, was discovered, and suppressed with cruel rigor, in the earlier days of his reign (1826). The first assault upon his son and successor, the late Alexander II., was made in 1866 by Korasokoff, who shot at the Czar in the streets of St. Petersburg. His Majesty had then reigned with immunity for nearly eleven years. His life was saved by a worthless, drunken, peasant, who was enriched and ennobled, but subsequently so grossly misconducted himself that it was deemed expedient to dispose of him by appointing him to a lieutenancy in a regiment fighting in Circassia. In 1867, while the Emperors of France and Russia were returning from a review in the Bois de Boulogne, Berzoffski, a young Polish refugee, stepped forward and fired two pistols at the barouche containing the potentates and the Czarewitsch. A officer of the escort urged his horse forward just in time; and the steed intercepted the bullets, which spattered blood from the charger over the face and person of the young prince who now sits on the fatal throne of his forefathers. Thenceforward the Czar lived unattacked until April, 1879, when the Nihilist schoolmaster Solovieff ineffectually fired several shots at him from a revolver near the General Staff Office in the Russian capital. From that time the unhappy ruler existed in a perpetual round of menace and an atmosphere of death. Threats of impending doom were constantly conveyed to him in the most extraordinary manner. In November occurred the explosion on the railway near

Moscow, wrecking a freight train instead of that which, containing the Czar and his suite, had passed in safety a few minutes previously. A few months later, in February, 1880, came the fiendish discharge of dynamite below the banquetting-room in the Winter Palace. This enterprise missed the Imperial family whose assassination was its object, but wrought fearful slaughter and mutilation among the soldiery of the guard. The latest sanguinary and successful essay of the Nihilists, only a few weeks' old, is fresh in the recollection of a universally horror-stricken public.

Turning from Russia to France, we find that the first year of the nineteenth century was marked by the attempt of two Italians, Arena and Gerachi, upon the life of the First Consul. To these conspirators belongs the questionable honor of inventing what have since been known as "infernal machines." The intriguers sought to blow up the General's carriage with boxes full of explosives placed in mines beside the line of route, and fired by the pressure of the wheels upon a string stretched across the road and acting simultaneously upon the triggers of two pistols, which discharged lighted tinder into the cases. A postilion was wounded; but Bonaparte escaped unscathed. A similar exemption from injury attended him in 1804, when Georges Cadouhal and his associates flung grenades under his carriage, and in 1809, when the student Staaps endeavored to poniard him in the garden of Shoenbrunn. From that time until 1832, when Ferdinand of Austria escaped assassination at Baden, the rulers of Europe were unmolested, though a royal personage, the Duke de Berry, fell a victim to the dagger of a fanatic on the steps of the Paris Opera House. Louis Philippe's life was attempted no fewer than nineteen times. This most pacific of monarchs got so accustomed to be shot at that he would return to the Tuilleries, after each fresh trial, in a perfectly serene state of mind, and go through his evening's work as though nothing had occurred to disturb him. The most memorable assault upon him was that of the Corsican Fieschi, who directed a hail of bullets, from a number of gun-barrels lashed together, upon the citizen king and his staff during the progress of a review. Marshal Mortier and twelve other persons were killed on the spot, while, as a matter of course accompanying such destruction, many more were wounded. This wholesale murderer may claim to have sown the germ of the *mitrailleuse*, and its numerous deadly developments. Napoleon III. came uninjured in body out of the blaze and thunder of Orsini's bombs; but unquestionably the terror of the event affected his mind, and turned his career into that path which terminated in the shame and sorrow of Sedan. In 1863 he was fired at by a Corsican, and a hellish plot against him, conducted by three of Orsini's compatriots, was unearthed by the police three years later. An article which appeared in the *Cornhill Magazine* last year observes:—"There is said to have been another and more mysterious attempt against the Emperor, of which the public heard nothing except by rumour. A game-keeper, of the forest of Compeigne, shot at His Majesty while the latter was engaged in a pheasant battue; but one of the equerries in attendance on Napoleon discharged both the barrels of his breach-loader into the head of the murderer, and killed him on the spot. So the story runs, but whether it be a true one or not, will probably never be known till some of the secret memoirs of the Imperial era come to light."

The late King of Prussia, William IV., was the object of two murderous assaults; one in 1844 and the other in 1850. His brother and successor, the present Emperor

of Germany, while military commander at Coblenz, escaped a similar attempt. After his accession to the throne he was shot at in 1861, while taking his morning walk in the Lichtenthal at Baden, by a madcap student, whose bullet grazed the king's neck. The 11th of May, and the 3rd of June, 1878, witnessed, respectively, the third and fourth attacks upon the life of this iron-built *kaiser*. Hoedel, the criminal in the first instance, was a half-famished, half-crazed, boy, whose effort sprang from some wild vision of notoriety; a vision that included rescue by miraculous means, death, or—maintenance from starvation. With Dr. Noebiling the case was different. A man of fair birth, position, and education, he had thrown himself into the misguided ranks of socialism, in whose behalf he was unhappily so far successful as to lodge about thirty hail-shot in the face and wrist of the unifier of Germany. His victim recovered; but he himself expired from wounds inflicted by his own desperate hand.

The virtues and benevolence of our own gracious Queen have not shielded her from assaults dictated by the hair-brained folly of their perpetrators. Oxford fired at Her Majesty in 1840; and a carpenter, named Francis, approached her within striking distance, and left a rude wale on her fair face. Both these men were lunatics and so treated. The young idiot O'Connor merely pointed a pistol in her direction on the occasion of his first offence, and was sent abroad unpunished, though sentenced to a flogging and imprisonment. Subsequently, when discovered lurking about the premises of Buckingham Palace, he was confined in Bedlam. More tragic attempts were made upon the person of Isabella of Spain. In 1852, a dagger blow, aimed at her heart, pierced the upper arm of a gallant officer, was as swift and lucky enough to intercept the thrust. The weapon was with difficulty extracted from the tenacious biceps in which it was buried. The story of the endeavour to shoot Her Majesty, four years later, is worth repetition. As she was driving through Madrid, a bullet from the pathway traversed the two door-windows of her carriage, smashed the plate-glass window of an engraver's shop opposite, and pierced a portrait of the Queen there displayed for sale. Isabella paid a handsome price for the defaced picture, framed it in gold, and presented it thus embellished to the chapel of the convent of our Lady of Mercy, where it probably hangs to this day.

This lady's son, King Alfonso, has twice evaded death by treachery in Madrid. In 1878, shortly after the demise of Queen Mercedes, he was made a target of and missed. At the close of 1879, while he was driving with his present—then newly-married—consort two shots were fired at, and passed perilously close to, the royal pair. The king's immediate predecessor, Amadeo of Savoy, accompanied by his gentle wife, had narrowly escaped being blown up with his carriage in 1872. The shock was too much for the august lady, who was already in delicate health, and she died soon afterwards. Her husband almost immediately abdicated and, left a country which possessed for him such tragic memories.

In November, 1878, at the gates of Naples, King Humbert, the respected, alluded the stiletto of Passamante, the universal republican; but poor Signor Cairoli was confined to his bed for weeks from the effect of a second thrust despatched by the assassin to the address of his master.

With the exception of the two Russian emperors who have met their doom by assassination since 1800, we can recall no instance within the same period of the murder of European sovereigns, save that of Prince Michael of

Servia at Belgrade in 1868. Abraham Lincoln, President of the United States, was foully brought to his end in a Washington theatre in 1865. Of the attempts, consummated or abortive, which have occurred and are occurring, thick as autumn leaves in the famed Appenninian vale, in the republics of Central and South America, lack of space and memory alike prevents us from speaking. We have merely glanced at the regicidal events of the present century in civilized regions, not in connection with their political or private motives, but because of the conclusion they warrant, that monarchs have not much to dread from the steel or lead of traitors and enthusiasts. Would-be regicides, however, stand a very poor chance indeed, and may resign themselves, from the outset, either to the gallows, or to a lifelong residence in a madhouse or gaol.

REVIEW. *

THE poetry to which we are introduced in this volume, apart from its intrinsic merits—and they are not a few—possesses peculiar interest for students of Japan and the Japanese, since it is, as Mr. Chamberlain tells us, the one original product of the native mind.

This announcement will probably be read with some incredulity. Neither Sir R. Alcock, who finds the source of Japanese art in nature, nor the people of England, whose latest æsthetic inspirations are all derived from the Land of the Rising Sun, will be disposed to admit that the conventionality of China and the bigotry of Korea are the models upon which Japan's finer instincts are moulded. Yet so it is. Japan has but the very smallest title to inventive genius. She has played the part, not of an originator, but of an assimilator: a medium that has softened and improved everything it transmitted, but created nothing. If we are ever to hold any intimate communion with the spirit that once animated her, it must be through her poetry, and this Mr. Chamberlain's interpretation has now for the first time rendered really possible. This we do not say with the intention of disparaging what has been done before. Already much that is admirable has from time to time been put before the public, but it has been more or less of a fragmentary description, and while receiving well merited applause, has generally suggested the idea of a translator that polishes and supplements, rather than that of an original that stands in no need of such processes. We repeat, then, that this "Classical Poetry" is our first reliable and faithful introduction to the intellectual life of Japan, and we are very much mistaken if it does not excite a very earnest wish for further acquaintance.

At the same time it is not to be supposed that a true and exact idea of Japanese poetry can be imparted by any translator. One, at any rate, of the original's beauties—the "pivots"—is totally impossible to reproduce, and thus we lose the happy effect of those linked verses which, as our author tells us, "pass before the reader like a series of dissolving views, vague, graceful and suggestive." Beyond this, however, the translator has admirably succeeded in exhibiting that "simplicity, love of precedent and courtly polish which are the most characteristic features of the poetry of the Japanese." His task has been one of immense difficulty, and we can gather from his introduction that he was not a little embarrassed in his choice of method. To have attempted to be literal would have been in our opinion to invite failure. We are heartily weary of word for word renderings, scarcely admissible with languages of cognate idiom and totally monstrous when Japanese and English

* The Classical Poetry of the Japanese, By Basil Hall Chamberlain.

are concerned. A perfect translation ought never to remind one that it is a translation, except perhaps in the novelty of the ideas it conveys. This is the fundamental axiom of such work, and curiously enough it is over and over again neglected by those that set themselves to interpret Japanese for Western readers. What better than a rap over the knuckles can a schoolboy expect when he translates *pius Æneus*, "the pious Æneus," and what more charitable than derision does the student deserve who commences an Anglicized version of a Chinese document with the words, "Prince Kung herewith makes a communication," or concludes a Japanese letter of sympathy with such a sentence as, "the above is by way of abbreviated condolence"? English has one idiom, Japanese another, and to confound the two is not more sensible nor less incongruous than to set Paradise Lost to jew's-harp music. From errors of this sort Mr. Chamberlain's work is conspicuously free. His book is in this respect a notable success. Those subtle delicacies of language from which the poet's quick perception elicits harmonies imperceptible save to the keen energy and passion of moral natures trained in the same school as his own; those delicacies indeed could not by any means have been conveyed to western minds in a western tongue. Nay, we may go so far as to say, that even in their original raiment the most shadowy outlines alone of these beauties are visible to alien eyes. We are totally incompetent to judge justly Japanese poetry or Japanese music. Their best aspects—the aspects under which they appeal most powerfully to their native lovers—must ever remain invisible to us, and the utmost we can hope for, is to express them without unnecessary infidelity in terms of our own sentiments. Something of their cadence of course we may seek to preserve, and this brings us to the great questions of rhyme and metre, for that of verse or prose we dismiss at once.

If there be any difference between poetry and prose in Japanese, that difference cannot properly be disregarded by a translator, unless, as Mr. Chamberlain truly remarks, he elects to sacrifice the spirit of the original to the letter. But considerations of another nature apply to rhyme, which is as much a trick of language as the "pillow-words" and "pivots" of the Japanese. Rhyme is a mere jingle. It bears to the genuine music of poetry much the same relation that the shaking of a tambourine does to the peal of a mighty organ. It is useful in cradle ditties and mnemonics. Many a school boy has been saved from a false rendering of the "present future" by Dr. Arnold's delightful doggerel:—

"Oh! never translate, *puer admodum care,*
I'm going to plough by *sum ius arare,*
With *eo* the phrase has got nothing to do,
Be *sum araturus* the Latin for you."

and infant lips will lip "the house that jack built" with infinite delight for centuries to come, but for the rest, rhyme represents a phase of European sentiment which has no counterpart in Japan, and it is inevitable that the translator who attempts to be also a rhymster must often dislocate and sometimes patch his original if he forces it into a mould it was never destined to fit. Mr. Aston, who to our thinking has been exceptionally happy in his occasional rendering of Japanese pieces, never essayed rhyme, and the following specimen will suffice to determine whether his work has suffered in consequence:—

"Gentle is the rise of the hills,
Bearing hundreds of trees,
Pleasant is the murmur of the rapids,
As downward they rush.

"So long as in the spring-time
(When the nightingale comes and sings)
On the rocks brocade-like flowers blossom
Brightening the mountain foot:

"So long as in the Autumn
(When the stag calls to his mate)
The red leaves fall hither and thither
Wounded by the showers,
The heaven be-clouding :

"For many thousand years
May his life be prolonged
To rule over all under heaven
In the great palace,
Destined to remain unchanged
For hundreds of ages."

Mr. Chamberlain, however, has deemed rhyme essential, as a substitute perhaps in part for the "pivots" he necessarily omits. He has thereby added largely to the difficulty of his task, and whether any compensatory advantage is attained may be well accounted doubtful. Yet we must confess that the ability he displays almost compels us to endorse his judgement. Here, for example, are a few verses whose sonorous cadence and perfectly graceful diction leave nothing to be desired :—

"And so I trusted, that till old and hoary
The heav'n and earth should on each other fall,
Nara might sparkle with perennial glory
And Nara's palace hold the Lord of all.

"But Nara too must yield, as yield all mortals,
To the great King's inscrutable commands :
Her beauty fades ; the court deserts her portals,
Like birds of passage seeking other lands.

"Here in these streets, where high-born throngs advancing,
And neighing steeds erst made the heav'n resound,
No step is heard, no chargers more are prancing,
Sad desolation covers all the ground."

Mr. Chamberlain himself answers our objections by pointing out, that "English blank verse is, in reality, as different from the Japanese metre as is English rhymed verse," but such a reply only suggests a confusion between rhyme and metre. The majority of English blank verses have been written in pentameter, but trochees, anapaests, sapphics, alcaics, and many other classical measures have been found well adapted to the same purpose, and we fail to see how any general distinction, in point of metre, can be made between English blank and rhymed verse. Perhaps, however, this is hypercritical. Mr. Chamberlain's practice will certainly obtain more support than our theory, but, to tell the truth, his work is so admirable that we would fain see it relieved from an impediment which must at times prove almost insuperable and can seldom repay the trouble of surmounting.

One thing is rendered very evident by a perusal of the volume before us : Japanese poetry is essentially of the Reflective or Perceptive order. It reminds us, now of Wordsworth, now of Keats, but never of Shakespeare or Homer. Sometimes, indeed, we find a thought that recalls Tennyson. Compare, for example,

"Tears idle tears, I know not what they mean
Tears from the depths of some divine despair,
Rise from the heart and gather to the eyes,
In looking on the happy autumn fields
And thinking on the days that are no more."

"A thousand thoughts of tender vague regret
Crowd on my soul, what time I stand and gaze
On the soft-shining autumn moon ; and yet
Not to me only speaks her silv'ry haze."

We might have expected that since the same influences were at work in Japan as in Europe during the middle ages, the same, or at any rate tolerably similar, mental phases would have resulted. But it was not so. Like mediæval Europeans, the Japanese of the Manyōshū era exhausted all the resource of æsthetics and handicraft on the decoration of the gorgeous arms and armour their warriors bore, and for them too, without doubt, the world had nothing more beautiful than "a young knight riding out in morning sunshine," the impersonification of strength and fealty. Yet they never seem to have possessed any admiration of human beauty. From first to last they remained the subjects of one influence ; the influence of nature :—

"Near to the valley stands my humble cot.
The village nestles 'neath the cooling shade
Of lofty timber ; but the silent glade
Not yet re-echoes with the cuckoo's note."

This is the fashion of their song ; always gentle, always plaintive : finding placid inspiration in flowers, leaves, the purling of the brook, and the hazes of the moon-light, but never bursting into that iron glow, that white heat, when the "intellect rises till it is strong enough to assert its rule against or together with, the utmost efforts of the passions. Yet there is little, if any, resemblance between Japanese poetry and the English so called "pastoral" verse of the 17th and 18th centuries. This has been well described as a medley of foolish sentimentality, morbid fear, curious ignorance and affected erudition ; that is a simple expression of feelings that make comrades of nature's lights and shadows and love her alike for her warnings and her sympathy.

"Since the far natal hour of earth and heaven
Man never ceased to cry,
That neer to aught in this our world 'twas given
To last eternally.

"If upward gazing on the moon of light
That hangs in heav'n's high plain,
I see her wax, 'twill not be many a night
Before that moon shall wane.

"And if in spring each twig puts forth his flow'r
On all the hills around,
Dew chilled and storm-swept in dull autumn hours
The leaves fall to the ground.

"Such too is man : soon pales the ruddy cheek
The raven locks soon fade ;
And the fresh smile of morn, 'twere vain to seek
Amid the evening shade.

"And I that gaze upon this mortal scene,
My tears flow down for ever,
Where all is viewless as the wind unseen
And fleeting as the river."

But space fails us. We would fain ask our readers to join us for another hour in the perusal of this delightful volume, but we have nothing to say that can enhance its merits, and when we seek to select, we find in each piece some beauty that forbids its exclusion. We shall therefore conclude with one more extract, not because what we have written is by any means a measure of our applause, but because the "Classical Poetry of the Japanese" will speak for itself much more forcibly than any words of ours could.

"Oft in the misty Spring
The vapours roll o'er Mount Mikasa's crest,
While, pausing not to rest,
The birds each morn with plaintive note do sing.
Like to the mists of Spring
My heart is rent ; for, like the song of birds,
Still all unanswered ring
The tender accents of my passionate words.
I call her ev'ry day
Till daylight fades away ;
I call her every night
Till dawn restores the light ;—
But my fond prayers are all too weak to bring
My darling back to sight."

THE CAPTURE AND CAPTIVITY OF PÈRE GIOVANNI BATISTA SIDOTTI IN JAPAN FROM 1709 TO 1715.

Translated from the 西洋紀聞 of ARAI HAKU-SÉKI,
by the REV. W. B. WRIGHT.

[Read before the Asiatic Society of Japan, March 8, 1881.]

On the 6th day of the 12th month of Boshū (the Rat), in the 5th year of the Hōyō period (Jan. 16, 1709), I heard at the Sei-tei (?) that in the preceding 8th month there was a wild man who had come and stayed in an island of the Ōsumi province. Except such words as "Nippon," "Yedo," "Nagasaki," and the like, his language could not be understood. He wrote on paper a number of circles, and pointing to them said, "Rōna, Namban, Roxon, Kas-teira, Kirishitan," and so on. When he said "Fōna" he pointed to himself. This affair was reported to Nagasaki.

When enquiry was made of the Hollanders, they said: "Rôma is the name of a place in Italy and belongs to the Lord of the Ten-shu-kiyô sect. Roxon, Kasteira and so forth we don't know at all." Also, when they asked men of Nankin, Ningpo, Amoy, Taiwan, Canton, Tonkin and Siam, they said they had heard that Kirishitan was the name of a corrupt sect, but they did not know anything more. The government told this to me. When I heard this I said that I could not understand the fact of his language not being comprehended. The authorities once more asked why. I replied, "I have heard and remembered what men of old said, viz., 'as the men of that country understand very well the tongues of all lands, in former times when the southern barbarians first came, as they were able to understand very well the languages of our country in five or six days' time, at last they also preached their doctrine.' That doctrine was spread abroad in this country, and for many years the men of that country were always coming and going. When their doctrine was prohibited, a great number of my countrymen who followed that teaching were sent over to that land. Therefore the men of that country perhaps will understand the language of this land very well. If those who come seeking anything in our country did not understand this language, how will they accomplish their desire? But as the languages of the Five Parts are not the same, and among them are ancient words, I don't know to what part of our country the language they have learnt may belong. As it is nearly a hundred years since the men of that country have ceased to come here, in the language of that time there will be differences from the present mode of speech. If we tell the Roman's words to men who know those old words, his words will not be beyond comprehension. I don't understand what the Hollanders mean. Again, Roxon from the time of the Sô and Gen until now being written Roson, jars that have come from that country are thought convenient by my countrymen to keep tea in, and the name of Roson jars is understood by every one; and Kasteira being a country near the land called Italy, formerly there was a time when cakes made and sent from that place were brought here, and now, too, there are such cakes. These things even such as I understood, when I heard. Then is it not very absurd that men of those parts should not be able to understand?" So I said, and the government thought so too. Then I heard that that man, in accordance with the law of Nippon, must be punished. That year passed over. As on the 10th day of the 1st month of Kichî in the 6th year (Feb. 19th, 1709) there was court mourning (for Iyenobu), this matter could not be heard. That year also came nearly to an end. In the beginning of the 11th month of last year the government said: "The foreigner who came to Osumi will soon arrive here. You must investigate the cause of this affair." Also they copied and sent to me the letter sent from Kagoshima last year to the officials of Nagasaki. The reason of this was, that they did not yet know the cause of his having come to Japan. Again, as what I said was previous to this, they summoned me to the Shôgun to cause me to make enquiries. And if it were only the Nipponese language, I could have understood his language a little, but as the names of places and men, and that doctrine had many peculiar sounds, and this doctrine was prohibited; as there were things not understood, too, by the Hollander interpreters, truly this matter is difficult. With respect to this, as I thought there might be some translations of these words in the commissioners' office, I said, "If there are such books, be so good as to lend them to me." The officials were ordered to do so, and three books came from the office. When they had lent them and I looked into them, the principal doctrines of that religion appeared, but those words were not translated. But in them were one or two things not unworthy of attention. So then having heard that that man was come, they summoned him on the 22nd day of the same month to the commissioners' office. On the previous day I met the officials of the commission, Yokota Bitchû no Kami and Yanagisawa Hachirôzayemon, and made an appointment about this matter. On that day, just after the hour of *mi* (11) I went to meet him there (Kirishitan Yashiki is at Koishikawa), and having met the commissioners, I saw the things he had brought with him. I saw money newly coined in this country and vestments made of white linen, and on the back a red stamp with the

name of Nara in this country. As I showed them also to the commissioners and others, there could be no doubt. Though they thought it so strange as not to be able to understand it, having all finished looking they called the interpreters, who had been sent from Nagasaki with this man. (The chief interpreter was called Inamura Genzayemon Hidemari, the assistants Shinagawa Heijirô and Kafuku Kizô. I don't know the proper names of these two.) When I saw these men I turned to them and said: "Please say to the commissioners, 'Formerly, when the Namban came to Nagasaki, there were interpreters of their tongue in Nippon, and before that religion was forbidden by law, there were also interpreters; but since those men have all died, there will not be any who understand this branch of learning. Much more, from the commencement of the prohibitory laws, even by mistake to have spoken of these matters invites severe punishment. Although people may have heard and known them, they do not speak at all of them. So then, as 70 or 80 years have passed away, there won't be any one who can know that language. As the languages of the Five Parts are not the same, for example now, if we spoke the Mutsu dialect to a Nagasaki man there would be many words not understood. But while this is so, yet because they are all our mother tongue, if we suppose 'that' to mean 'this,' even if we are not certain of all, we have a general notion of the meaning. If I look at the map of the world, Italy and Holland are within the same continent of Europe, and not so far separated as Nagasaki and Mutsu. Therefore if we suppose that you speak with the Dutch language to an Italian, seven or eight words out of ten will be understood. But when you are speaking on behalf of government, it won't do to speak by conjecture: you must learn to speak correctly. The present mode, too, is different from former modes of speech. Now we don't use the former mode of public speaking. Since it is necessary for me to understand this man's language, even though the interpreters don't understand all his words, yet let them make a conjecture and tell me, and I also, thinking that their words correctly agree with the meaning of his words, will accept and use them even though I don't understand. Therefore in conjecturing their meaning, though they should mistake them a little, it will be no crime. Of course as they have not studied this language, although there may be some things not understood, please don't blame this.'" They replied that they agreed with all this. When it was past three o'clock he was called out, and two men, one at each side, kept guard, and he saluted the persons present. They ordered him to sit down, and then the commissioners came to the side of a table. (That house faced the south and there was a wooden verandah; the table was placed three feet from it. The commissioners sat near the verandah, but I sat a little in the rear. The chief interpreter was on the west side of the verandah. The assistant interpreters knelt on the east side. As the Roman had come from a distance in a *morimon* he could not walk; therefore even in coming from the prison he came in a *kago*. Therefore, too, the two men held him up by the armpits: When he had sat down by the table, one horse-soldier and two foot-soldiers were beside and behind him, and knelt on mats. The rest of the arrangements were similar to this.) His height was over six feet; he was taller than ordinary men, his head the shape of a censor, his hair black, his eye deep set, a high nose, and he wore a brown stuffed small-sleeved Nipponese pongee silk robe. This garment he had received from the Lord of Satsuma. Next the skin he wore a white calico shirt. (When he sat down he made the ceremony of the sign of some letter with his right hand on his forehead, and afterwards he always did the same. I have written the shape of it at the end of this book.) So then the commissioners spoke to the Roman through an interpreter. When they did so, he made an obeisance and replied. Then the commissioners said, that as the weather was very cold they wished to give him a garment; but he would not receive it. The reason was, as I heard, that he was not allowed by the rules of his religion to receive from any but disciples. "But since such like as food was necessary to sustain precious life that he might accomplish the commands of his King, it was quite enough to receive the benevolence of this country by eating its rice; How could he oppose this rule of his religion and receive clothes? As he is wearing a garment which he re-

received at first in Satsuma, he is not cold, and they must not distress themselves." After this talk was ended, all the commissioners saluted me and bid me sit down beside them. And that day I made no other enquiries except that I bid the interpreters ask as to the condition of the Roman country, and heard the Roman's reply. (I brought the map of the world and enquired the state of the various countries. This map, being made in Japan, was not precise; but as I had heard that there was an old map, in the commissioners' office, they promised to bring it.) When they asked him about this matter, I found that it was not so difficult to understand as I thought it would be. Only, as his words were a mixture of the dialects of the Five Parts spoken with his native accent, though I thought the words were so and so, I had some doubts. He also, thinking we did not understand him well, often repeated the same words over, but there were a good many mistakes in his talk. And moreover, he pronounced the names of those places and persons according to the manner of his country, but enquired carefully, and distinguished the names well, and as the interpreters had learned the Dutch language well, he taught them to pronounce what, led by former habits, they could not pronounce as the Roman did. Also after one hour of questioning I myself conversed with him. As it was now evening I informed the commissioners that I would come again, and then was about to return home. Just then the Roman, turning to the interpreter, said: "The cause of my coming to Nippon is to respectfully teach my doctrine and thus benefit all, and save men. But since coming to Nippon, I have caused trouble to many, which distresses my conscience. Since I arrived here, this year has nearly ended. The weather is cold; the climate, too, is severe and snow will soon fall. It is truly a source of sorrow, that men, beginning with these Samurai, should have to guard me day and night. I suppose the reason of thus guarding me is from the fear that I may run away. My coming without fear over many thousand miles of wind and waves, is that at all hazards I may come and tell the message of my Lord to Nippon. I have come by my own desire. And so I shall certainly not leave and go elsewhere; and though I ran away, I could not stay one day in a place unknown, as I am not like the men of this country. But if you are guarding me by the Shôgun's command, it would not be right to be negligent in this. The daytime does not matter, but as the night is truly miserable for the guards, put on manacles and fetters and place me bound in the prison. If you should do so, the night guards will be able to sleep. Please mention this to the commissioners." When the commissioners had heard this, they thought it very frightful. I said to them: "I should not have thought him so deceitful;" and the prisoner having heard me, and seeming to dislike me very much, said: "It would be shameful for any one not to speak the truth; much more since there is a special commandment of my religion with respect to telling lies. From the time I came to understand the principles of this religion until now, I have not told any untruths. Notwithstanding, how is it that you have said such a thing of me?" I asked him, "In what you said now, did you say, 'the year being nearly over and the climate cold, it is unendurable to see these guards having to keep watch day and night'?" "Yes," he replied. "If so, then, I think you spoke deceitfully, because it is considered very important, and is by command of the government; and since the commissioners have received orders and so commanded you to be guarded, as they are anxious that nothing untoward should happen to you, inasmuch as your clothes are thin, they wished to give you clothes, but you won't receive those garments. If it is as you now said, why do you cause them such anxiety? If you don't care on account of your religious rule, why is it that at all events you don't care for the sake of those who are in charge of you? Therefore if what you said now is true, what you said before is a lie. Anyhow explain to me what is your meaning." He replied: "Since I have heard your words, I think that what I said before was a mistake, therefore I will receive the garment, and set the commissioners' minds at rest." The commissioners were glad that he had spoken such a good thing. The Roman, turning again to the interpreter, said: "If it is all the same, I humbly wish not to receive silk robes,—only cotton ones."

As it had grown dark during this talk, they took him

back to prison, and I, too, went back to my house. On the 25th evening I called the interpreters to my house, and asked some things I had not understood the day before. Again on the 25th I went there and met the commissioners, and we summoned the Roman once more. On this day the map of the world that was in the commissioners' house was brought, and I inquired many things about Rôma and rather in detail. He said: "This map was made more than 70 years ago, and even at Rôma there are not many like it; but in some parts it is unfortunately frayed and torn. If these were mended, it might be handed down to the future." This day we spent in converse from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. and sent him back. That day he proffered his thanks a second time for the cotton clothes to the commissioners. I suggested that they should go and see the interior of the prison, and went as guide; and when they arrived, they saw on the north side of the prison a house. Formerly the teachers of that doctrine who had returned to orthodoxy were put there. There were living in it an old couple; as the commissioners came, they went out to meet them. These were the children of some criminals, and having become slaves thereby, were given as servants to some one kept here, and they had become man and wife. These had not received that doctrine, but as they had been servants to Christians from childhood, they were not allowed outside the prison. Well, they looked at that prison. It was large, separated into three by thick boards; they had placed the missionary in the west room. He had cut red paper into the shape of a cross and pasted it on the west wall, and was reciting his prayers, so as to read them under the cross. To the south of this dwelling was another house. There the warders kept watch. After I had seen these things I returned home. On the 30th I went again. This day, as the commissioners said I need not go with them, I did not go. We enquired more in detail this day what we had asked briefly some days before. So the day passed over. What we had enquired about before only related to his country. We had not asked the cause of his coming here, and the object of his religion. He used to explain the matters of his religion, whenever the words came up, but I made no reply. On the next day I said to the authorities, "Up to yesterday this man's examination has lasted about three days. Now I can understand his words without mistake, and I think that he can understand my words well. Henceforth I think it would be well to enquire the cause why he has come. If not, as assuredly his talk will be about the principles of his religion, perhaps the commissioners will come together and you will be pleased to order me to hear the reason of this matter." They signified their approval. I also told the commissioners and bid them meet. On the 4th of the twelfth month I went to the commissioners' office, and the commissioners also met there. They had him out of prison, and I asked him why he came to Nippon, and what doctrines he came here to spread. When I had done so, he rejoiced very much, and said: "Six years ago I heard that I was to come here as a messenger, and enduring many thousand miles of wind and waves, at last I have arrived at this capital. But as this day, if I lived in my own land, would be the beginning of New Year, a time when all men are rejoicing together, I think it truly a joyful thing that to-day, for the first time since I came to Japan, I am asked about my religion." (In that sect at Rôma perhaps the calendar may be different on the 4th of 12th month.) He spoke fully about his religion. His doctrine was different in one respect from what was in the three volumes lent from the commissioners' office. Only there were a few verbal differences, and the names of places and men were spelt differently, all the sounds being slightly altered. In respect of general knowledge and good memory even at Rôma he was considered very learned. In astronomy and geography the Nipponese could not come near him at all. I enquired as to the ancient matters at Rôma, and he said: "There are many kinds of learning there; among these I am acquainted with 16." For example, as to astronomy and so forth, the first day I met him, as the day was nearly ended, I enquired of the commissioners, "What hour may it be? As there is no bell to strike the hour in the neighbourhood, I don't know." Then turning his head and observing the position of the sun, and looking at his own shadow, bending his fingers, and calculating, he said: "In my country's fashion, it is

such a division of such an hour, of such a day, of such a month and year." This was by the triangular sun-dial method, and appeared very simple to him, but I don't think you would say it was very easy.

Again, I opened the map of the world, made in Holland, and going through all parts of Europe, at last I asked, "Where is Rôma?" but as the names were written in small barbarian letters, even the interpreters could not understand. But he said, "Is there a Chirachisusuya?" "There is not," replied the interpreter. "What is it?" I said. He said, "In the Dutch language it is called *hassuru*, in Italian, *compass*." When I said, "I have one," and taking it out of my pocket gave it, he said: "This is not quite serviceable, because its point is shaky; but it is better than nothing." Seeing that there was in the map a measuring scale painted small, he took a pen, copied those numbers and using that compass, calculated the minute number. That map was on the table, his body on a seat in the garden, but stretching out his hand, he looked out a line drawn like a spider's thread on that small painted space, reaching with the compass a part his hand could not get to, so as to be able to count on both sides, and saying, "Be pleased to look here," he pointed with the compass to it. So when I looked, the point of the compass had stopped within a small circle like the eye of a needle. The interpreter said that on the side of that circle the word "Rôma" was written. Besides this I asked about Holland and all its provinces, and he knew them all without a mistake as before; and when we looked for Nippon in the map, and asked, "Where is Yedo?" as before, he said, "Here it is." And when we looked at the place, it was written "Yedo" in foreign letters. It appeared that these things were all fixed, but I imagine that if he had not been accurate in these things, it would truly be difficult to do. I said, "If I studied all these things, could I acquire them?" "Truly, they are easy," he replied. Again I said, "As I don't know mathematics well, perhaps it would be difficult." "By no means; even without knowing mathematics, you can learn it very easily," said he. And again he was very careful to show his approval, even in small things. When he sat beside the table in the garden, he first folded his hands and made a bow, and with his right hand he made the sign on his forehead, and afterwards closing his eyes, sat down, but like a statue, without any movement. Whenever the commissioners rose up, he also stood up and made obeisance and then sat again. When they came back to their seat, he also stood and made a bow. Everyday he acted in the same manner. Once, on seeing a commissioner sneeze, he looked at him and repeated a form of incantation, and then turning to the interpreter he said: "The weather and climate are cold. Can't you put on another coat? My countrymen are careful about sneezing. Formerly, people in my land were everywhere seized with this sneezing sickness." Again, the interpreters using the Latin language, corrected the mistakes in his use of the Nipponese language. When they did so, he praised them highly. I having heard their words, laughed and said, "The interpreters have only imperfectly learned the Dutch language, and their old habits can't be done away, which are unlike the present mode of speaking. Of course you are used to our language." Again as he could not say in our language the words, "In the Dutch men-of-war there are placed in the sides many weapons; these are in three compartments—middle, upper, and lower, and they stick the great guns through the port holes," and even to say it by a figure was not very easy, I stretched out my left hand sideways, and sticking out three finger tips of my right hand between the four fingers, I shewed them to him, and he said, "It is exactly so," and turning to the interpreters said, "It is very clever." Again, when I inquired how far the country of Nowa Oranda is from here, he did not reply. I asked a second time, and turning to the interpreter, he said: "In the great laws of my religion there is nothing more important than that about murder. How can I tell people and help them to find other countries?" When I heard his words, not being able to comprehend them, I asked through the interpreter, "How does he mean?" He said, "Even though I should know, I must not answer matters about those countries." Once again, when I asked his opinion, he said, "As I have only lately seen the people of Nippon, I don't know matters relating to Nippon, but if you were an

inhabitant of my country you would do fine things. As Nowa Oranda is not far from here, if this person should desire to take that country, it would be very easy. Therefore I refuse," said he, "plainly to tell the way there or to show how to conquer any one's country." I heard this and felt sorry the commissioners too should have heard it, and said, with a laugh, "In regard to what I have now heard, even if I had that desire, as there is a strict law in my country, I could not send even one soldier there." All his examination was in a similar style.

When he came to speak about his religion, it appeared to be not in the slightest respect like the true way. Wisdom and folly became suddenly interchanged in him; at first I had thought him very intelligent, but when he began to explain his doctrine, he became like a fool; it was just as if one had heard the words of two men. At this point, though I knew that although Roman learning is well accustomed to deal only with matter and mechanics, and is acquainted with things derived from matter, yet it is not acquainted with things above matter; yet I thought that perhaps the doctrine of the existence of a Creator may not be false. So then after that our talk ended.

I presented two volumes to the government, in which I had written the main points of our conversation. As it already had been distinctly determined, an order was given by the Shôgun to the commissioners to this effect: "The religion of Yaso has been prohibited in Nippon from of old. Now with respect to that Roman's coming here, since he says that he came here to complain that former messengers were truly not deserving of punishment, he must have come to bring letters from Rôma. However, he has come deceitfully without such letters to our land. Even if his words were true, we must regard the subsequent circumstances with suspicion. But since he says he is an envoy from his country, we must not put him to death. After this we shall wait for the production of testimony as to what he says, and deal accordingly." I thought to myself, —Hereafter, too, Romans will be continually coming here. Therefore, for the sake of the future, I wrote down all the circumstances of the present matter, said to the Government that I would present it, and when I had written it, did so.

A little while after this the Shôgun died, and in the 4th year of the Shôtoku period (1714), the winter of Kogo, the couple who were servants of the Yaso teacher who had conformed to orthodoxy confessed openly. [This teacher's name was Kurokawa Jûan. I don't know well whether his true name was not Franchiuko Shûan; and the names of the servants were—the man, Chôsukey; the woman, Harn.] They said: "Formerly when our master was alive, he secretly taught us his doctrine; but we did not know that he acted contrary to the laws of the land forbidding the religion of Yaso, when he taught that doctrine. Now that we have become very old, we have seen how this Roman, not regarding his life for the sake of religion, has come many thousand miles, is captured and dwelling in prison, and loath as we are to lose the short span of this life, yet as it is a fearful thing to fall into the soul prison, we have received the doctrine from him and become believers. As it would be opposing the goodness of the government not to confess these things, we confess thus much. However it may turn out for us, we ask that we may be dealt with for our crime according to the laws." When they confessed, the commissioners separated the two from each other. The next year (1715), in the 3rd month, when the Hollanders came to Nippon, we interpreted the Roman's words. The crime of having secretly given instruction to the old couple in opposition to his former words was examined into, and he was bound in prison. Then he showed his real thoughts; raising his voice, he abused the commissioners, called out the names of the old couple, and strengthening their faith, ceased not day and night advising them to hold steadfast until death. The Hollanders who came this year said they had heard that Tomas Teterunon, who went first to Peking, went there, but immediately returned to Rôma. The reason was, that when he came first to Peking, they heard that he could not remain because he was hated by the people of Peking. And now this man's coming to Nippon is perhaps unknown to his country people; but perhaps if we reflect, he may have committed some crime in his native land, and in accordance with the laws of the land was to be put to death;

but having thought how he could expiate his crime, as he wished to come here and do something to be of advantage for his country, perhaps the Roman government thought, "If he should go to Nippon and bring about intercourse with our country, truly it would be good for us; and even though he should be killed in accordance with the law there, we don't care." The Hollanders said to me that it was probably in accordance with that wish that he had been sent to Nippon. What the Hollanders said, too, was reasonable; but I don't think it was so. In my opinion, they thought the period had arrived when the religion of Yaso, as they observed it, should be spread, and sent him to Nippon to try. If I am asked why, when I consider the gold and copper coins coined here which he had with him, I see that when I first heard of his having with him Ogon and other money and iron cash, he said: "In my country gold and silver is not sought for, but through the alms of all Europe plenty comes into the country." Also he said that "much gold goes out into the country of Roxon, and from all parts of Nippon much gold and silver goes forth and is taken by the Spaniards." And said he, "Without the trouble of enquiring of these things in my native country, yet if I wrote a letter to Roxon an answer would come immediately to Nippon." These things were fixed in my memory and I did not understand at that time why he came to Nippon, but I thought this: "When he lived in his own land, he heard that the gold and iron coins had become altered in Nippon, and thought, perhaps, people may have become poor there; if so there will certainly be distress. When the people are suffering, the command of the government prohibiting the religion of Yaso will not be kept. Even though it be observed, if I drew people with money to this doctrine, that prohibition will cease. And so he may have come to Nippon." After this we had no talk about the money. However, on the 7th day of the 10th month of this year, that Chôshuke died. He was 55 years old. After the middle of the month, the Roman also becoming ill, died on the 21st day of the month. He was about 47 years of age.

As there is something I had mentioned to the government previously, I now write these things in full which were asked and replied to, in three volumes. When I first wrote all the circumstances of this affair, I copied out the whole of what the Nagasaki officials told the Yedo commissioners, and advised the government of it. In it I wrote what he said of all foreign countries. In the end I have written all the conversations that passed between us. As it is now a long time since this happened, there are many things forgotten. As to the meaning of those words and his language, there may be many blunders. The things in it relating to all foreign countries I will publish and show to any one who seeks to know fully about foreign countries; but the things written at the close of the book might be shown to any one, yet if the government should ask about this, it can be said that it would be wrong to shew them to other persons.

FLY SHEET (THE FIRST COMING OF THE ROMAN TO NIPPON).

At a village named Kuriu, in the island of Yakushima, in the country of Hamo and province of Osumi, a fisherman named Kubouru and some others of the province of Awa came, and staying there, were engaged in fishing. On the 28th day of the 8th month of the Rat, in the 5th year of the Hôei period (Oct. 10, 1709), these seven men were in their boat, and came to the part of the sea lying out from Yodomari village in Yakushima; more than three *ri* away from the land they saw there was a ship larger than they had ever seen before. As these seven men were returning to Kuriu, a boat was lowered from the ship, a sail hoisted, and they came towards the fishermen. As they came rowing towards them, and were only 10 *ken* away they saw in that boat 10 men such as they had never seen before. One was paddling. They came quickly on, but the fishermen got to land, and that boat returned to the ship. That evening the villagers looked and saw out at sea from a village of Yakushima named Onoma the many-sailed ship that had pulled up the boat go towards the east. When it was night, as it became cold, all went home and could not tell where the ship had gone to.

On the morrow, the morning of the 29th, the ship which

appeared the day before on the sea near Yodomari village two *ri* west of Onoma, was there, but as the north wind was strong, it sailed away to the south. At the half hour of the Horse (12.30 p.m.) that ship had quite disappeared. That day a farmer named Tôbei, of the village of Koidomari in Yakushima, went to a place called Matsushita to burn charcoal; and as he was cutting wood, hearing a voice behind, he looked back. A man with a long sword beckoned to him, but he did not understand his words. As he appeared to be asking for water, Tôbei went near and gave him some, and then ran away. When the other had finished drinking, he called Tôbei again and he being afraid on account of the sword, would not go near again. The man, conjecturing Tôbei's thoughts, put away the sword, and then Tôbei drew near and he gave Tôbei one Ogon. Then as Tôbei thought he must have landed from among the men rowing the boat on the previous day, he would take neither sword nor money, but went away towards the shore. No ship nor any other man appeared. Then Tôbei, returning to his own house, sent a messenger to the neighbouring village and reported this matter. He then went with two men, one named Goroyemon, of the village of Hirata, and the other Kihei to Matsushita, and met the foreigner. Then that man, pointing to Koidomari, seemed to say that he would go there. As it appeared as though his feet were tired, one helped him on, another held his sword, and the third held something like a bag which he had brought with him; and they came together to the house of the Koidomari villager without eating. That man also took out two round Ogon and two square ones, and offered them to the houseowner, but he would not receive them. They could not converse or understand anything about him, but his form was the same as that of the Nipponese. The tansu was like that of the Nipponese; on his body he had a blue cotton garment with the Yotsuneyui crest, dyed like the lines of a chessboard and with brown lining. The length of the sword was two feet four inches; he wore it on one side in our style. When this matter came to the ears of the official who had charge of the island, he caused a place to be made to put him in, at a village called Miyamura, and having removed him there, told the Lord of Satsuma.

The ministers of Satsuma sent up a report sealed with their names to the commissioners at Nagasaki. (That letter they wrote on the 13th day of the 9th month. Those *Karô*, viz., Shimamura Okura, Shimamura Shôgen, Niino Ichi no Kami, and Tanegashima Kurando wrote and signed it. The Nagasaki commissioners were Nagai Sanuki no Kami and Bessho Harima no Kami. The Satsuma *Karô* requested the commissioners to fetch them away to Nagasaki. After that, word was also sent from Satsuma to Nagasaki of his making round signs, and of the words he spoke—I mean, "Rôma," "Roxon," and so forth, as mentioned above.) The authorities summoned the Hollanders first, and then all the foreigners living in Nagasaki, and enquired the meaning of the words spoken by him, but no one understood them. Moreover, as the winter was nearly over, and the north wind was constantly blowing, and waves were rough on the sea, the ship that was conveying him was twice blown back, but the Satsuma men worked hard, and not caring for wind or wave, came at last to Osumi province, from whence they sent him to Nagasaki. He asked very earnestly to go to Yedo, and it appeared he did not like to go to Nagasaki, but as they could not go with him to Yedo according to his wish, they came to a place belonging to Nagasaki named Aba, escorted by many other ships. Here they left the ship, took him to Nagasaki by land, and put him in prison. Then they made the interpreters who knew Dutch inquire the cause of his coming, but though they knew the names of the places, they did not understand anything else he said, and as the Roman said he disliked Hollanders, it was not thought well to shew them to him. So placing paper screens between them, they caused the Hollanders to listen, but there were many things they did not understand; and inasmuch as his speech was half Nipponese, it was yet more difficult to comprehend. But he seemed desirous of saying many things, and so at last it was said, "You should tell what you wish to find out to the Dutch residents." He replied, "I will do so." Among the Hollanders were a man named Atereyanto and Capitan Yasufuru Han Mansteru, who had learned the old Roman language. They went together

into the room where he was. (The language of that country is the Latin tongue.) Through these the reason of his coming was learnt, and so the Nagasaki commissioners communicated with Yedo.

Afterwards I heard that when he met the Hollanders he seemed to become very proud. They for some reason appeared to be afraid of him. They had learned that language, but as it was six years before, had forgotten it and did not understand very well what he said, but after he had explained, they comprehended by degrees.

After that there is the matter of his conveyance hither from Nagasaki.

In the summer of next year the government told the Nagasaki commissioners that he was to go to Yedo. Therefore, choosing three interpreters who had become accustomed since the previous year to his language, on the 26th day of the 9th month they left Nagasaki and came to Yedo in the middle of the 11th month. Then as the commissioners who presided over the prohibition of the religion of Yaso received orders to that effect, he was placed in the prison of their office. What happened after that is as I have written before. The commissioners gave directions that his daily rations should be fixed without change at all at what he had from his first arrival in Nagasaki until then.

(He always ate twice, after noon and sunset. At the two meals he had rice; in the soup were wheaten dumplings fried in thin sauce, and in it herring or fish and onions were boiled; a little vinegar and salt was put in. The dessert consisted of four roast chestnuts, two oranges, five dried persimmons, two round persimmons and one piece of cake. On his day of purification he ate only once,—at noon, but he ate dessert twice on those days,—eight roast chestnuts, four oranges, ten dried persimmons, four round ones, and two pieces of cake. I don't know whether he threw away the peel of his dessert. Even on fast days he ate fish, and after he came to Yedo he would not enter a bath even once, but he wasn't a bit dirty: and except when he was eating he drank neither cold nor hot water.) In the bag which he first brought with him were a copper image, a painted figure, vessels for offering things to it, vestments and a rosary; and besides there were 16 volumes of books, 181 pieces of gold *Ogon* shaped like a *endzu* (bell), 160 *Ogon* like a ball (*dan*), 48 pieces of gold coined in the Nippon Genroku period, 70 Nipponese cash and 81 cash of the Kōki period. Six of the books were never out of his hand; he used to recite from them. (As it would be useless to describe their appearance exactly, I don't write it.)

Shōtoku 5th year, the middle of 2nd month of Itsu-bi (1715).

(Signed) Chikugo no Kami, Jugoi-no-ge,
Minamoto no Kimi-yoshi.
DISCUSSION.

Mr. Satow thought it would be interesting to the members of the Society to know that there existed an account of the voyage of the Abbé Sidotti in the Spanish language, entitled "Relacion del viage que hizo el Abad D. Juan Baptista Sidotti, desde Manila al Japon, embiado por el Papa Clemente XI," 1717, which had also been translated into Italian and published in Rome in 1718. There was also an account in the 7th volume of Charlevoix' "Histoire et Description du Japon," which concluded with the statement that he met with a violent death, but this was clearly disproved by Arai Hakuseki's narrative.

REUTER'S TELEGRAMS.

LONDON, 14th April, 1881.

French troops crossed frontier to chastise marauders. Bey of Tunis invokes protection of Great Powers.

LONDON, 20th April, 1881.

The Earl of Beaconsfield is dead.

JAPANESE ITEMS.

[The following Notes on various Japanese matters are chiefly derived from the native papers, occasionally supplemented from original sources of information, and are carefully collated and edited, so as to make them readable and intelligible.]

COURT, POLITICAL AND OFFICIAL.

The *Nichi Nichi Shinbun* states that His Majesty the Emperor visited the National Exhibition on the 14th instant,

leaving the Palace at 9 o'clock a.m. Their Imperial Highnesses Higashi Fushimi-no-Miya, Fushimi-no-Miya, His Excellency Tokudaiji, Minister of the Imperial Household Department, and several other officials formed the suite. The weather was fine, the cherry trees in the Ueno Park in full blossom, and His Majesty appeared to have been highly pleased. His Majesty left the Exhibition at 5:15 p.m.

We learn (says the same paper) that Mr. Euomoto has not accepted his new appointment, that of Minister at Paris, though no reason is stated. We hear that His Excellency, Prime Minister Sanjo, invited him some days ago to his residence, where they had some lengthened conversation, and that a messenger has been sent to him from the Imperial Palace, conveying some instructions from His Majesty the Emperor.

The *Hochi Shinbun* says the occasion of the visit of His Majesty the Emperor to the *Gakushū In* (the Nobles' School) on the 15th instant, was, it is stated, the re-election of the manager of the school, and the great reforms lately introduced into its management. All ill-behaved students have been dismissed, and the roll of pupils has been greatly increased. Thus the school has been, as it were, rehabilitated, and very discernible improvements made. On this account His Majesty proposed to visit the establishment, in order to satisfy himself on the present condition of the improved regime.

We take the following items also from this authority:—Mr. Soyeda, an official of the Foreign Department of the second class, will soon be despatched for Korea on official business. Mr. Matsudaira, Japanese Consul at Wladivostock, will shortly return home. Lieutenants Oka and Sagara, residing at Korsakoff and Canton respectively, have been recalled by the General Staff office; the reason has not transpired. It is said to have been decided to grant fishery licenses from the Foreign Department from the first of this year to fishermen who engage to prosecute their work at Saghalien.

The *Mainichi Shinbun* says:—We stated yesterday that His Majesty the Emperor intended to go to Atsugi, Sagami province, in the beginning of next month; we hear, however, that for some cause which has not transpired the visit has been decided to be on or about the 28th instant, and that several subordinate officials have been despatched from the Imperial Household Department on the 13th inst., to inspect the roads. His Majesty will proceed to Kanagawa by train, and thence to Fuji-sawa along the Tokaido. The day after his arrival, a sham battle will be held by the troops of the Imperial guard, at which His Majesty will attend. His Majesty will pass the night at Atsugi, and will leave for the Capital next morning.

The *Nichi Nichi Shinbun* says that all matters connected with the construction of the new Imperial Palace have hitherto been managed in the Construction Bureau of the Public Works Department, but that hereafter a special grant will be set aside for this object; and that Mr. Yoshii, Vice-Minister of Public Works, will be appointed Superintendent; and the salaries of all the other officials connected with the project will also be paid by special grant.

We learn that His Imperial Highness Shige-no-Miya (son of Arisugawa-no-Miya), arrived at Marseilles on the 20th last month, and at Paris on the 22nd. Thence Dover was reached on the 24th., where His Imperial Highness was received by two secretaries from the Japanese Legation at London. His Imperial Highness has entered the Greenwich University.

A vernacular journal also says that the appropriations for the Bureaux in the Agricultural and Commercial Department, have more or less been diminished and are considerably less than when these Bureaux were in the Home and Finance Departments; moreover the salaries of the Minister and Vice-Minister of the new Department are to be defrayed out of these allowances, and that the business of this Department relates to nothing but Agriculture and Commerce as far as these branches may be assisted by protective enactments without the material assistance previously rendered by Government.

The *Nichi Nichi Shinbun* states that several important official conferences have been lately held by the Ministers of State.

The *Mainichi Shinbun* states:—As previously announced Her Majesty the Empress visited the National Exhibition on the

18th instant, leaving the palace at 9 a.m. Several ladies of the Court, the Vice-Minister, and other officials of the Imperial Household Department formed the suite. Her Majesty was received in the Fine Art Gallery by His Imperial Highness Kita-Shirakawa-no-Miya, the President, and several other officials connected with the Exhibition. The Royal party left at a little before 5 o'clock in the afternoon.

The *Mainichi Shinbun* states that Her Majesty the Empress will shortly visit the Imperial Botanical Gardens at Shinjuku to observe the success of the silkworm rearing which has been undertaken by ladies of rank.

The same paper says:—It is rumoured that His Excellency Okuma, Privy Councillor, will be ennobled in acknowledgement of his assiduity and patriotism.

Another vernacular journal writes:—We stated yesterday that Mr. Tokuno, Superintendent of the Government Printing Office, intended to resign; we now learn that he has already done so, but his resignation was not accepted, and it was decided that he should be transferred to another office.

A native paper announces that the prefect of Okinawa-Ken (Rinkin) has applied to the Council of State that a sum of money be granted as a special item every year as a relief for the inhabitants in every island of his prefecture; but that the State has answered that 1,500 yen only will be disbursed.

As previously announced, says the *Hochi Shinbun*, His Majesty the Emperor visited the National Exhibition on the 20th instant, leaving the Palace at 9 a.m. The Minister, Vice-Minister, and several other officials of the Imperial Household Department formed the suite. His Majesty left the exhibition at 5 p.m. It is said that he will visit the residence of Mr. Shimadzu at Shiokane, on the 10th proximo, to witness the *tasu-mono* (game of shooting at dogs on horseback) and fencing &c. On the next day, Their Majesties the Empress and Dowager Empress, will also pay a visit there, to witness the *Yo* dance.

The same paper says that owing to the death of the Chinese Empress Dowager, the Chinese Minister at Tokio will remain in seclusion from business for 27 days, commencing from the day on which the sad event occurred. He will not even receive visits of condolence, and all the affairs of his Legation will be transacted by a secretary. His Majesty the Emperor sent a Minister of the Imperial Household Department to the Legation on receipt of the news, to offer the usual condolence.

A native paper says it has been the custom to despatch officials from the Bank Superintendence Bureau to every bank twice every year to inspect the reserve fund; lately it has been pointed out that each bank, when it receives Government permission to open, will be expected to deposit a certain amount of money with the Finance Department, and that therefore the inspection of reserve funds will be unnecessary and the office can be abolished. Another rumour is current that lately the scheme in favour of collecting the land tax in rice has again been entertained by the Government, but that it will not be adopted.

According to this paper, the Prefect of Okinawa Ken (Rinkin), who has been staying in the capital for some time, visited the Finance Department and had an interview with the Minister; he also went to the Home Department and had a long conference with the heads of that establishment. These visits are said to have been connected with the opening of a local assembly in the prefecture mentioned.

The *Choya Shinbun* states that instructions have been conveyed to the Bureau for revision of land tax that all documents &c. connected with that branch since its opening, should be forwarded to the Council of State before next month; it is therefore supposed that the Bureau will shortly be closed.

The *Hochi Shinbun* says that His Majesty the Emperor will open an entertainment at the Fukiage park on the 26th inst. to give an opportunity of seeing the cherry trees in blossom. Ministers of State, Privy councillors and senators, besides many ladies of rank, will be present. The Foreign Representatives are said to have received invitations. It is reported that His Majesty will shortly go to Uruga, Sagami province.

NAVAL AND MILITARY.

We learn from a native source that a memorial, consisting of several sections, has lately been forwarded to the Government by the Army Medical Staff, on the subject of Military Hygiene.

The *Nichi Nichi Shinbun* states that His Excellency Admiral Yenomoto, ex-Minister of the Navy, has definitely declined his new appointment to the post of Minister at Paris, and to a place in the Senate. His present rank is that of Admiral, but he holds no commission at present.

The *Fujiyama-kwan* has been attached to the Eastern Admiralty Office. The expenses incurred by the *Kongo-kwan* during her voyage to China, were not embraced in the estimates of expenses in the Naval Department, and a sum of 13,980 yen has been specially disbursed from the Treasury to defray that item.

In the Naval Department (says the same paper) a considerable quantity of ammunition is being manufactured during the present fiscal year, and a sufficient number of warehouses will shortly be built for storage.

INDUSTRIES, TRADE AND FINANCE.

The *Choya Shinbun* announces that about three hundred catties of the new season's tea have arrived from Shidzuka, consigned to a merchant residing in Yokohama. Its price is expected to be \$80 or \$90 per picul, for the first shipment abroad, which is to leave here on or about the 20th inst.

This paper also says that on the 13th instant 152,000 yen, in trade silver coins, for the Finance Department, arrived from the Osaka Mint.

The *Mainichi Shinbun* informs us that the inhabitants of Miharu-machi, Tamura district, Fukushima prefecture, intend to have a branch of the proposed railway between Tokio and Awamori extended to their neighbourhood, and steps are now being taken to raise the necessary funds.

This paper also gives us the following report on native Currency:—In the Yokohama Bourse no appreciable change occurred, but on the receipt of an unfavourable telegram from Kobe, paper fell somewhat on the 13th instant. In the morning the market opened at 179.5, fell to 180.7 and rose again to 180.2. Quotations against other specie have consequently fallen by 1.50 yen. Thus 100 new gold coins are 184; *Nibos* 206; *Ichibos* 230.80; *Sakura* 250.50; *Ischiu* 216; and new subsidiary silver coins 152.50.

The same vernacular journal states:—In Kobe, though tea is scarce there is little demand, so that quotations remain about the same as before. Camphor is plentiful, but demand small, and the price has fallen to 32 yen. No change has occurred in white wax; there is sufficient sale for it, but in small quantities. Owing to the continued depreciation of paper money, imports are generally dull.

The *Choya Shinbun* says the porcelains manufactured at *Seto-mura*, Aichi prefecture, are not only famous throughout this empire, but have acquired a lasting reputation abroad, and have been rewarded with medals in the International Exhibitions of America, France, and Australia. Previous to last year the value of the trade was rapidly prospering, and had reached an annual value of about 300,000 yen. Last year, however, it fell to about 200,000 yen, owing to the extraordinary rise in the price of fuel and indeed of all materials required in the manufacture. Many suggestions had been made by General Van Buren, the American Consul-General, and Mr. Utsunomiya, of the Engineering Bureau, as to improvements of composition and style, but due attention had not been paid to them by the manufacturers. Some beneficial changes, however, have at length been introduced in the management of the furnaces, and the greatest convenience has resulted from the experiment. It is said that the adoption of these decided improvements has saved at least one fourth of the previous consumption of fuel.

Hokkaido, as Yezo is now described, will before many years have passed present a far more busy appearance than the present solitude of its extensive forests and the bleak appearance of its lonely shores would seem to promise. Hardy volunteers are daily emigrating to its rugged coast, and well-concerted efforts will be made in the immediate future to

develop its mineral wealth. There is little doubt but that the stores of nature buried in this hitherto neglected island will prove a welcome assistance to this empire, perhaps in its neediest moment, and that any labour bestowed thereon bids fair to receive an ample recompense. The *Akibono Shinbun* calls attention to the fact that the flight of a Japanese nobleman, His Excellency Admiral Enomoto, formerly Minister of the Navy, to that distant possession at the time of the Restoration, was not without its good results. Besides directing attention to the necessity of reclaiming this broad expanse of land, an end to which he has devoted a great portion of his time, he pointed out and still continues to urge upon the Government the advisability of providing proper defences for so valuable a field, and of barricading "the Northern Gate." While Minister of the Navy, he kept this matter constantly before the Government, and now that the change in the Naval Department has caused his retirement from that position, he does not appear at all likely to relinquish this task. It appears he has purchased some land near Otaru, and it is not improbable that he will take up his residence there, the better to further the object he has had so long in view. He strongly recommends emigration to this quarter, and insists that so important a position should be placed forthwith in proper conditions of defence. At the same time he does not lose sight for a moment of his other grand project, the transformation of this island from a waste to a valuable and cultivated tract of land. Great as this task may appear it is certain that no insignificant beginnings have been made; and if, as Admiral Enomoto suggests, some of the vassals, who under the old regime were rendered thriftless and impotent for good, were to utilize their liberated energy by flocking into this new field for enterprise, it is impossible to say what some few years of patient labour might not accomplish.

The *Bukka Shinpo* says that the appearance of four or five speculators on the Yokohama Bourse a few days ago has given rise to great fluctuations of paper. On the 16th instant some business men proceeded to purchase large quantities of paper in order to improve its quotations and succeeded in raising the rate by 1.50 yen per cent.; but as purchasers were easily obtained the stock of silver was quickly disposed of and paper again receded. At this period the market was particularly brisk and as much as 1,746,000 yen changed hands, transactions continuing into the afternoon. The improvement was short-lived, and paper quotations were lower than ever when business closed.

The *Hochi Shinbun* states:—The glass factory at Shinagawa was originally a private establishment, but in 1876 the Public Works Department purchased it and employed foreign instructors. This was a matter of great expense, but so improved the manufacture that the glass is now quite equal to imported material. Besides, the manufacture of sheet glass has been undertaken recently with very fair prospects of success. It is a pity to learn that in spite of all this, great dissatisfaction prevails among the workmen who are threatening to leave the establishment in a body.

The same paper gives the following commercial summary for Yokohama:—Silk is dull; as before no change worth mentioning having occurred in its condition. By the French steamer *Menzaleh*, which left on the 15th instant, 453 bales were sent to Europe, of which 232 were directly exported by native merchants; and 304 of waste silk. Since the beginning of the tea season in last year 20,000,000 catties of that article have been exported. This is a very large quantity, much more than that of recent years, and even inferior grades, which in former seasons remained unsold, have been disposed of. This season's tea is now arriving from Suruga province in small quantities of 500 or 600 *me*. This is being presented to foreigners as musters. About the 10th proximo, 60,000 or 70,000 catties will be brought in, and then the market price will be settled. Tea is expected to start fairly. Foreign cotton is going up in price. Sugar is pretty fair.

Another paper also reports the projected formation of a most useful society (to be known as the *Kioseisha*). The principal objects of the society, the head office of which is to be opened at Sendai, are three: viz, the protection of property, development of industries, and the advancement of education; and its

capital is to be 100,000 yen, of which 50,000 yen will be set aside for the first-named purpose object, 40,000 for the second, and the balance, 10,000 for the third; and each of these divisions of capital is to consist of 2,500 shares, one share of the first being twenty yen, of the second sixteen, and of the third four. Subscriptions will be applied to any of these divisions of capital as subscribers may desire, or proportionately to all.

Six or seven ships have arrived with coal, and a great change has been caused in the state of the market in consequence. Sellers insist on the former high price, but buyers demand a great reduction so that the market price is unsettled. Five or six more coal vessels are expected, and it is anticipated that coal will fall as low as 6 yen.

A vernacular paper also contains the following:—“A certain paper has lately stated that there is a forest of chestnut trees at Kuriyama-Mura, Gumma prefecture, having an area of 369,586 *cho* which is covered with *Nara* (oak) and *Kuri* (chestnut) to such an extent that, taking an average of five trees to the *taubo*, they cannot be less than 3,400,004,379 in number, which at the liberal allowance of 25,920 to the *ri*, would be more than sufficient for the construction of a railway of 210,022 *ri* in length.

We learn the following from the same source:—The provinces of Yamato, Kawachi and Idsumi were famous for their production of cotton cloth; but during the past seven or eight years Japanese cotton yarn has been thrown into the shade by foreign materials. Latterly, however, some wholesale merchants in Osaka have established a cotton yarn company under the name of *Meishi Kwaisha*, with a capital of 200,000 yen, with a view to establish spinning factories at Awaji and other convenient localities, which are destined to supply Japanese cotton yarn to the cloth-producing districts in large quantities.

A telegram received at Yokohama on the morning of the 19th inst. from London stated (according to the same paper) that silk is weak; Mayebashi is 15/6d; Tobacco from 5d. to 7d.

The *Nichi Nichi Shinbun* states that some merchants in the province of Etchu have established another ship company with the view to convert the original Japanese junks into insurable sailing vessels after the foreign model. The Shareholders are nearly all proprietors of junks. The subscriptions of those who have offered to hold not more than twenty and not less than five shares, which are 500 yen each, have already amounted to 100,000 yen; and it is expected that transport in the northern part of the Empire will be greatly facilitated by this company.

This paper also gives the following:—The mouth of the port of Niyesaki, Ise province, is becoming shallow, so as to interfere with the ingress and egress of ships. To obviate this the district officials held a meeting on the 8th instant to propose the deepening of the port. All present agreed to the proposal, and decided to apply to the local authorities for permission to carry out the enterprise.

It is stated in the *Mainichi Shinbun*, that with a view to improve the condition of the Oji Paper Mill, a new engineering shop is to be constructed, and the old steam boilers are about to be replaced.

The *Hochi Shinbun* gives the following commercial summary of trade in Kobe:—No appreciable changes have occurred in the general aspect of commerce; both sales and purchases are small and more favourable terms are being waited for. Among native products old season's teas are quite unsaleable as the new crop is so soon expected. Camphor, white wax, bar copper &c. are also dull, owing, it is said, to no orders having been received from abroad. The *Bukka Shinpo* also writes as follows:—In Yokohama the demand for silk has been very small since our last issue of the 16th inst., no matter how prices might range. This is supposed to be owing to the unfavourable condition of the home market. Waste silk is comparatively easy, but lately, in consequence of the inactive condition of silk, it is almost unsaleable. Stocks of silk are however scarce, there being only about 2,380 bales remaining. In sugar, 4,800 bags of *Taiwan* were purchased on the 19th inst. at \$4.275 per picul. Other grades are unchanged.

We take the following from the same paper:—The cable which connects Shikoku with the mainland is constantly being

broken by rough weather and therefore it is said that another line will soon be laid in a less stormy locality. The construction of a line to the prefecture of Okinawa was once taken into consideration, but it has been rejected for a time, as the expenses would be so utterly out of proportion to the benefit that would be derived from the undertaking.

A quantity of this season's tea has, this paper also states, arrived for a merchant in Yokohama from the prefecture of Shidzuoka by overland transport. Seven and a half cattles have been sold to one foreign firm, and 25 cattles to another at the high price of \$200 (?) per picul.

This paper says that some members of the Rice Cleaning Company in the prefecture of Akita came to the Capital some time ago, and borrowed the sum of 50,000 yen from the government. A short time since they came again and applied to the authorities for a further loan of a like amount, as the former loan has been found insufficient to carry out properly the purposes for which it was borrowed.

We take the following from the same source:—We previously stated that, for the establishment of the *Tetsudo-Kwaisha* (Railway Company), the chief district officials in the prefecture of Gumma are urging upon the people the advisability of rendering all the assistance in their power; and we further hear that the governor of that prefecture has strained every nerve to accomplish that end, and has privately instructed the chief district officials that the people under their respective control should be duly counselled to subscribe money for that enterprise, in the proportion of 400 yen per village on an average, and steps are being taken to raise such subscriptions.

MISCELLANEOUS NEWS.

A newspaper called the *Tokio Seidan*, which had been suspended by the authorities, recommenced publication on the 11th instant. Another periodical, the *Tokio Shinshi*, was suspended on the 13th inst.

The delicious coolness with which, some time ago, placards were freely posted throughout the Capital announcing, that for some time to come no incendiary fires would take place, would, had they not referred to such an abominable crime as arson, have possessed a considerable element of the comic. But the lack of all principle which can permit a human being, however untutored or untrained, to apply a torch with steady hand to the homesteads of his countrymen, reckless of consequences, must beget a horror in the minds of all, not lightly to be replaced by any tendency to the indulgence of mirth. The weather, if we remember aright, was calm, and unfavourable to the spread of huge conflagrations, to which fact the placards called attention by stating that the discontinuance of so rational an amusement was owing to the 'inclemency' of the season. Did ever "Rory of the Hills," in the whole sequence of his ill-spelt and bloodthirsty literature concoct a more villainous document? Vengeance has no part in the stealthy application of those destructive brands; they are deliberate attempts to create occasions of plunder, or, mayhap, are the work, as is suggested, of needy tradesmen who seek by such nefarious means to stimulate the labour market. That there is organization amongst such offenders would appear from the fact of the production of such documents as that to which we allude; and if it is so, it is equally plain that the principals of such gang or gangs must be known to each other in order to perfect their plots in secrecy and concert. Anonymous threats are by no means a novelty in Japan; we have seen samples of them, which, for the substance and candour of the hint contained, are quite equal to Nihilist or Communistic compositions, while for a spirit of cool effrontery they would bear favourable comparison with the productions of either of these societies. The *Mainichi Shinbun* states that Mr. Endo, Chief Secretary of the Finance Department, has been lately made the recipient of one of these disagreeable effusions. We are unable to give the contents of the interesting communication but the native paper declares that they are of an "extraordinary nature." As the usual intimation contained in epistles of this nature refer to the untimely demise of the person addressed, we are curious to know if the nameless writer borrowed his ideas from a far distant source, also insular, and threatened that official with "Boycotting" instead. Speculations upon such subjects do

not savour much of utility, and we shall not pursue the question further. The fact, however, remains, that since a period long antecedent to the epoch of the Roman emperors, such veiled threats have exercised a potent and terrorizing influence upon mankind; and that they do not seem likely to cease or even diminish, as we draw nearer to the close of the nineteenth century.

During last week the visitors to the National Exhibition were on the 10th (Sunday) 7,644; 11th 6,736; 12th 8,374; 13th 4,634; 14th 6,866; 15th 10,672; 16th (Saturday) 12,844.

The *Hochi Shinbun* gives as the cause of Mr. Saionji's having retired from the editorship of the *Toyo Jiyo Shinbun* (Oriental Liberal Newspaper) a paper published until lately, the pressure brought to bear upon him by the authorities. When Mr. Saionji entered upon this position at the commencement of the year, several high officials strongly advised him to give up newspaper work and accept some position under Government. However, he persisted in his undertaking and continued to advertise the publication of the paper. At length a high official laid the matter plainly before him. The Official said the *Koku Kwaishi* (National Assembly Party) had reconstituted themselves under the name of *Jiyu To* (Liberal Party), but they possessed so little weight at present that the Government took little cognizance of their hostility. Their supporters were the journalists, the relics of the *Bakufu* party, and the public put little confidence in the opinions they advanced. But that if he, Mr. Saionji, who had studied at home and abroad and possessed no little reputation for learning, should identify himself with the Press, the current of public opinion might become seriously and unfavourably altered with regard to Government policy. He therefore requested Mr. Saionji to resign his position as editor of the new paper. Notwithstanding this appeal Mr. Saionji did not tender his resignation, and on the 8th instant he was unexpectedly summoned to the Imperial Household Department, and privately informed that it was the desire of His Imperial Majesty that he should not persist in his design. Mr. Saionji accordingly resigned the post.

The *Choya Shinbun* states that a fencing school will be established in the gardens of the Imperial Palace; and that His Majesty the Emperor will sometimes attend to witness the trials of skill.

This paper extracts the following from the *Heiji Shinbun* (Navy and Military Gazette):—"Some time ago the French Government presented decorations of the second class to Their Excellencies Generals Yamagata and Baigo. We hear that the French government have never presented this class of decoration to any Asiatics before, and the presentation to the two Generals being the first instance of such, much opposition was raised, but on account of the unparalleled progress of Japan it was decided to grant the decorations named. Beside these two Generals, Lieutenant General Takashima was granted a third class Decoration when in France. The Decoration presented by the French government even to the King of Siam, the first amongst the Asiatic nations to introduce Western civilization, who is known as a man of enlightened views, was of the third class. From this it is evident that our country is rapidly rising in the estimation of Europeans."

Mr. Nakagawa Saenari, former editor of the *Tokio Yoron Shinshi*, has according to the 13th section of the Newspaper Regulations, been sentenced to one year's imprisonment, for having published inflammatory letters from two of his correspondents. Mr. Higuchi Takejiro, present editor of the same paper, has under the 14th section of the Regulations above-mentioned, also been sentenced to five months imprisonment, and fined 30 yen, for having libelled the authorities in an article headed "We hope the Government will reform the laws in general."

A native paper says that the Russian Admiral Lessoffsky has quite recovered and that he will shortly come to Yokohama from Nagasaki, in the *Europa*.

The *Mainichi Shinbun* states:—We formerly told our readers that the Korean high officials Giyokkin, Rigunkwai, Binshomoku, and several others will visit Japan, by order of their King; we now hear that a telegram has been received by the

authorities to the effect that they arrived at Nagasaki, from Fusan, on the 16th inst.

The *Choya Shinbun* gives the following details:—The party consists of seven leading officials and twenty-eight subordinates; the highest are equal in rank to the Representatives of any foreign country. The object of their visit is, to apply to the authorities for permission for their subordinates to stay in Japan to be taught international policy, law, political economy, military and naval organization, science, arts, etc. It is said that they were to have left their country the month before last, but that the Korean government being divided into two parties, the one progressive and the other conservative, it could not be decided and therefore the departure of the party was delayed. Finally, however, the progressive section carried their point. The party have engaged an interpreter through the Kido Shokwai, a Japanese firm in Korea.

The same paper also publishes the following:—Islands have for many years been reported to exist near the island of Hoki, in Shimane prefecture, but being in so trackless a sea, they have never been explored. However, a native of Hoki, named Taniki Nagasato, meaning to discover some large and fertile island, left Tsuura on the 10th of September last in a junk of only 200 koku burden, taking with him all necessary provisions. In spite of adverse weather and similar difficulties his enterprise has at last been crowned with success, for he has discovered seventeen islands, and returned safely to his province, last March. He is now compiling a detailed record about their position, climate, &c. with the view of offering it to the Topographical Bureau.

We take the following also from this source;—The Counterfeit Coins, said to have become very numerous of late, have, it is thought, been manufactured principally in Osaka. Their real quality is either silver, or copper, a gold coating being used. Several banks have lent money on security of coins of this sort. It is said that some banks, in secret conjunction with the forgers, have expressly accepted such counterfeit specie as security for loans, but we do not believe that such could be the case.

It is stated in this paper that when the Japanese junk *Minato Maru* loaded with rice, was off Kanazawa, Musashi province, she was run into by a British sailing vessel and immediately sunk. Fortunately all on board were rescued by the crew of the foreign vessel, but the whole of the cargo is lost. Investigations are being made.

The *Nichi Nichi Shinbun* reports that a strong gale, accompanied by a severe shower of hail, passed over Shidzuoka at about 1.30 p.m. on the 14th instant. The hailstones were almost the size of peaches and the shower lasted ten or twelve minutes. The crops have been damaged considerably. Since then the weather has been very cold, and next night there was a frost which must have caused extensive injuries to tea and fruit trees.

This vernacular journal says;—We learn that Mr. Goto Shojiro has had his whole time occupied by the affairs of the Takashima colliery heretofore, and disposing of it to Mr. Iwasaki, director of the Mitsu Bishi Steam Ship Company lately, has freed himself from this onerous responsibility. It is reported that he will shortly come to the Capital and again accept some position under government.

This paper tells us that the pick-pockets arrested in the National Exhibition up to the present number 430. Good watching has so injured their thriving calling in the Exhibition that they have shifted their stage of action to the embankments of the Sumidagawa river and other places where sight-seers congregate. The authorities are on the alert for them in these places. According to statements made by some of those arrested, there are in the Capital nearly two thousand pick-pockets, of whom over two hundred are looked upon as masters in the art.

This paper also says that Mr. Soejima-Tanetomi, chief adviser in the Imperial Palace, has been elected President of the *Ko-a-Kwai* (Asiatic Society), Mr. Date Muneki, ex-President, having declined to accept office and that Messrs. Monda and Komaki, have been elected Vice-Presidents; and that branches of the society have been opened in many new places, as it

numbers many adherents in China, Persia, and other distant countries. Owing to some lack of enthusiasm the main branch has not been very prosperous of late; but its members are seemingly about to awake from their lethargy and make their best efforts for its propagation. It is reasonable to expect that it will become prosperous at no very remote date.

During week ending 18th instant the total number of exhibits sold in the National Exhibition were 2,473 valued at 10,660.063 yen of which 9,892.973 yen worth were purchased by natives and the balance 767.08 by foreigners.

IMPERIAL GOVERNMENT RAILWAYS.

TOKIO AND YOKOHAMA SECTION.

Statement of traffic receipts for the week ending Sunday, 17th April, 1881.

Passengers, parcels, &c.....	Yen 11,986.27
Merchandise, &c.....	" 1,079.98
Total.....	Yen 13,066.25

Miles open 18.

Corresponding week last year.

Passengers, parcels, &c.....	Yen 10,083.10
Merchandise, &c.....	" 851.71

Total..... Yen 10,934.81

Miles open 18.

KIOTO, KOBE AND OOTSU SECTION.

Statement of traffic receipts for the week ending Sunday, 10th April, 1881.

Passengers, parcels, &c.....	Yen 24,503.24
Merchandise, &c.....	" 2,863.14

Total..... Yen 27,366.8

Miles open 58.

Corresponding week last year.

Passengers, parcels, &c.....	Yen 17,622.70
Merchandise, &c.....	" 1,696.77

Total..... Yen 19,319.47

Miles open 55.

THE JAPANESE PRESS.

THE NEW AGRICULTURAL AND COMMERCIAL DEPARTMENT.

(Translated from the *Nichi Nichi Shinbun*.)

THE business of life in a country is supported by two great classes—the farmer and the merchant; the farmer produces wealth and the merchant circulates it. Neither could do without the other, and wealth would cease to be wealth unless it was freely circulated. On this account agricultural and commercial affairs are the chief business of a nation, and as branches of industry are inseparable. Heretofore the Agricultural Bureau was in the Home Department, and the Commercial Bureau in the Finance Department, and the transaction of business connected with these branches was necessarily imperfect. Great reforms have been effected, however, in financial administration, in which economy has been an important object. On the 7th of this month the new Agricultural and Commercial Department was opened, and the people seem to hail with satisfaction the establishment of this institution. The memorial of Their Excellencies Okuma and Ito, Privy Councillors, states "at present Agricultural and Commercial matters are separately managed in the Home and Finance Departments, and great inconvenience is the result. Besides unnecessary expenditure, considerable delays are caused by needless formalities in the two offices." It is certainly true that as far as relates to individuals, agriculture and commerce are separate businesses and a man may engage in one without the other; but in the affairs of a nation these two interests are indivisible, although they were separately managed until now. It is expected that a saving of 40,000 yen will be effected by the new arrangement of combining the management of the two branches. We cannot hope that this new department will be everything that can be desired, but there is no doubt but that it is a step in the right direction. For this reason it is looked upon as a boon by the people. The powers of the separate

Boards which have previously managed these affairs have been by no means extensive, and interference in the affairs of private individuals without corresponding amelioration was the result. We earnestly hope that in the new branch "stimulation" of trade may never degenerate into "interference," nor "protection" be made to act as "oppression." Such a spirit would be totally opposed to the principles of our government and the objects of this new establishment. We learn this from the tenor of the memorial before referred to, which says that the essential business of Agricultural Bureaux is to encourage and assist farmers and merchants in their respective pursuits, and to lay down rules for their guidance. When this line of conduct is pursued beyond its proper limits, it is nothing but officious interference; and a few farmers or merchants, who have been materially assisted by the Government, are held up as examples to all. The memorial further stated that the authorities had been accused of selfishly competing with private individuals for the acquisition of gain. Such a spirit would be totally at variance with the promotion of agriculture or commerce. But the fact is that the government, sometime ago, actually proposed that the government factories &c. should be sold to private speculators, which in itself is sufficient to convince the people that they do not act from selfish motives, but desire the same consummations which are the objects of the people's wish. Therefore we do not hesitate to say that the new Department, under proper management, will exercise a useful supervision over commercial matters, without going so far as to risk the appearance of officiousness. If the objects were really a competition on the part of the authorities with private firms, the effect of interference undertaken in such a spirit would be certainly disastrous. Theoretically it is extremely easy to make distinctions and give instructions, but even the smartest men find practice and theory quite different. We have many instances in history of men who are ready to teach and direct others being unable to perform the very things upon which they give instruction. In the olden times there was a Minister of Tei (a province of ancient China) named Kosunkio, who was an able administrator. Yet, for ferrying a man across the river to Shinyu a celebrated Chinese sage condemned him saying: "he is philanthropic but is ignorant of policy. An administrator need not consult the interests of each individual; a statesman's time is too short to spend it in trying to please everybody." We thus far adopt the saying of the sage with regard to supervision of agricultural and commercial affairs, that it will be difficult for a few officials to interfere in particular instances, without causing dissatisfaction in some quarters, and although we do not for a moment deny that the intention is good, it will require a very cautious policy to render such difficult administration a political success.

ARRIVAL OF THE FRENCH MAIL.

St. Petersburg, 15th March.—The assassin Rousakoff has confessed his crime.

London, 16th March.—Mr. Gladstone replying to a question, said that Government will not undertake to instruct the Viceroy of India to waive or postpone any measure which may be thought requisite in respect to Kandahar, pending the result of the debate on Lord Stanhope's motion.

Lord Frederick Cavendish (Financial Secretary of the Treasury), replying to a question in the House of Commons, said Government intends the introduction of a bill to release India from her obligation to repay (query repay) the 1879 loan of two millions; Government intends to pay India during the current year a half million irrespective of the sum due from India on account of the loan.

Mr. Bright has written a letter deprecating the renewal of hostilities with the Boers, and stating that he will employ all his influence to secure an honorable peace.

St. Petersburg, March, 16th.—It is believed that the palace of the Czarwitsch has been mined. Sappers are now searching for proofs.

London, March 7th.—In the House of Commons discussion took place respecting the grant towards the Afghan war expenses, and Mr. Gladstone's reasons thereon. Lord Hartington replying said the numerous criticisms indicated

the policy of Government and that the whole grant will be applied to the reduction of the Indian permanent debt.

The debate on Sir R. Stanhope's Kandahar motion is definitely fixed for the 24th instant.

A box containing forty pounds of gunpowder with burning fuse attached was found last night on the ledge on the wall of the Mansion House.

Athens, 17th March.—The Greek Government has rejected the proposals made by the Porte in settlement of the frontier question.

The *Journal de St. Petersburg* states the Czar will follow his father's reforming and pacific policy.

Sir Evelyn Wood will hold a Conference with President Brand, of the Orange Free State, and Mr. Kruger, the Boer President, on the 18th instant.

St. Petersburg, 17th March.—The Sappers have found a mine leading under the Palace of the Czarwitsch.

The Russian Press is demanding constitutional Government, and has accordingly been warned.

London, 18th March.—The *Times* publishes a paragraph stating that it had been intended to complete the evacuation of Kandahar by the fifteenth of April, but the Ameer had requested the British to postpone the evacuation until he has made arrangements to take over the city and province.

Mr. Childers' proposed reforms in our Army organization, which were submitted to the House of Commons of the 3rd instant, have been generally approved of.

The latest advices from Natal state that the transport *Bookiana*, with reinforcements from Bombay, has arrived at Durban.

The armistice with the Boers has been further prolonged until the 21st instant.

Paris, 18th March.—The French loan of one milliard has been covered twenty-fold.

St. Petersburg, 18th March.—The Russian Government has issued a circular despatch to its representative abroad which is of a pacific nature. It states that the policy of Russia has been fully developed externally, and that the protection of her honour and maintenance of her security will alone divert her attention from primary work of internal development.

Constantinople, 18th March.—The Ambassadors of the Powers now recommend Greece to accept the proposals made by the Porte in October last, in solution of the frontier question, in which the frontier line should start north of Volo, proceeding south of Larissa, Metzovo and Janina, and terminate at the mouth of the river Arta, and in addition to this the cession of the island of Crete.

London, 19th March.—Lord Hartington, in replying to a question in the House of Commons last night said, that the paragraph published by *The Times* on that day, with reference to the evacuation of Kandahar, was unofficial and inaccurate. Communications he said, have been exchanged between the Indian Government and the Ameer respecting Kandahar, for a considerable time past, but it was inexpedient to communicate the nature of the same to the House at present. The Viceroy of India had been asked if he thought it desirable to afford Parliament any further information on the subject.

The Times of to-day reiterates statement made about the evacuation of Kandahar to be postponed and declares the authority of their information to be unimpeachable.

London, 20th March.—The business of the House of Commons on the question of Supply is progressing rapidly, the obstructionist party having assumed a quiescent attitude. The House of Lords have finally passed the Irish Arms bill.

According to the paragraph in the *Statist*, the tea markets are disturbed owing to rumours that Mr. Gladstone intends reducing the duties on tea by one half.

London, 21st March.—The Prince and Princess of Wales will attend the funeral of the Czar.

The Chancellor of the Exchequer of the House of Commons to-night announced that the Budget would be submitted to the House on the fourth of April. The introduction of the Irish Land Bill is fixed for the seventh April.

The Parliamentary Easter recess begins on the eight April.

Lord Hartington, replying to a question, said that the Ameer had agreed to take over Kandahar, and that his

troops were expected to arrive there at the commencement of April. The British force was prepared to leave.

The *Daily News* publishes a paragraph stating the terms of peace with the Boers include a Royal Commission of inquiry into their grievances, and stipulates that the Boers are to return to their homes, whilst the British garrison maintain their present positions in Transvaal.

The *Daily News* publishes a telegram from Merv, stating that the plain between Tejend and Merv is without water and is impracticable for marching an Army across. The Russians are close to Tejend, but it is believed they will not make an attempt to move on Merv this year, if at all.

London, 22nd March.—Lord Hartington in the House of Commons last night said the Viceroy had informed the Ameer that the Indian Government contemplate with satisfaction the handing over to him of Kandahar, and will recognise his Government when he had established it, and assist him at Cabul by limited material and help. His Lordship added several more powerful Kandahar Sardars have tendered, their allegiance to the Ameer.

Prince and Princess of Wales have started for St. Petersburg.

It is reported that the armistice with the Boers has been prolonged for fourteen days; the sole objection raised by the Boers to the Peace conditions is on the question of surrendering their arms.

A Royal Commission of enquiry into the Boers grievances includes the Governor of Cape Colony.

London, 23rd March.—Advices from the Transvaal state the Royal Commission of Enquiry will shortly proceed to Heidelberg.

A crowded and enthusiastic meeting of citizens was held last night at Cannon Street Hotel to protest against the abandonment of Kandahar.

The Premier, replying to a question in the House of Commons last night, said that the Boers have accepted the following conditions of Peace, namely that the suzerainty of the Queen is acknowledged, that complete autonomy is to be granted to the Transvaal, and that the British Government controls the foreign relations; that a British Resident be allowed at the capital, and that a royal commission composed of Sir Evelyn Wood, the Governor, and the Chief Justice of Cape Colony shall arrange the native frontier questions, and also as to whether the Transvaal is to lose any territory Eastward; the Boers will disperse to their homes, and the British garrisons will remain in positions pending a definite settlement of affairs, and the British troops will make no further advance.

Athens, 23rd March.—In the Greek Chambers to-day the President of the Ministry said that war with Turkey, though very near, was not inevitable.

London, 24th March.—Meetings are being held throughout the country to protest against the abandonment of Kandahar.

Sir Richard Temple is ill.

The Premier, replying to a question, said that General Roberts would return home immediately on his arrival at Natal. Certain of the reinforcements have been stopped.

Constantinople, 25th March.—The conference of ambassadors on the Greek question is now drawing to a conclusion, the Porte having finally agreed to an extension of territory in Greek Thessaly, but now refuses to cede either Epirus or Crete.

London, 25th March.—Lord Hartington, in laying papers relative to Afghan affairs on the table of the House of Commons last night, explained that several despatches from the Indian Government had gone astray, and that the postal authorities were now investigating the matter. With reference to the approaching occupation of Kandahar by Abdul Rahman's forces, his lordship said 4,000 infantry and 1,000 cavalry were already on their way from Kabul to Kandahar.

Mr. Stanhope then proposed a vote of want of confidence in the Government in respect of their Kandahar policy. The withdrawal of our forces from Kandahar was inopportune and a violation of all pledges, and furthermore was against the weight of all authority. Sir Charles Dilke, who spoke in vindication of the policy of Government, said that all their difficulties sprang from their predecessors' vacillation, the result being the abandonment of Kandahar. He informed the House that the first act of the new Czar

of Russia had been to recall General Skobelloff and to stop all his operations in Central Asia.

The debate was adjourned.

Colonel Thomas Wilson, C.B., has been appointed to succeed Sir Donald Stewart in the Viceregal Council.

The latest advices from the Cape state that the conditions of peace between the Boers and British have caused great discontent among the colonists generally.

London, March 26th.—The debate on Mr. Stanhope's resolution was resumed in the House of Commons last night.

Lord George Hamilton said that Sir C. Dilke's announcement that General Skobelloff had been recalled and that Russian operations in Central Asia were stopped was a mere parliamentary "blind."

Mr. Fawcett pointed out the financial difficulties that would attend the permanent occupation of Kandahar, and strongly vindicated the policy of the Government in abandoning it.

Lord Hartington said that the information respecting General Skobelloff's recall and the stoppage of Russian operations in Asia had not been received through the Russian Government and that Russia knew that either military or diplomatic interference on her part in Afghanistan would mean a rupture of diplomatic relations with England.

Sir S. Northcote warned the Government of the danger attending the abandonment of Kandahar in the present state of affairs.

The resolution was eventually negatived 336 against 215 votes.

LATE INDIAN NEWS.

Calcutta, 11th March.—The *Englishman* learns that a committee has been appointed to select the site for a station in the Naga Hills. The enormous advantages of the route via Wokha for transport, are at last being recognized, and it is to be repaired, and our contemporary has strong grounds for hoping that common-sense will have its way, and that Wokha will be fixed on as the future head-quarters station, Kohima being retained as a fortified advanced post in the Anzan country.

News from Darjiling says that more rain is again badly wanted in the district for the tea, but still we are told by the local paper that "there is every appearance of an early tea-season in the hills. The bushes at elevations below 3,000 feet are bursting into leaf, and there is every appearance of first 'flesh' being fit for taking off within the next month." Tea-manufacture has, however, been already commenced in the Terai.

The evacuation of the Khyber will begin on the morning of the 15th instant, and by the evening of the 18th of March all the troops under Brigadier Hudson's command will have recrossed the frontier. On Tuesday Thull was reduced to its normal state of a common frontier outpost, the troops hitherto garrisoning it moving to Jogh. Fifty sepoy and ten sowars alone remain in Thull. They have occupied the dak bungalow, which the *Pioneer* hopes will be made defensible, as the Zaimukhta may be tempted to raid, now that the last of the Kurram force has been broken up.

Mr. John Wilson, the elder, the proprietor of Wilson's Circus, now in Madras, did a neat stroke of business lately in Calcutta. The extensive stables and premises, occupied by the late firm of Thomas Smith and Company, were leased to Mr. Wilson for a period of fifteen years, with a clause in the lease, giving him the right of purchase at Rs. 1,40,000. Mr. Wilson eventually bought the property for Rs. 1,32,500, and sold it two days afterwards to Dr. Greenhill, of Messrs. Cook & Co., for Rs. 2,00,008.

Calcutta, 12th March.—The National Mahomedan Association of Calcutta in an address to the Viceroy complain that their co-religionists in India have been losing ground in the race of progress, but that they hope a new era will dawn on the fortunes of Indian Mussulmans. Lord Ripon in reply renews his statement as to all races being treated with impartiality, and expresses himself desirous of promoting the welfare of the Mahomedan community.

Calcutta, 14th March.—The whole of the Ameer's family which were left behind by him on his departure from Tashkend have now joined him in Kabul.

Messrs. Rushton Brothers of Calcutta have failed.

Calcutta, 15th March.—On the 13th instant, a mixed gang of some twenty-five bazaar Afridis attacked the Kuchi shepherds and carried off flocks, between Ali Masjid and Lundikotal. The Jezakhi and Zekka Khel headmen and tribe turned out and killed three, wounded two, and recovered nearly all the sheep; this shows that the Khober headmen are doing their duty well.

The Government of India have sanctioned a grant of Rs. 6,000 from the Imperial revenue towards the cost of the proposed operations for opening up a trade in Indian tea with America and Canada. Their object is to aid in setting the trade in motion, its development, when once established, being left to private enterprise. This is very good natured of them, but it is hardly complimentary to the British merchant, who does not usually need to be shown when a profit is to be made by trade. Let there be a margin of profit in the tea trade between India and elsewhere, and there will be no want of people to cut in for a slice of the cake.

Bombay, 15th March.—The Captain of the steamer *Albion* reports that the troopship *Jumna*, during severe weather in the Mediterranean, lost eight boats and had twenty-two men washed overboard.

Allahabad, 11th March.—Special arrangements have been made for the safety of the ammunition given to the Ameer. It will be sent on to Kabul ahead of the Envoy.

His Highness Aga Ali Shah is expected here shortly to reconcile the Khoja factions.

The French man-of-war *Lacocheterie*, whose arrival here alarmed the native population considerably, has left for the Gulf.

Mr. Eduljee Dinshaw, one of the leading and most liberal Parsee citizens of Kurrachee, has given a donation of Rs. 1,000 towards the erection of a new Roman Catholic church.

Bengal troops are passing through Sukkur to Sibi. This is significant.

The ex-Wali of Kandahar is growing discontented, and does not like Kurrachee, or our laws in regard to women. He still longs for the restoration of the five female slaves who deserted his zenana.

Allahabad, 13th March.—The Kandahar clasp is to be given to those who took part in the reconnaissance of August 31st, but who were prevented by some legitimate cause from taking part in the action of September.

Allahabad, 16th March.—The Government of India have decided to send an expedition into the Wazari country to punish the tribes for the raid upon Tonk. Brigadier General Kennedy, Commandant of the Punjab Frontier Force, in command of 5,000 native troops will cross the frontier. The force will comprise the 1st and 4th Sikhs now at Abbottabad and Dera Ismail Khan respectively, the 1st Punjab infantry from Kohat, the 2nd and 4th Punjab Infantry from Edwardesabad, the 3rd Punjab Infantry from Dera Ismail Khan, 100 sabres of the 1st Punjab Cavalry and 200 sabres from the Punjab Cavalry from Dera Ismail Khan and Edwardesabad respectively, and the Hazara Mountain Battery. A Brigade consisting of one Regiment of British Infantry, two Regiments of Native Infantry, one Regiment of Native Cavalry, one Field Battery and one Company of Sappers, will be held in reserve as a support.

Allahabad, 24th March.—News from Kandahar states that letters to 137 Sirdars and Chiefs have been issued by the Amir at Kabul, stating that the British Government had made over Kandahar. The letters also stated that five infantry and four cavalry regiments and twelve guns with two thousand Khussaders, were encamped at Kabul ready to march.

Peshawar news from Kabul states that four thousand infantry and one thousand cavalry, the latter by forced marches, are proceeding to Kandahar.

Ayub's envoys have been informed by the British Resident that the Government is determined to allow Abdur Rahman to take possession of Kandahar on the Ameer's troops coming. The Envoy left quietly.

LAW REPORTS.

IN THE U. S. COURT FOR JAPAN.

Before GEN. T. B. VAN BUREN, Consul-General, Judge.

Thursday, 14th April, 1881.

THE MITSU BISHI MAIL STEAM SHIP CO.

versus

THE PACIFIC MAIL STEAM SHIP CO.

A motion having been made for a new trial in this matter, His Honor, this afternoon, gave the following decision:—

Upon a careful review of the case and due consideration of the arguments of counsel, I see no reason to change the views expressed in the opinion and judgment of the Court pronounced on the 14th March, ultimo.

The amount of \$2,196.50 therein adjudged to be due from defendants to plaintiffs is set down as so due for the service rendered by the former to the latter in the carriage of the mail from Shanghai to Yokohama in January 1877, which service the Court found to include four days' detention in Shanghai, viz. from the 10th to the 14th January.

I think the claim is made with sufficient clearness in the complaint to cover the detention as part of the said service. If it were capable of proof that this detention was not necessary, and that the mail could have been brought as well on the 10th as the 14th, as claimed by Defendants' counsel in his argument on this motion, I have only to say that no such proof was made, but on the contrary the testimony discloses that the advertised sailing day of the *Nevada* was the 10th of January, but that she was detained until the 14th to receive the mail.

This detention, as stated in the opinion of the Court, was made upon the demand of the Defendants, and the delay, therefore, having been made, and the mail carried upon such demand, it follows as a necessary conclusion, the moment it is held that the service, including the detention, was not compulsory, that the Defendants were bound to pay such sum as the same was found to be worth. Such sum was arrived at from the evidence, which gave the value of the detention and carriage in separate items.

Referring to the alleged errors in issuing commissions for the examination of Gavin P. Ness and Alexander Center, and the allowance of the question to Robert W. Irwin—"Was any definite time fixed by the parties in their negotiations during which the American mails were to be carried"—the same having been objected to, I have to say that from the minutes of the Court it appears that at the sitting of the Court on the 2nd of July last, the very first day of the trial of this cause, the counsel for the Defendants asked the following question on his cross-examination of Mr. Bramsen, a witness introduced by the Plaintiffs, the said witness having testified as follows: "I saw several drafts before the final contract was made, slightly modified." Question:—"What were such modification? This question was objected to by the counsel for Plaintiffs on the ground that "it was an attempt to vary the contract by parol evidence." Whereupon the counsel for Defendants claimed that "it was not the intention to vary the contract but to explain its meaning."

And on the 22nd of July, the next adjourned day of the trial, the minutes state that the counsel for defendants proceeded "to discuss the question of introducing parol evidence to explain the meaning of the language of the contract between the parties." He contends that "the contract is obscure and the real intent of the parties as understood by them is not made clear; that the controlling purpose of the contract was to carry the U. S. mails in the manner and times set forth in the contract between the Defendants and the U. S. Government therein referred to, &c."

Mr. Kirkwood for Plaintiffs replies, &c. "The Court held that the object of the letting of the vessel, as set forth in clause 3 referred to, having apparently been the carrying of the American mails in the manner and at the times set forth in a contract between the U. S. Government and the Pacific Mail S. S. Co. it is proper that said contract be produced in evidence, and that parol evidence is proper to explain the real meaning and intent of the parties."

To this the Counsel for Plaintiffs excepted. The Counsel for Defendants thereupon repeated to Mr. Bramsen the question objected to at the former hearing as follows:

"What modifications took place in the draft contracts you have spoken of, and why did they take place?" and the question was answered.

Parol evidence having thus been permitted upon the request of the Counsel for Defendants, and he having proceeded to elicit such evidence, it is difficult to understand how he can claim it error on the part of the Court to have granted commissions to examine Messrs. Ness and Center, the two principal agents, who had full knowledge of the views and desires of the parties to the contract when the latter was made, or to permit the question to be put to Mr. Irwin who was present at all the interviews between the parties concerning said contract. These witnesses had full knowledge of the very thing Mr. Hill desired to establish, namely the real intent and meaning of the parties to the contract, and the proper construction to be given to its language, which he claimed was obscure.

The motion for a new trial is denied with costs of Court to be paid by the moving party.

(Signed) THOS. B. VAN BUREN,

Consul-General,

Judge of the Court.

His Honour added that with regard to the costs he had received nothing new from the Minister on the subject, and he felt bound to follow the Minister's version of the code, and decide that he could give no costs except for the absolute disbursements, which in that case would include disbursements for the commissions, and the costs of Court and copying fees. He himself thought the code was obscure and had a number of omissions in it, and that the term "costs" when used there ought to mean something besides disbursements, for the language was "costs and disbursements." Nevertheless he felt bound to follow the interpretation given by the Minister—for the present at any rate.

Mr. Kirkwood asked if there was any way of bringing that interpretation under review?

His Honor thought not, except by both parties appealing.

Mr. Hill intimated his intention of appealing against the decision generally, and

After some discussion,

His Honor made the following addendum: "Defendants' Attorney gives verbal notice that he intends to appeal from the judgment, and will file due notice and move for allowance. The question of costs coming on to be heard, the Court finds that the U. S. Minister in Japan having expressed his official opinion that by the U. S. Consular Court Regulations no costs could be allowed to the prevailing party in a suit in such courts, but only his disbursements, which do not include the compensation of his attorney or counsel, such compensation being expressly excluded by paragraph 245 of such Consular Court Regulations,—this Court feels bound to follow this opinion.

"It is therefore ordered that the costs allowed to the Plaintiff by the judgment in this cause shall be held to include only the actual necessary disbursements made by the plaintiffs, exclusive of the compensation to counsel, which disbursements as set forth in the bill of costs filed in Court are for fees of interpreter, of commissioners to take testimony &c., and fees of copyists for copying pleadings, commissions &c., amounting in the aggregate to the sum of \$2,090.50 cents Mexican."

NATIVE CURRENCY QUOTATIONS.

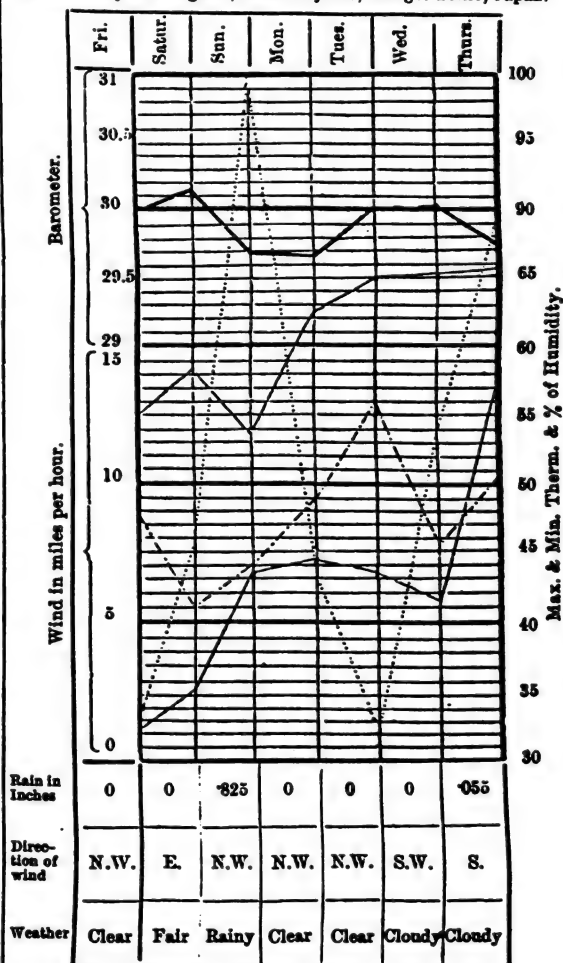
(For Week Ending 23rd April, 1881.)

		Discount on Yen Sat.			Gold Yen.	Silver Subsidiary (Yen.)	Silver Subsidiary (U.S.)
		A. M.	Noon.	Closing.			
1881							
Saturday	April 16	79 ¹ / ₂	80	80	—	—	—
Monday	" 18	78	78	78	—	—	—
Tuesday	" 19	79	78	79	—	—	—
Wednesday ..	" 20	79	78	79	—	—	—
Thursday	" 21	79	80	79	—	—	—
Friday	" 22	79	80	79	—	—	—
Satur. Inv	" 23	78	79	79	—	—	—

METEOROLOGICAL REPORT

FOR WEEK BEGINNING FRIDAY, APRIL 15TH, 1881.

Observatory of Daigaku, Moto-Fujicho, Hongō, Tokio, Japan.



REMARKS.

Heavy line represents barometer.
 Light continuous line—max. & min. thermometers.
represents velocity of wind.
percentage of humidity.
 Max. velocity of wind 34.5 miles per hour on Tuesday at 10 a.m.
 The barometer is reduced to the freezing point and to the level of the sea.
 The highest reading of the barometer for the week was 30.213 inches on Saturday at 10 a.m. and the lowest was 29.565 on Sunday at 11 p.m. The highest temperature for the week was 65° 3 on Thursday and the lowest was 32° 6 on Friday. The maximum and minimum for the corresponding week of last year were 69° and 42° 5 respectively.
 The total amount of rain for the week was .880 inches against a total of 1.280 inches for the corresponding week of last year.
 The percentages of humidity as exhibited in the above should be diminished by 10 per cent. throughout.

CHURCH SERVICES.

CHRIST CHURCH.

Sunday Morning 11 A.M.
 " Evening 5.30 P.M.
 E. CHAMPNEYS IRWIN, M.A.,
 The Parsonage, 101.

UNION CHURCH, No. 167.

Sunday Morning 11 A.M.
 " Evening 8 P.M.
 REV. LUTHER H. GULICK,
 Pastor M.D.,

YOKOSUKA STEAMERS TIME TABLE.

LEAVE YOKOHAMA.

DAILY:—8.30, and 9.45 A.M.; 12.00, 1.30, and 4.15 P.M.

LEAVE YOKOSUKA.

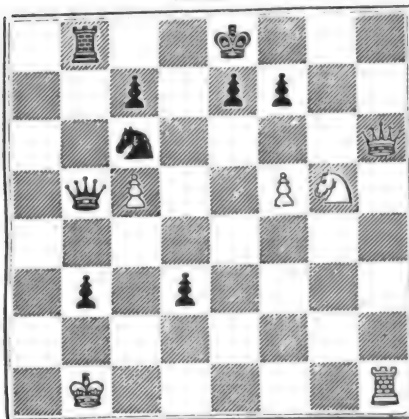
DAILY:—6.45 and 9.30 A.M., and 12.00; 1.30 and 4.00 P.M.

CHESS PROBLEM,

By W. H. C.

(From the Chess Players Chronicle.)

BLACK.



WHITE.

White to play and mate in 3 moves.

SOLUTION OF CHESS PROBLEM OF APRIL 16TH, BY S. LOYD.

White.

1.—Kt. to Kt. 4.

2.—Kt. to R. 2.

3.—Q. to K. sq. mate.

3.—Kt. to B. 3, mate.

3.—Q. to Q. 4, mate.

2.—Q. takes P. at Kt. 6.

3.—Q. mate.

2.—Kt. takes P. ch.

3.—Q. mates at R. 2.

Black.

1.—P. takes Kt.

2.—P. takes Kt.

if 2.—K. to R. 8.

if 2.—Kt. to B. 7.

if 1.—P. to Kt. 4.

2.—K. moves.

if 1.—K. to B. 8.

2.—K. to Kt. 8.

Correct solutions received from Omega and Q.

SHIPPING INTELLIGENCE.

INWARDS.

April 17, Japanese barque *Aranjishima Maru*, Creighton, 660, from Nagasaki, Coals, to M. B. Co.
 April 16, British steamer *Canton*, Jaques, 1,093, from London, General, to W. M. Strachan & Co.
 April 17, British brig *Minatitlan*, J. Edwards, 219, from Takao, Sugar, to Chinese.
 April 18, Japanese steamer *Genkai Maru*, Conner, 1,917, from Shanghai and ports, Mails and General, to M. B. Co.
 April 19, Japanese steamer *Kiushiu Maru*, Davidson, 690, from Kobe, Mails and General, to M. B. Co.
 April 19, French steamer *Volga*, Guiraud, 1,502, from Hongkong, Mails and General, to M. M. Co.
 April 23, German schooner *Auguste Reimers*, Thompson, 207, from Takao, Sugar, to Edward Fischer & Co.

PASSENGERS.

Per Japanese steamer *Genkai Maru* from Shanghai and ports:—Mr. and Mrs. C. P. Blethen, 2 children and governess, Mr. and Mrs. Geo. W. Much, Mr. and Mrs. Walker and child, Mrs. Osgood, and 4 children, Major Bridgford, Sir Arthur Stepney, Dr. Wagener, Mr. and Mrs. Ah Sun, Messrs. C. E. Hill, W. Robertson, A. B. de Farges, S. B. Glover, Laudall, A. W. Anderson, Luning, D. H. Ward, Rutherford, C. T. Battelle, Howie, MacMillan, A. F. Thompson, E. Ward, P. Falque, J. A. Thompson, Percival, Edimen, Ohtow, and 5 Japanese in cabin; and 8 European, 247 Japanese and 3 Chinese in steerage.
 Per French steamer *Volga* from Hongkong:—Messrs. Weghe, Iga, and Okamura.
 Per Japanese steamer *Kiushiu Maru* from Kobe:—1 Japanese.

OUTWARDS.

April 16, Japanese barque *Sumanoura Maru*, Spiegenthal, 925, for Nagasaki, Ballast, despatched by M. B. Co.
 April 16, American sloop *Alert*, Huntington, 1,020 tons, 4-guns, for Bonin Islands.
 April 17, British steamer *Sunda*, Reeves, 1,074, for Hongkong, Mails and General, despatched by P. & O. Co.
 April 17, British steamer *Glencleaves*, Bamford, 1,836, for Kobe, General, despatched by Jardine, Matheson & Co.
 April 17, Japanese steamer *Tokai Maru*, Hogg, 1,047, for Kobe, Mails and General, despatched by M. B. Co.

April 18, German schooner *M. C. Bohm*, Baade, 72, for Hunting cruise, despatched by P. Bohm.
 April 20, British steamer *Orestes*, Webster, 1,283, for London via Kobe, Nagasaki and Hongkong, General, despatched by Butterfield & Swire.
 April 20, Japanese steamer *Takasago Maru*, Young, 1,230, for Shanghai and ports, Mails and General, despatched by M. B. Co.
 April 21, American steamer *City of Tokio*, Cobb, 5,050, for San Francisco, Mails and General, despatched by P. M. Co.
 April 22, Japanese steamer *Akitushima Maru*, Frshm, 1,146, for Hakodate, Mails and General, despatched by M. B. Co.
 April 22, German barque *Joachim*, Christian, Rickalefs, 457, for Newchwang, Ballast, despatched by Yuk Chee.
 April 22, Danish bark *Koipharen*, N. Meghieby, 352, for Newchwang, Ballast, despatched by Chinese.

PASSENGERS.

Per British steamer *Sunda* for Hongkong:—Mr. and Mrs. McDonald, Miss McDonald, Miss E. McDonald, Miss Rigg, Miss E. Willcox, Dr. Siegfried, Messrs. J. Rickett and E. Ginsburg.
 Per British steamer *Orestes* for London via Kobe, Nagasaki and Hongkong:—Mrs. Vincent and 2 children, Miss Vincent, Messrs. K. Kingdon, A. Mitchell and son, A. C. Burls and Maddax.
 Per Japanese steamer *Takasago Maru* for Shanghai and ports:—Mr. and Mrs. Macy, Mr. and Mrs. Van der Hyden, Mr. and Mrs. Vela, Sig. Cobiainchi, Mr. and Mrs. Ahrens, Mr. and Mrs. Kawasaki, Mrs. Macy, Miss Kate Waters, Messrs. Blanc, G. Conachi, W. C. Ward, Ashton, Robertson, Percival, Miller, J. de Boer, and 15 Japanese in cabin.
 Per American steamer *City of Tokio* for San Francisco:—Mr. C. P. Blethen, wife, two children and governess, Rev. J. E. Walker, wife and children, Messrs. J. Koskland, A. Oberlander, K. M. Blakiston, M. and Mme. Arnoux, J. L. Mayers, S. B. Gower, in cabin; 13 Europeans and 1040 Chinese in steerage. For Liverpool: Messrs. A. Blanchard, de Farges, R. Y. Richardson, and Dr. Dyce Fraser. For London: Major and Mrs. Hales, Messrs. George Rutherford, and C. W. Scott. For New York: Messrs. E. Scantlebury, C. E. Hill, Naval Constructor, G. W. Much, U.S.N., and Mrs. Much, Mrs. H. W. Osgood and 4 children, Rev. H. H. Leavitt, wife and 3 children, Rev. G. R. Leavitt, Mrs. Allan Moore, 2 children and servant, Lieut. C. A. Adams, U.S.N. and Mrs. Adams, D. Henshaw Ward, Mr. and Mrs. R. M. Barnard, Rev. Warren H. Cudworth, Lieut. Dillais, S. M. Wren, Mrs. Thos. Walsh, 2 children and maid, and J. Popper in cabin.

CARGOES.

Per Japanese steamer *Genkai Maru* from Shanghai and ports:—Treasure Silver Yen 17,500.00
 Per French steamer *Volga* from Hongkong:—General Merchandise 3,916 pkgs.
 Per American steamer *City of Tokio* for San Francisco:—

TEA:				
From	San Fran.	N. York.	Other Cities.	Total
Shanghai	—	11	468	479
Nagasaki	—	—	—	—
Hio-go	—	—	—	—
Yokohama	1,024	184	—	1,208
Hongkong	—	—	—	—
Total	1,024	195	468	1,687
SILK:				
From	San Fran.	N. York.	Other Cities.	Total
Shanghai	—	255	—	255
Hongkong	8	287	3	298
Yokohama	2	67	—	69
Total	10	609	3	622

Per Japanese steamer *Takasago Maru* for Shanghai and ports:—
 Treasure \$ 39,000.00

REPORTS.

The British brig *Minatitlan* reports:—First part of the voyage strong northerly winds; towards the close light variable winds.
 The German schooner *Auguste Reimers* reports:—On the 17th instant experienced severe gale from S.E. with heavy cross sea. The decks were almost continually immersed while it lasted.

LIGHTSHIP SIGNALS.

The following are the signals made from the lightship to denote the approach of vessels:—
 Merchant steamer:—A black ball, with the national flag of the vessel below, at the yard arm.
 Mail steamer:—A black diamond, with the company's flag below, at the peak.
 Man-of-war:—National flag of the vessel at the peak.
 Sailing vessels:—For a ship: flag B. (red); barque, flag C. (red ball on white ground); brig, flag D. (white ball on blue ground); schooner, flag E. (white ball on red ground) all commercial code, with the vessel's national flag below as soon as it can be made out.

YOKOHAMA-TOKIO RAILWAY.

DOWN TRAINS LEAVE SHINBASHI.

A.M.	A.M.	A.M.	A.M.	NOON.	P.M.	P.M.	P.M.	P.M.	P.M.	P.M.	P.M.
7.0	8.15	9.30	10.45	12.0	2.0	3.15	4.30	5.45	7.0	8.15	9.30 10.40

UP TRAINS LEAVE YOKOHAMA.

A.M.	A.M.	A.M.	A.M.	NOON.	P.M.	P.M.	P.M.	P.M.	P.M.	P.M.	P.M.
7.0	8.15	9.30	10.45	12.0	2.0	3.15	4.30	5.45	7.0	8.15	9.30 10.40

SHIPPING INTELLIGENCE.

VESSELS IN HARBOUR.

NAME.	CAPTAIN.	FLAG AND REG.	TONS.	FROM.	ARRIVED.	CONSIGNEES.
STEAMERS.						
Canton	Jacques	British steamer	1,095	London via Hongkong	April 16	W. M. Strachan & Co.
Genkai Maru	Conner	Japanese steamer	1,917	Shanghai & ports	April 18	M. B. Co.
Tanais	Reynier	French steamer	1,735	Hongkong	April 4	M. M. Co.
Volga	Gniraud	French steamer	1,502	Hongkong	April 19	M. M. Co.
SAILING SHIPS.						
Anna Dorathea	T. Jansen	German barque	343	Takao	Apr. 11	Chinese
Cilurnum	Beadle	British ship	1,850	Hongkong	Nov. 8	Edward Fischer & Co.
Lady Bowen	Pain	British barque	892	Newcastle	April 12	Molliou, Fraser & Co.
Micatlitan	J. Edwards	British brig	219	Takao	April 17	Chinese
North Star	Jansen	Russian schooner	42	Kurile Islands	Nov. 16	H. W. Hohnholz & Co.

VESSELS OF WAR IN PORT.

NAME.	GUNS.	TONS.	H. P.	DESCRIPTION.	WHERE FROM.	COMMANDER.
GERMAN—Vineta ...	19	2,000	—	Corvette	Kobe	Zirzow
AMERICAN—Palos ...	4	940	840	Sloop	Kobe	Errington
ENGLISH—Albatross ...	6	306	—	Sloop	Cruise	Green

VESSELS ON THE BERTH.

DESTINATION.	NAME.	AGENTS.	TO BE DESPATCHED.
San Francisco ...	Cilurnum	Edward Fischer & Co.	Unsettled
Hongkong ...	Glamis Castle	A. J. Macpherson	About 25th April
New York ...	Lord of the Isles	Smith, Baker & Co.	Quick despatch
Shanghai and way-ports ...	Genkai Maru	M. B. Co.	April 27th, at 6 P.M.
Hongkong via Kobe ...	Kokonoye Maru	M. B. Co.	April 30th, at 6 P.M.
Hongkong ...	Tanais	M. M. Co.	April 24th, at 9 A.M.
San Francisco ...	Belgio	O. & O. Co.	May 12th
New York via Suez Canal ...	Glenartney	Jardine, Matheson & Co.	About 25th May
New York ...	Benarty	Mourilyan, Heimann & Co.	Early in May

COMMERCIAL INTELLIGENCE.

IMPORTS.—Business in all descriptions of goods continues dull and unsatisfactory. *Yarns* are if anything weaker, especially Indian sorts. *Shirtings* nominal and unchanged. Other *Cottons* as before; *Woolens* dull and inanimate.

COTTON YARNS :—

Nos. 16 to 24, Common to Medium ...	per picul	\$28.50 to 30.50
" " Good to Best... ..	"	\$31.00 to 32.25
Bombay, No. 20 do.	"	\$28.50 to 30.00
Nos. 28 to 32, Common to Medium ...	"	\$32.25 to 33.00
" " Good to Best... ..	"	\$33.25 to 33.75
" 38 to 42	"	\$35.00 to 37.00

COTTON PIECE GOODS :—

Grey Shirtings :—7 lb. per piece 28½ yds. 39 in.	\$1.25 to 1.65
" " 8½ lb. " 38½ " 39 in.	\$1.70 to 2.15
" " 9 lb. " 38½ " 45 in.	\$2.05 to 2.40
T. Cloths :—7 lb. " 24 yds. 32 in. per piece	\$1.35 to 1.55
Drills, English :—14-15 lb. 40 " 30 in.	\$2.30 to 2.50
Indigo Shirtings :— " 12 " 44 in.	\$1.30 to 1.45
Prints :—Assorted " 24 " 30 in.	\$1.25 to 2.25
Cotton Italians & Sateens Black 32 in.	\$0.06½ to 0.12½
Turkey Reds: 2 to 2½ lb. 24 yds. 30 in.	\$1.40 to 1.60
Do. 2½ to 2¾ lb. 24 " 30 in.	\$1.55 to 1.70
Do. 3 lb. 24 " 30 in.	\$1.70 to 1.80

COTTON PIECE GOODS :—Continued.

Velvets :—Black ... 35 yds. 22 in. per piece	\$6.50 to 8.50
Victoria Lawns ... 12 " 42/3 " "	\$0.68 to 0.74
Taffachelass :— " 12 " 43 " "	\$1.70 to 1.90

WOOLLENS :—

Plain Orleans ... 40-42 yds. 32 in.	4.50 to 5.50
Figured Orleans ... 29-30 " 31 " ...	3.50 to 4.25
Lastings ... 29-30 " 31 " ...	10.00 to 11.00
Italian Cloth ... 30 " 32 " ...	0.18 to 0.30
Camlet Cords ... 29-30 " 22 " ...	4.50 to 5.50
Mousselines de Laines :—Crape 24 yds. 30 in.	0.15½ to 0.16½
do. Itajime 24 " 30 " ...	0.23 to 0.29
do. Yuzen 24 " 30 " ...	0.35 to 0.40
Cloths, all wool plain or fancy... 48 in. to 52 in.	0.80 to 1.50
Pilots... 54 " to 56 " ...	0.30 to 0.40
Presidents... 54 " to 56 " ...	0.40 to 0.50
Union ... 54 " to 56 " ...	0.30 to 0.50
Blankets, green, 5 to 6 lbs. ... per lb.	0.35 to 0.37

SAIGON RICE.—Stock, none.

KEROSENE.—Stock is reduced to 330,000 cases.

Sugar :—Takao in bag New ... per picul	\$4.20
" " Old... ..	\$3.90
" Taiwanfoo in bag... ..	\$3.90
Ching-pak and Ke-pak ...	\$7.75 to \$8.50
China No. 4-5, Hongfun & Kook-fah... ..	\$6.50 to \$8.75

Japan Rice ... per picul	\$2.67 to 2.85
Japan Wheat ...	\$2.05
Saigon Rice [cargo] ...	nom. \$1.78 to 1.80
Kerosene Oil... ..	case \$1.88 to 1.90

EXPORTS.

SILK.—Our silk market has been very quiet during the past week and only about 120 shipping bales changed hands. Most buyers are now entirely abstaining from purchases, and until something is known regarding the prospects of the new crop in Europe, a revival of business can scarcely be expected. Prices are weak and the tendency is downwards, but with so little business doing, quotations are to a great extent nominal. Stock 1,500 shipping bales. Total shipments to date 20,342 bales.

Quotations Hanks.—No. 2½	\$3.50	= 17/8 Nominal.
" " 3 & infrs.	\$500 to \$530	= 16/2 to 17/2
Filatures.—No. 1	\$670 to \$690	= 2/7 to 21/11
" " 2	\$635 to \$645	= 20/6 to 20/10
" " 3	\$610	= 19/8
Kakodas—Best	\$650	= 21/
" Medium & Good	\$590 to \$630	= 19/4 to 20/4
Re-Reels Medium to Best	\$615 to \$635	= 19/10 to 20/6

TEA.—In the absence of any supplies there is no business passing. The s.s. *City of Tokio* left on the 21st instant and only took a few small samples of new leaf, and owing to the backwardness of the season, the s.s. *Belgie* has been postponed from the 7th to the 12th proximo.

Common ...	...	Nominal.	Fine ...	...	...	Nominal.
Good Common ...	...	...	Finest ...	...	...	...
Medium ...	...	...	Choice ...	...	...	...
Good Medium ...	...	...	Choicest ...	...	...	...

EXCHANGE AND BULLION.

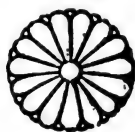
Owing to the absence of any Silk or Tea bills but little has been doing in private paper. A fair amount of Bank bills has been settled for both the last American and the present mail at gradually advancing rates.

STERLING—Bank 4 months' sight	3/93 to 4	ON SHANGHAI—Bank sight.....	73½
" Bank Bills on demand	3/94 to 4	" Private 10 days' sight.....	73½
" Private 4 months' sight	3/10	ON NEW YORK—Bank Bills on demand.....	90½
" " 6 " "	3/10½	" Private 30 days' sight.....	91½
ON PARIS—Bank sight	4.75	ON SAN FRANCISCO—Bank Bills on demand.....	90½
" Private 6 months' sight	4.89	" Private 30 days' sight	91½
ON HONGKONG—Bank sight	½ s/o direct.	KINSATS	80½ dis.
" Private 10 days' sight	1 s/o direct.	GOLD YEN	360 nom.

SHIPPING.

SHIPPING.—Few vessels disengaged. Vessels on the berth :—The *Cilurnum*, for San Francisco ; S. S. *Lord of the Isles*, *Glenartney* and *Benaty* for New York ; and S. S. *Glamis Castle*, for Hongkong.

MISCELLANEOUS.



NOTICE TO MARINERS. HIKU FLAT BUOY.

Westward entrance of Shimonoseki Straits.

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that the BUOY advertised as having broken adrift from its moorings on the 25th January, 1881, has been replaced.

BY ORDER.

Lighthouse Establishment,
Benten, Yokohama,
8th April, 1881.

KEATING'S POWDER.
KEATING'S POWDER.
KEATING'S POWDER.
KEATING'S POWDER.

KILLS BUGS,
FLEAS,
MOTHS,
BEETLES.

THIS POWDER is quite HARMLESS to ANIMAL LIFE, but is unrivalled in destroying FLEAS, BUGS, COCKROACHES, BEETLES, MOTHS IN FURS, and every other species of insect. Sportsmen will find this invaluable for destroying fleas in their dogs, as also ladies for their pet dogs.

THIS ARTICLE has found so GREAT a SALE that it has tempted others to vend a so-called article in imitation. The PUBLIC are CAUTIONED that the line of the genuine powder bear the autograph of THOMAS KEATING. Sold in Bottles.

KEATING'S WORM TABLETS.
KEATING'S WORM TABLETS.
KEATING'S WORM TABLETS.
KEATING'S WORM TABLETS.
KEATING'S WORM TABLETS.

A PURELY VEGETABLE SWEETMEAT, both in appearance and taste, furnishing a most agreeable method of administering the only certain remedy for INTESTINAL or THREAD WORMS. It is a perfectly safe and mild preparation, and is especially adapted for Children. Sold in Bottles, by all Druggists.

Proprietor—THOMAS KEATING, London.

NOTICE.

THE UNDERSIGNED will tune Pianos from the 1st January, 1881, at the following rates:—

IN YOKOHAMA.

Single tuning - - - - - \$ 5.00

Annual " - - - - - 30.00

IN TOKIO.

Single tuning - - - - - \$ 7.00

Annual " - - - - - 40.00

Lessons given on the Flute, Violin, English Concertina and Guitar at moderate charges.

PIANOS AND HARMONIUMS REPAIRED.

C. WAGNER,
No. 220c Bluff

Yokohama, December 22nd, 1880.

MISCELLANEOUS.

NOTICE OF REMOVAL.

LANE, CRAWFORD & Co., beg to inform their numerous friends and customers that their

BAKERY BUSINESS

will, on and from the 11th instant, be carried on at

No. 87,

(formerly Messrs. NOWROJEE & Co.'s bakery)

Where all orders for

BREAD, BISCUITS, CAKES, &c.,

will be promptly attended to.

Yokohama, April 8th, 1881.

MERRYWEATHER & SONS,

Fire Engine Manufacturers,
London.

THE undersigned having been appointed Agents for the above firm, are prepared to execute orders for

FIRE ENGINES & APPLIANCES
STEAM TRAMWAYS,

AND

HYDRAULIC ENGINES
OF EVERY DESCRIPTION.

MALCOLM & CO.,
No. 66.

Yokohama, 17th March, 1880.

ADOLPHUS SINGTON & CO.,

5, St. PETER'S SQUARE,

MANCHESTER,

ENGLAND.

CONTRACTORS, CIVIL ENGINEERS, AND
EXPORTERS

OF ALL DESCRIPTIONS OF

MACHINERY.

May 4, 1878.

FORD & Co.,

GENERAL

COMMISSION MERCHANTS,

AND

Forwarding Agents.

No. 5, WATER STREET.

Yokohama, April 18th, 1881.

MISCELLANEOUS.

TRADE MARK.



ELLWOOD'S
PATENT AIR CHAMBER
HATS AND HELMETS
THE ONLY EFFECTUAL PROTECTION
AGAINST SUN STROKE.

To be obtained of all respectable Hatters and Outfitters
and Wholesale only of

J. ELLWOOD & SONS,
LONDON.

Beware of Useless Imitations.

"HIGHEST AWARD & PRIZE MEDAL PHILADELPHIA
EXHIBITION, 1876."

OAKEY'S
WELLINGTON KNIFE POLISH

PREPARED EXPRESSLY FOR THE PATENT KNIFE-
CLEANING MACHINES, INDIA RUBBER AND BUFF
LEATHER KNIFE BOARDS. KNIVES CONSTANTLY
CLEANED WITH IT HAVE A BRILLIANT POLISH EQUAL
TO NEW CUTLERY. PACKETS 3D. EACH; AND TINS,
6D., 1/-, 2/6 AND 4/- EACH.

OAKEY'S
INDIA RUBBER KNIFE BOARDS

PREVENT FRICTION IN CLEANING AND INJURY TO
THE KNIFE. Oakey's Wellington Knife Polish
SHOULD BE USED WITH HIS BOARDS.

OAKEY'S
SILVERSMITHS SOAP

(NON-MERCURIAL).
FOR CLEANING AND POLISHING SILVER, ELECTRO-
PLATE, PLATE GLASS, &c. TABLETS 6D. EACH.

OAKEY'S
WELLINGTON BLACK LEAD

IN SOLID BLOCS—1D., 2D. & 4D. EACH, & 12 BOXES.



WESTMINSTER BRIDGE ROAD, LONDON, ENGLAND.

July, 1879.

MISCELLANEOUS.

THE GREATEST

WONDER OF MODERN TIMES
HOLLOWAY'S PILLS.

Persons suffering from weak or debilitated constitutions will dis-
cover that by the use of this wonderful medicine there is "Health
for all." The blood is the fountain of life, and its purity can be
maintained by the use of these Pills.

Sir SAMUEL BAKER,
in his work entitled "The Nile Tributaries in Abyssinia," says, "I
ordered the dragoman Mehommet to inform the Faky that I was a
"Doctor, and that I had the best medicines at the service of the
"sick, with advice gratis. In a short time I had many applicants,
"to whom I served out a quantity of Holloway's Pills. These are
"most useful to an explorer, as possessing unmistakable purgative
"properties they create an unalienable effect upon the patient, which
"satisfies him of their value."

SIMPLE, SAFE AND CERTAIN!
HOLLOWAY'S OINTMENT.

Is a certain remedy for bad legs, bad breasts, and ulcerations of all
kinds. It acts miraculously in healing ulcerations, curing skin
diseases, and in arresting and subduing all inflammations.

Mr. J. T. COOPER,
in his account of his extraordinary travels in China, published in
1871, says—"I had with me a quantity of Holloway's Ointment. I
"gave some to the people, and nothing could exceed their gratitude;
"and, in consequence, milk, fowls, butter, and horse-feed poured
"in upon us, until at last a tea-spoonful of Ointment was worth a
"fowl and any quantity of peas, and the demand became so great
"that I was obliged to look up the small remaining stock."
Sold by all Chemists and Medicine Vendors throughout the World
May 17th, 1873.

SAVORY & MOORE'S
ASTHMA,
DATURA FOR DIFFICULT
TATULA BREATHING
&c

Cigars, Cigarettes or Tobacco, also Pastilles and Powder for Inhalation.

SAVORY & MOORE, NEW BOND STREET, LONDON,
And of all Chemists and Storekeepers throughout the world.

December 1880.

DINNEFORD'S

THE BEST REMEDY FOR ACIDITY
OF THE STOMACH, HEARTBURN,
HEADACHE, GOUT AND INDIGESTION.



DINNEFORD & Co., Chemists
London,

N.B. ASK FOR DINNEFORD'S MAGNESIA.

April 10, 1880

THE SAFEST MILD
APERIENT FOR DELICATE
CONSTITUTIONS, LADIES,
CHILDREN AND INFANTS,
AND FOR REGULAR USE
IN WARM CLIMATES.

FLUID
MAGNESIA.

And of Druggists and Storekeepers throughout
the World.

1y.

MISCELLANEOUS.

**CROSSE & BLACKWELL'S
CELEBRATED OILMEN'S STORES.***First Prize Medals, Paris, Vienna and Philadelphia.*

PICKLES AND SAUCES,
JAMS AND JELLIES,
ORANGE MARMALADE,
TART FRUITS, DESSERT FRUITS,
PURE SALAD OIL,
MUSTARD, VINEGAR,
POTTED MEATS AND FISH,
FRESH SALMON AND HERRINGS,
HERRINGS A LA SARDINE,
YARMOUTH BLOATERS,
BLACKWALL WHITEBAIT,
PREPARED SOUPS, IN TINS,
PRESERVED VEGETABLES,
HAMS AND BACON, IN TINS,
PRESERVED CHEESE,
OXFORD AND CAMBRIDGE SAUSAGES,
BOLOGNA SAUSAGES,
YORKSHIRE GAME AND PORK PIES,
TONGUES, GAME, POULTRY,
PLUM PUDDINGS,
LEA AND PERRINS' WORCESTERSHIRE
SAUCE.

*Fresh supplies of the above, and numerous other table
delicacies, may be had from most Storekeepers.***CAUTION.***To prevent the fraud of refilling the bottles or jars
they should invariably be destroyed when empty.**Goods should always be examined upon delivery, to
detect any attempt at substitution of articles of inferior
brands.**All genuine goods bear the names of Crosse & Blackwell
on the Labels, Corks and Capsules of the Bottles,
Jars and Tins.*

CROSSE & BLACKWELL,
PURVEYORS TO THE QUEEN,
80, SOHO SQUARE, LONDON.

July, 1878.



JOSEPH GILLOTT'S STEEL PENS.	Gold.
JOSEPH GILLOTT'S STEEL PENS.	Medal.
JOSEPH GILLOTT'S STEEL PENS.	Paris.
JOSEPH GILLOTT'S STEEL PENS.	1878.

April, 1880.

MISCELLANEOUS.

**J. & E. ATKINSON'S
PERFUMERY,***celebrated for nearly a century past, is of the very best English
manufacture. For its purity and great excellence it has
obtained the following*

EXHIBITION PRIZE MEDALS,
LONDON, 1862. PARIS, 1875. CORDOVA, 1872. LIMA, 1872.
VIENNA, 1873. PHILADELPHIA, 1876.
GOLD MEDAL PARIS, 1878.

**ATKINSON'S CHOICE PERFUMES FOR
THE HANDKERCHIEF.***White Rose, Frangipanna, Ylang-ylang, Staphenotis,
Opopanax, Jockey Club, Eau Bouquet, Trévol,
Magnolia, Jasmin, Wood Violet, Gold Medal Bouquet,
and all other odours, of the finest quality only.***ATKINSON'S FLORIDA WATER,***a most fragrant Perfume distilled from the choicest Essences*

ATKINSON'S QUININE HAIR LOTION,
*a very refreshing Wash which stimulates the skin to a healthy
action and promotes the growth of the hair.*

ATKINSON'S

ETHEREAL ESSENCE OF LAVENDER,
a powerful Perfume distilled from the finest flowers.

ATKINSON'S WHITE ROSE TOILET VINEGAR,*a new and indispensable Toilet accompaniment, and most
refreshing Perfume for the Handkerchief.***ATKINSON'S WHITE ROSE TOOTH PASTE,***and other Specialties and general articles of Perfumery may
be obtained of all dealers throughout the World, and of the
manufacturers*

J. & E. ATKINSON,
24, OLD BOND STREET, LONDON, W.

PRICE LIST FREE ON APPLICATION.

*CAUTION.—Messrs. J. & E. ATKINSON manufacture
their articles of one and the best quality only. Purchasers are
cautioned to avoid counterfeits by observing that each article
is labelled with the firm's Trade Mark, a "White Rose" on a
Golden Lyre.*

ESTABLISHED 1798.

**PROVIDENT CLERKS
MUTUAL LIFE ASSURANCE
ASSOCIATION.
NOTICE.**

THE UNDERSIGNED, having been appointed AGENT
of the above Association, is prepared to receive
proposals for LIFE ASSURANCE at

HOME RATES.

W. J. S. SHAND,
Agent.

Yokohama, April 19th, 1881.

THE BEST REMEDY FOR INDIGESTION.

TRADE



MARK.

*CAMOMILE PILLS are confidently recommended as a simple Remedy for indigestion, which is
the cause of nearly all the diseases to which we are subject, being a medicine so uniformly grateful
and beneficial, that it is with justice called the "Natural Strengtheners of the Human Stomach."
"Norton's Pills" act as a powerful tonic and gentle aperient; are mild in their operation, safe
under any circumstances, and thousands of persons can now bear testimony to the benefits to be
derived from their use, as they have been a never-failing Family Friend for upwards of 45 years.
Sold in Bottles at 1s. 1½d., 2s. 9d., and 11s. each, by all Medicine Vendors throughout the World.*

CAUTION.*Be sure and ask for "NORTON'S PILLS," and do not be persuaded to purchase an imitation.*

November 11th, 1878.

MISCELLANEOUS.

ANDW. HANDYSIDE & Co.

Limited.

32, Walbrook. London,
BRITANNIA IRON WORKS, DERBY
Manufacture all kinds of

IRON WORK,
Structural & Ornamental.

BRIDGES of every description. Girder Bridges. Arch
Bridges. Suspension Bridges.

A. H. & Co. make every year for Foreign Countries some
thousands of Tons of Bridges.

LANDING-PIERS AND JETTIES.

ROOFS AND BUILDINGS. MARKETS
Illustrated Catalogue (A) free on Application.

ORNAMENTAL IRONWORK, ETC.

*See Large New Illustrated Catalogues (B. & C.)
with 1,300 designs.*

Railings. Balcony Panels.	Columns. Column Capitals.
Gates. Street Posts.	Brackets. Gratings.
Lamp-pillars. Lamp-brackets.	Windows. Casements.
Balusters. Newels.	Fountains. Drinking Fountains.
Crestings. Terminals.	Vases. Pedestals.

Conservatories. Band-Stands.

SMITH'S HEARTHES & PORTABLE FORGES

12 Shapes and Sizes.

Catalogue (D) free on Application.

Andw. Handyside & Co., Limited,
LONDON.

26 ins.

E. P & W. BALDWIN,
WILDEN WORKS.

STOURPORT ENGLAND.

SHEET IRON,

BRANDED

"BALDWIN-WILDEN," AND "SEVERN."

TIN PLATES,

BRANDED "EP & WB" "WILDEN," "UNICORN,"
"ARLEY" "STOUR."

*Stamping Sheets, Button Iron, Sheet Iron, Pickled, Cold Rolled,
and Close Annealed.*

Export Agents—

Brooker, Dore & Co., 2, Rood Lane. London, E.C.
April, 1880.

SCOTTISH IMPERIAL INSURANCE COMPANY.

FIRE Insurance granted, upon desirable buildings and
their contents, in TOKIO.
Apply to

C. HILLES & CO.,
Agents.

Yokohama, 7th September, 1880.

MISCELLANEOUS.

HONGKONG AND SHANGHAI BANKING CORPORATION.

PAID-UP CAPITAL \$5,000,000.
RESERVE FUND... .. \$1,800,000.

Head Office: HONGKONG.

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YOKOHAMA BRANCH.

Interest allowed on Current Accounts at 2 o/o on Daily balances.
On Fixed Deposits, for 12 months, at 5 o/o

" " " " 6 " " 4 "
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LOCAL BILLS DISCOUNTED.

Credits granted on approved Securities, and every description
of Banking and Exchange business transacted.

Drafts granted on the Chief Commercial places in Europe,
India, Australia, America, China and Japan, and Circular Notes
issued for the use of Travellers.

JOHN WALTER, Manager.

Yokohama, 26th February, 1881.

The "Japan Mail,"

A Daily, Weekly, and Fortnightly Journal,

ESTABLISHED, 1865.

TERMS OF SUBSCRIPTION.

WEEKLY EDITION. The "Japan Weekly Mail," a Weekly Review
of Japanese Commerce, Politics, Literature and Art:—Per
annum, \$24: Six months, \$13: Three months, \$7.

FORTNIGHTLY Edition, being a Summary of the foregoing, is pub-
lished for transmission by the American Mail Steamers via
San Francisco. Per annum, \$12; Six months, \$7; Three
months, \$4.

THE JAPAN DAILY MAIL is published every morning (Sundays ex-
cepted) and contains the Arrivals and Departures of all
Shipping, Passenger lists, Cargoes, Vessels on the Berth and
in Harbour &c. &c. Also the latest Telegrams. Japanese
news, Reports of Trials in the Courts of Law, Meetings of
public bodies, and all matters of interest to the Community.
Special attention is called to this Journal as a medium for
circulating local advertisements. It has a large and con-
stantly increasing circulation, its low price bringing it within
the means of all classes of the community. It therefore
affords exceptional advertising advantages, and secures to all
announcements the utmost publicity, the object aimed at by
advertisers.

SUBSCRIPTION PER MONTH—ONE DOLLAR.

AGENTS OF THE PAPER.

LONDON..... G. Street, 30, Cornhill.
" " " " Bates, Hendy, & Co., 4, Old Jewry.
NEW YORK..... A. Wind, 133, Nassau Street.
SAN FRANCISCO..... White & Bauer, 413, Washington Street.
HONGKONG..... Kelly & Co.
SHANGHAI..... China and Japan Trading Co.
HIOGO & OSAKA..... F. Walsh & Co.
NAGASAKI..... China & Japan Trading Co.

Who are authorized to receive Subscriptions and Advertisements
for these papers.

*Printed and published for the Proprietor, by the Manager
A. HERBERT BLACKWELL, at the "Japan Mail" Office, 16
Bund, Yokohama.*

THE Japan Weekly Mail,

A WEEKLY REVIEW OF
JAPANESE COMMERCE, POLITICS, LITERATURE, AND ART.

VOL. V. No. 17.]

Yokohama, April 30th, 1881.

[\$24 PER ANNUM.]

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The Japan Weekly Mail.

'FAIS CE QUE DOIS; ADVIENNE QUE POURRA.'

NOTICE TO CORRESPONDENTS.

No notice will be taken of anonymous correspondence. Whatever is intended for insertion in the JAPAN WEEKLY MAIL must be authenticated by the name and address of the writer, not for publication but as a guarantee of good faith.

It is particularly requested that all letters on business, relating to Advertisements, Job-printing, or Accounts, be addressed to the MANAGER.

And that literary contributions of every description be addressed to the EDITOR.

YOKOHAMA: SATURDAY, APRIL 30TH, 1881.

JAPANESE ERA 2541, MEIJI 14TH YEAR, 4TH MONTH, 30TH DAY.

We notice, with much pleasure, the transfer to Constantinople of Mr. Plunkett, formerly First Secretary of Legation in Japan. The change will be welcome not only as a step of promotion, but also because the climate of St. Petersburg—Mr. Plunkett's former station—is not everything that could be desired.

Various other changes in the diplomatic service are also on the tapis. It is rumoured, for example, that Sir Thomas Wade will probably go home on leave this summer, and if this be so, there is perhaps a possibility that Japan may furnish his successor. This prospect would at any rate account in part for Sir Harry Parkes' very protracted stay in London. There once existed, no doubt, tolerably strong arguments against such an appointment, but time has weakened their force. At any rate the latest intelligence from home represents Sir Harry's movements as more uncertain than ever. Either of two contingences would assuredly bring him out here at once; an acceptance by the Treaty Powers of Japan's proposals for revision, or an evident impossibility of any immediate arrangement. As a matter of fact the Japanese draft has not met with unqualified approval anywhere, but on the other hand, that both parties should fail to discover any room for concession is most unlikely. So long as the issue remains uncertain Sir Harry's presence in England will probably be found essential, and mean-

while we can easily conceive that the unusually smooth progress of affairs in Japan, and the consequent cessation of troublesome reference or embarrassing complaint, may appear to the Foreign office a very welcome phase of Eastern relations. The truth is that Japan has long outgrown the condition which rendered a somewhat rough fashion of treatment justifiable, for our sakes first, for her own, afterwards. Her joints have grown too strong and her sinews too tough to endure that violent stretching on the bed of Procrustes to which it was formerly the philanthropic fashion to subject her. We do not pretend to say that things are so completely altered as to warrant an absolute abandonment of restraint or reserve, but we do say that a hard and fast policy cannot possibly be logical in the presence of perpetually changing conditions. What we want here now is diplomacy, sufficiently skillful not only to heal old wounds but to avoid inflicting fresh ones. Without inviting a charge of gross injustice, we may no longer refuse Japan the consideration formerly withheld on the grounds that she had not yet begun what is now in a great measure accomplished. She has, with wonderful versatility and not without pain, moulded herself on the models we offered her, and should we still persist in regarding her as shapeless, her docility will offer a very marked contrast to our own obstinacy. There is little reason to doubt that those who were once her most resolute tutors would by any means be the last to acknowledge her proficiency, but there is every reason to fear that their aptitude might be much marred by association, and for these reasons we should gladly welcome a change which is certainly among the possibilities of the immediate future.

One of our contemporaries has discovered a new "mare's nest" in the circumstances of the transfer of the Takashima coal mine to Mr. Iwasaki. These circumstances "demand," says the *Gazette*, "the closest scrutiny, unless indeed all sense of honour in monetary obligations is a thing of the past in Japan." We are inclined to think that our contemporary would have done well had he ascertained the truth of his premises before venturing upon such insinuations. A very simple enquiry would have told him, that the price paid for the mine was nearer six hundred thousand dollars than sixty thousand yen, and that all just claims upon the property have been recognized and provided for. It is not at all impossible, indeed, that the "suit involving a sum of 62,000 yen" has not been included among the contingent liabilities, but upon this point of course we are not at liberty to speak. Rational men might have been disposed to pause before entertaining such extraordinary suspicions as those our contemporary's words suggest, but it has been well said "that to be uniformly rational is to be generally dull."

On the 23rd instant His Excellency the First Minister of State presented to Captain A. R. Brown, Chief Super-

intendent, Marine office, the order of the "Rising Sun," fourth class. His Excellency, speaking on behalf of His Majesty the Emperor, thanked Captain Brown for his long and most efficient performance of the duties entrusted to him by the Japanese Government, alluding especially to his services in connection with the Formosan Campaign. It will no doubt be remembered that in view of possible complications with China, the Foreign Representatives, when the expedition to Taiwan was finally determined on, interdicted the charter by the Japanese Government, for transport purposes, of vessels flying the flags of their respective nationalities. It thus fell out that the only steamer immediately available was the *Zadkia*, an old P. & O. boat, which had passed into the possession of the Naval Department. The *Zadkia* had once, no doubt, been a tolerably staunch craft, but at the time of which we write she suffered from a slight infirmity in the shape of a leak, almost worthy to be called a hole. On her way down to Nagasaki, under Captain Brown's charge, she encountered a severe gale and took in a quantity of water that seriously alarmed her native passengers; so seriously, indeed, that they declined to avail themselves of her services any farther than Nagasaki. Captain Brown, however, did not consider her unsafe, and in support of his opinion he advanced a tolerably strong argument, for he offered to sail her himself to Formosa or anywhere else. Even this assurance, however, failed to restore confidence. There was nothing for it but to purchase ships then and there for the transport of General Saigo and his troops southward, and it was at this juncture that the services of Captain Brown proved especially valuable. On him devolved almost the whole work of procuring the vessels, equipping them, and appointing their officers and crews; and the zeal and ability he displayed deservedly won for him very high eulogy. He subsequently commanded the *Takasago-maru* (originally the *Delta*) when she carried General Saigo and 1,600 men to Formosa, and there also he proved himself an officer of exceptional capabilities. Since that time (1874) he has remained in the service of the Imperial Government, but though his duties in connection with the Marine Office have enabled him fully to sustain his former reputation, it was his Formosan war services that procured him the honor of a decoration. The fact that six years have been required to obtain the consent of Her Majesty's Government in this matter will sufficiently explain Englishmen's exception from a distinction already conferred upon many foreigners. Any subject of the Queen's is of course at liberty to accept a foreign order, without special permission, and to wear it on all occasions except levees and other State ceremonies. Naturally, however, a decoration conferred under such conditions loses its national character, and it is very conceivable that the Emperor of Japan may feel little inclination to expose the order of the "Rising Sun" to the indignity of exclusion from all assemblies of an official character. It is not in the nature of Englishmen to set much store by unmerited distinctions. Their national habit of mind leads them to ridicule, rather than to reverence, decorations which for the most part testify nothing more than that their possessors have, at some time or other, made their way into certain presences or fulfilled certain social obligations. Still there is a measure of chagrin in the thought that services worthy of distinction are often disqualified by a despotic custom, while those that might be ignored without serious injustice are made eligible by more facile codes. Captain Brown's case, however, proves that this state of things is not irremediable, and we may perhaps hope that the precedent now established will not remain isolated.

At the same time England does, it must be confessed, carry her prejudices a little too far in some instances. None of us desire to deck ourselves with ribbons we have not deserved, nor to solicit honours that have been rendered comparatively valueless by indiscriminate bestowal. Our estimate of the relative worth of English and foreign orders may not unjustly be in proportion to their respective accessibility, but this can only apply to the case of decorations given in recognition of merit. There is, as we all know, another principle that regulates such matters, and according to that principle the orders of all countries should rank alike. A term very much stronger than discourtesy might be applied to the conduct of a nation that offers to exchange its own third-class, for another nation's first-class, decoration, when the wearers of those decorations are to be the sovereigns of the countries concerned. Yet this is what has been done by Great Britain. All the other great European Powers accepted the first-class of the "Rising Sun" and gave in return the best orders they possessed. England alone fancied she would be wronged by a similar exchange and proposed her "Star of India" as a just equivalent, thereby arrogating a superiority such conduct can only tend to disprove, and putting a slight not upon Japan alone, but upon all the other nations whose example she refused to follow. Bluff Britons may see something to be proud of in this display of insular prejudice, but we have not much difficulty in guessing the opinion it has elicited from more impartial judges.

On the 23rd instant His Excellency, the First Minister of State, presented the order of the Rising Sun—fourth class—to Surgeon Major A. W. Schultze, M.D., of His I. G. M. Army.

In December 1874, Dr. Schultze, with the consent of his own Government, was appointed to the chair of Surgery and Ophthalmology in the Imperial Japanese Medical College, or, as it is now termed, the Medical Department of the Tokiyo University (Daigakkō); a position which he has occupied ever since, with the exception of a short leave of absence in 1878. Under his direction an extended course of instruction in surgery and ophthalmology has been carried on at the University, and in 1879 the first batch of medical students passed out of the college, after successfully undergoing a final examination very similar to that prescribed in Germany. Since then twenty or thirty gentlemen have graduated every year and been appointed as physicians in the army or at the different Hospitals in the Prefectures. Connected with the College is a Hospital, where no less than 9,504 patients suffering from eye diseases have been treated since 1876, and more than 4,000 cases have passed directly through Dr. Schultze's hands. The students have thus enjoyed the advantages of a thorough practical as well as a theoretical training, and the result reflects the highest credit on their own industry as well as on the ability of their instructor. Unfortunately for Japan the rules of the German army necessitate Dr. Schultze's return at the end of this year, by which time he will have completed seven years service. The work he has done, however, will not be easily forgotten, and in congratulating him sincerely on the distinction so deservedly bestowed on him, we desire to add our voice to the unanimous verdict of applause he has won from all those associated with him during his long and useful sojourn in Japan.

The Governor of Tokiyo last year submitted to the City Assembly—at the close of the session—a plan for re-arranging the "Central Division of the City," and for constructing

a harbour in the Bay of Yedo. This plan was accompanied by a memorandum, setting forth the grounds and objects of the proposed improvements, and requiring each member to furnish a written statement of his views. It was stated in the memorandum, that the city—which at present consists of fifteen Urban Divisions, containing in the aggregate 1852 streets and covering nearly 2 square *ri*—is too extensive, and that, as a consequence, even the most thriving quarters are in part occupied by poor people, who being quite unable to build their houses of substantial materials, live in flimsy, inflammable structures, so favorable to the spread of fire that thousands of habitations are destroyed in every conflagration. From a sanitary point of view also, the existing arrangement is highly unsatisfactory. In almost every ward, not exclusive of those occupied by the wealthiest classes, roughly constructed dirty out-houses are to be found, while the wells are in close proximity to the sewers. In short the defective hygienic condition of the city has been abundantly proved by the recent prevalence of cholera and other epidemic diseases. All this being fairly attributable to the vast extent of the present City Districts as compared with the requirements of the citizens, it is highly desirable that some re-arrangement should be effected, with the view of narrowing the limits of the city proper. This would of course require a long time for its accomplishment, but it is essential that some plan should be immediately determined upon, so that a guide may exist in the event of building or allotment, as well as in the selection of sites for Government offices, and routes for aqueducts, gas-mains, &c. The memorandum points out that by some scheme of this sort alone can the occupation of the City Districts be ultimately confined to the rich merchants and a certain measure of security from fires &c., attained. It then proceeds to say, that in connection with this idea another question suggests itself—a question not less vital to the prosperity of Tokiyo—viz., the construction, in the Bay of Yedo, of a harbour suited to foreign shipping, so that Tokio may become the centre of both internal and external commerce. This undertaking must equally be a work of time, but as the re-arrangement of the city should be made in accordance with the position of the proposed harbour, it is necessary that the latter also be forthwith considered. On the supposition then that the harbour be formed so as to extend from the mouth of the Sumidagawa to the forts at Shinagawa, the most appropriate district for the city proper would no doubt be the part extending to the moat over which the Kaji-bashi is built, on the west; to the Kandagawa, or a little beyond (thus including a portion of Asakusa) on the north; to the Okawa, on the east, and to Shinbashi on the Kanasugigawa on the south: or perhaps in the event of an increased prosperity in the southern quarter, accompanied by a corresponding decline of trade in the northern, the limit of the latter might be retreated to Nihon-bashi and that of the former extended to Tamachi (Shiba).

Such were the general proposals made by the Municipal authorities, the consideration of details being left to the representatives of the people under the advice of competent engineers. A committee of investigation was subsequently formed, consisting of military, medical and other Government officers, with certain civil engineers and members of the Local Assembly. Meetings of this committee have since been held from time to time in the office of the Municipality, and the survey of the proposed harbour is at present going on under the direction of the Hydrographical Department of the Navy. Pending the conclusion of this survey, we are not in a position to describe the nature of the work, but that it will be both costly and extensive is tolerably certain. Of course it cannot yet be positively predicted that the harbour portion of

the design will ever be undertaken at all, but the “lines” for the prevention of the spread of fires, recently notified, seem to be based upon the scheme for the re-arrangement of the City Districts, and we may therefore fairly presume, that in part at least the project has found favour. It is scarcely necessary to point out what an effect would be produced upon Yokohama by the construction of a good harbour at Tokiyo, or what a field for profitable investment the Tsukiji Concession would offer under such circumstances. We trust, however, that long before mail steamers find an anchorage within the line of forts at Shinagawa, foreigners will be able to purchase land and live anywhere they please in Japan.

We observe that Major Mima of the Imperial Infantry has been appointed Lieut.-Colonel of Gendarmerie. Probably this means that he will take command of the Tokiyo Gendarmes, as the recently published regulations assign that post to a Lieut.-Colonel.

It is reported in some quarters that the Gendarmerie will not be organized until the promulgation of the revised military code, now in course of preparation, and in others, that they will commence their duties simultaneously with the enforcement of the new criminal code promulgated last year. The former seems to be the more likely view, but at any rate it will be some time before the men actually begin to patrol, for it appears that the construction of their stations cannot be commenced before the beginning of the ensuing fiscal year, the amount of appropriation for the current year having been found inadequate to defray the estimated expenses, viz., 1,500 yen per station.

The entry of the French troops into Tunis is a piece of news that suggests the possibility of unpleasant complications. It has apparently caused some commotion in political circles, but that it is likely to disturb the good relations between England and France, we do not for a moment believe. There will not of course be wanting men to whom a French occupation of Tunis would signify a step towards the establishment of a new power in the Mediterranean, or in other words, of an influence opposed to that of Austria, Italy and England. Mons. Gambetta has certainly shown that mystery is a weapon of statecraft he sometimes condescends to employ, and it is just within the range of possibilities that he may have some secret admiration for the policy of Louis Bonaparte—that illegal policy of intrigue and occupation of extra-European countries, in order to divert the minds of his countrymen from schemes that aimed at the realization of “Cæsar’s golden dream.” But, if this be so, there are three rather serious obstacles in Mons. Gambetta’s path; first the opinion of the French nation, which is not likely to tolerate such proceedings, and will certainly regard them as a doubtful recommendation to the presidency; second, the disapproval of Italy and Great Britain, and third, Prince Bismark, who has, as he says himself, “a peculiar dislike to warlike attitudes in France.” Mons. Gambetta is, however, too shrewd a statesman to be the subject of such predictions. He is not likely to add another name to the list of despotic rulers Italy has given France, from the times of Caterina de Medici and Cardinal Mazzarino, down to those of the Bonaparte family.

So far as Tunis itself is concerned, the occupation could not be regarded as an unmitigated blessing. Algiers, Cochinchina, Pondicherry, Martinique, Guyenne, Tahiti, Réunion, and New Caledonia scarcely warrant us in attributing to the people of the Seine much genius for colonization. Of Algiers indeed it has been jestingly said, that with the exception of *Cafés chantants*, *contrefortes* and *modistes de Marseille*, few evidences of French grandeur exist there.

Pretty much on a par with this statement is the following paragraph in one of the *Kölnische Zeitung's* late issues:—
 "Although Algiers has now a civil governor, events occur there that almost persuade one to fancy the colony is under the rule of a Pelissier or some pro-consul of similar proclivities. Two hundred and fifty days ago the military authorities of Biskra (province of Constantina) arbitrarily arrested thirty-two Arabians, and in spite of repeated protests from the European inhabitants, as well as remonstrances addressed to the Civil Governor by the Prefect of Constantina, the unhappy natives are still in prison. The motives assigned for their arrest are, that, on the occasion of a long drought, the inhabitants of an oasis near Biskra, having offered up ineffectual prayers, had recourse to a ceremony called the "feast of the buck," which has the effect of enraging heaven, and so, causing rain. In fact, after the ceremony, it did rain for five days, and the sagacious inhabitants of the oasis filled their reservoirs. This proceeding, however, roused the suspicions of the commandant, who supposed the Arabians were collecting water as a preliminary to a war of independence. He accordingly made all necessary preparations, and moreover devised the stratagem of inviting the various chiefs of families to Biskra. They came to the number of thirty-two, and were immediately thrown into prison. The affair will no doubt be brought to the notice of the Chamber after Governor Grévy's arrival in Paris, but in the meanwhile there is great indignation in the province of Constantina, because these Arabians, whose liberty the brother of the President is not able to grant, proved themselves to be sincere friends of France two years ago during the rebellion of the Aures."

The native journals have a great deal to say just at present about the Korean Mission to Japan and its failure. Not unnaturally the subject excites much interest both among the Japanese and ourselves, for the proposal to despatch such a mission and its subsequent miscarriage are evidences at once of the dogged spirit of seclusion that still rules in Korea, and of the gradual leavening Japanese tact and patience have set up in the mass of inert conservatism. The story of the mission is somewhat romantic. Its chiefs were seven gentlemen, all men of erudition and some of very high rank. At no time were they able to make their purpose public. Popular indignation would inevitably have interposed, and even the influence of the king must have failed to procure them free passage. They set out therefore from the capital separately and at different times, with the avowed object of travelling in Korea itself and reporting on the condition of the country districts, but in reality with the intention of making their way to Toraifu, where a Japanese steamer, the *Sumito-maru*, chartered in Osaka for the purpose, was to meet them and carry them eastward. No official communication had been made to the Japanese Government, and so far as is known, every precaution was taken to preserve secrecy, but it is plain that an undertaking of the sort must have included many confidantes. The design of the seven gentlemen became known to the leaders of the anti-foreign party. Shrewd enough to foresee that the teaching of observation alone is needed to make Korea open her arms to Western civilization, but not sufficiently astute to understand that opposition, organised in the face of such prescience, must ultimately be accounted not patriotism but illiberality, they assembled the most resolute of their followers, and at the head of seven hundred armed men, presented a petition to the throne. The exact terms of that petition remains as yet a secret. Its proximate effect, however, was that the ~~mission~~ at Toraifu never took place. The *Sumito-maru*

lay at her appointed berth until the 21st. of March, when her captain received from the Prefect forfeit money to the amount of 1,000 yen and an apology for his bootless errand. The King had evidently yielded to the pressure of the anti-foreign party, and for the moment, an expedition that promised much, has been completely frustrated.

But an event of this sort can scarcely fail to touch the Koreans their inability to fight against the future. Forces are abroad that will soon defy their most conservative traditions. The winter has been long, but when the thaw once sets in—and set in it most certainly has—the rapidity of the glacier's fall will be out of all proportion to its magnitude and apparent immobility.

Public interest in Korean affairs is divided between the failure of the seven liberals' mission and the disappearance of Ritouin, a Korean gentleman, for some time resident in Tokiyo. Ritouin, during his stay in Japan, had been a constant observer of Japanese progress and had lost no opportunity of instructing himself in Western science and history. As might have been expected he became a complete convert to the policy of international intercourse, and his way of thinking on this question was as well known in his own country as in Japan. He was recalled to Korea by the offer of a leading position in the *Zorigamon* or Council of State, and it was not unreasonable to anticipate that his tenure of office would be distinguished by some exceptionally liberal reforms. He reached Korea, however, only to disappear, so completely that even rumour is unable to discover his whereabouts, and all the enquiries set on foot by Messrs. Hanabusa and Kondo have failed to elicit anything as to his fate. The powerful anti-foreign reaction that is evidently taking place in the peninsula leads us to fear that Ritouin has fallen a victim to his premature enlightenment, and if so, his case will be another instance of those untoward accidents that always mark the progress of great reforms. All this, too, enables us to form some conception of the difficulties Japan has to encounter in her dealings with the hermit country. We do not hear much of diplomatic squabbles, movements of gunboats and ultimatums of Ministers, but this very silence ought to teach us, not that causes of complaint are wanting—for as a matter of fact they exist plentifully in the form of obstructions, outrages and breaches of faith—but that Japan has been sensible enough to read her own history, and to perceive that men who refuse to look at life through any spectacles save those of their own construction, may force their fellows to submission indeed, but can never hope to win their sympathy.

On Wednesday evening (27th inst.) His Excellency the Minister for Germany entertained the residents of Tokiyo and Yokohama at the Legation, Nagata-cho, Tokiyo. Among the company we noticed the Imperial Princes, the Privy Councillors and Ministers of Departments, as well as the Foreign Representatives. It is scarcely necessary to say that the affair was a thorough success. In spite of a very large number of guests, the new legation's spacious apartments presented no appearance of over-crowding, and this was more especially the case with the ball-room, which is certainly the best place of its kind in Japan. There was in truth but one drawback to perfect enjoyment; the absence of H. E. the Minister for Russia, and the recollection of the sad event that forbade his presence.

We learn with much pleasure that Sir E. J. Reed's work on Japan is having a large sale. Mr. Murray, the publisher has already announced the issue of a second edition.

It has come to our ears also—on unimpeachable authority—that the talented author has received most complimentary letters on the subject of his book from some of the leading members of the present, as well as of the late, Cabinet, and we hope soon to be able to furnish our readers with extracts from those letters.

Three Imperial notices—Nos. 33, 34 and 35—were issued on the 28th instant by H. I. H. Arisugawa, Second Minister of State, in the absence of the First Minister. Their subjects are (1) a new Financial Law, *i. e.* a law regulating the system of dealing with the national finances, (2), a Classification of the items of Annual Revenue, and (3) the Constitution and Rules of the Board of Audit, which was created in March, 1880. Want of time prevents us from giving an extended notice of these enactments in our present issue, but we hope to do so next week.

It has recently been hinted in certain quarters, that the Privy Council will probably soon include a Section, or Committee, styled "Section of Agriculture and Commerce" (*Nōshōmu-bu.*) There seems to be good reason for crediting this rumour, since under the existing constitution, there is no Section that can be charged with the control and supervision of the newly created Department (*Nōshōmushō*), except the Section for Home Affairs, whose functions are already excessive as compared with those of other Sections. The list of Government Departments, recently published in these columns, shows that there are six Sections of the Privy Council, viz:—Legislative, Finance, War, Home Affairs, Justice and Foreign Affairs. Most of these Sections are charged with the control of one or two administrative Departments respectively, while the Section for Home Affairs alone has to supervise the Departments of Education, Public Works and Home Affairs, with this last's semi-independent Board of Metropolitan Police, as well as the Colonization Commission. Plainly, therefore, if the control of the new Department be finally entrusted to this Section, its functions would be quite disproportionate. For the present of course the arrangement is inevitable, but we may safely predict either a redistribution of duties among the various Sections, or the creation of a new one.

The drawing of lots for deciding the numbers of certain kinds of Bonds, redeemable during the current fiscal year (1880-81), took place at the Tokiyo Municipal office on the 18th instant, and the results have now been published by the Minister of Finance. These Bonds are of three kinds:—Voluntarily Capitalized Pension Bonds, New Bonds (*i. e.* Bonds issued in payments of *Han* debts), and Bonds given to Shinto priests when their pensions were commuted; and the respective amounts set down for redemption are, 2,310,900 yen; 100,450 yen and 33,100 yen. On the appointed day (18th instant) the officers of the National Debt Bureau proceeded to the Municipal office, where the greater number of the Bonds are registered, and summoning the Manager of the First National Bank, with about thirty of the principal Bond-holders to represent the general interest, drew lots in their presence to decide the numbers of the Bonds to be redeemed, the impartiality and honesty of the proceeding being subsequently certified by the Bond-holders who were present. The Minister of Finance has now notified the holders of the fortunate numbers to place themselves in immediate communication with the offices of the Local Governments, who in their turn are directed to forward the necessary returns to the Treasury. It is further proclaimed that

Bonds thus redeemed will bear interest to the end of this month.

We need scarcely suggest to our readers the inferences to be drawn from this punctuality displayed by the Government in meeting their engagements. The aggregate amount of redeemable Bonds is a fixed quantity, and in no one instance have the holders had reason to complain of the Treasury's want of faith.

On the 18th inst, the Minister for Home Affairs notified the Local Authorities throughout the Empire, that "in future, applications from Banks, Mercantile Companies or private persons for policemen to be stationed in their premises as guardians of property &c., shall be granted, provided the expenses incurred be defrayed by the applicant." This privilege has hitherto been accorded to Banks &c. by special application and permission, but it is now extended to everybody—including, we believe, foreign residents—while the conditions to be complied with are considerably simplified.

We learn from *Il Diritto* that Mr. Monosuke Sano, who has been charged by the Japanese Government to study the Italian system of cremation, is now pursuing his investigations in Milan.

The matters submitted for consideration by the assembly of local officials charged with development of agriculture in their respective provinces are reported to be: (1) Revision of the methods employed in preparing agricultural statistics (2) Exchange of seeds (between the different prefectures) and their transport. (3) Supply of manure. (4) Establishment of a Society for investigating fishery affairs; and the protection of marine production (*e. g.* fish, Sea weeds &c.). (5) Subject of rewards granted for meritorious services calculated to promote agriculture.

An Imperial Decree (No. 25) issued on the 23rd inst. abrogates articles 295 and 304, as well as a portion of Art 306 of the "Revised Criminal Code," (*Kaitei-Ritsurei*) *i. e.* the criminal code now in force. The cancelled articles are those that provide for the reduction of punishment, by one degree, of convicts giving notice to the authorities of any plot among their comrades for breaking out of prison, in time to permit preventive steps to be taken; or of convicts, who in the event of fire, flood or any similar accident, make no attempt to escape, but lend useful aid to the officials.

Considering that these articles have now been in force for nearly eight years, it is difficult to divine any immediate cause for their repeal, and one is disposed to argue that, despite the statements constantly appearing in the native journals, the new criminal code (promulgated last year) will not be put into operation for some time still.

The theatre at Shintomiza seldom fails to attract large audiences, but its present "run" is altogether exceptional, partly no doubt because of the presence of so many provincials, who have been attracted to Tokiyo by the National Exhibition, and who feel that they will not be able to say they have "done" the capital unless they have visited the theatre, but partly also owing to the attractive nature of the piece represented. It is entitled "The Divine-rainment-like blossoms of Ueno" (*Kumo-ni-magō Ueno no hantsu-hana*), and is founded on the history of one Kōchiyama, a chamberlain (*Obōdzu*) of the Tokugawa family, and his accomplice Kataoka, a retainer of the Shogun. The scene is laid in Tokiyo and the period is the beginning

of the present century. The Chamberlain (Ichikawa Danjuro) was one of those large-minded rascals not unfrequently met with in Japanese annals, who regard swindling as a very worthy and profitable pursuit, provided the victims be chosen among the wealthy classes and never among the indigent or helpless, and provided certain beneficent services be occasionally rendered to these latter as a set off against the wrongs done to the former. The most interesting incident in the chamberlain's career is that which forms the subject of the third act. The scene introduces us to the palace of a nobleman, the lord of Matsuye, where Namiji, the daughter of a merchant, is employed as a chambermaid. The girl's beauty attracts her lord's attention, and he proposes to make her his mistress, but love, that "Alpine hare-bell hung with tears" has already visited her. She is betrothed, and obstinately refuses to receive the nobleman's addresses, whereupon he causes her to be put in confinement and subjected to slow tortures until she learns to be more pliant. Her father, hearing of his daughter's cruel treatment, but utterly powerless to succour her himself, tells the story to Kōchiyama, who readily undertakes to interfere. To this end he assumes the disguise of an envoy from the Imperial Prince (who used to reside at Uyeno,) and boldly presents himself at the noble's palace. The latter, not a little astonished at a visit which was seldom vouchsafed to one of his rank, makes hasty preparations to receive the envoy, and Kōchiyama, attended by a large retinue, comes upon the scene. "It has been reported," he says, "to His Imperial Highness the Prince, that the lord of Matsuye's conduct is the subject of universal censure, and more especially that he has treated one of his chambermaids with unparalleled cruelty. He is therefore commanded to mend his ways and begin by restoring Namiji forthwith to her parents." The noble has of course no alternative. He sends the girl back to her people, and she has barely made good her escape when a vassal of Matsuye recognises the disguised chamberlain. Of course there is immediate question of arresting Kōchiyama and causing him to be punished, but he, without the least show of trepidation, points out that if he be carried before the authorities, he will certainly expose the noble's crimes and the result will inevitably be the confiscation of the Matsuye estates. The upshot therefore is that instead of punishment, he receives a handsome douceur, and is allowed to leave the *yashiki* in triumph. Of course Kōchiyama's arrest and execution form the subject of the last act, but he certainly has the sympathies of his audience whatever he deserved of his contemporaries.

Mr. T. R. Shervinton, M.I.C.E., who has resigned his position as Principal Engineer of the Japanese Government Railways—southern section—and is on the eve of leaving for England, was the recipient of a very pleasing acknowledgment at the hands of the native authorities on Thursday the 21st inst. when he was entertained by the Chief Commissioner of Railways, Mr. Inouye Masaru, at a farewell tiffin, held in the large saloon at Jiyusei's, Nakanoshima, Osaka, and met the native engineers, who had been trained under his direct instruction, and more or less closely associated in the construction and maintenance of the southern lines of railway during the past seven or eight years. In addition to those gentlemen—numbering over twenty—there were present, Mr. Ikeda Toshinori, Assistant Commissioner, Mr. Holtham (Mr. Shervinton's successor), and the Foreign Heads of the Locomotive and Traffic Departments.

After a well-served and bountiful repast had been amply discussed, the Chief Commissioner proposed the health of

Mr. Shervinton, wishing him a pleasant voyage to his native country and long life and happiness. Mr. Inouye spoke of the services rendered by Mr. Shervinton in the highest terms of praise, and alluded—with especial satisfaction, he said—to the care, forethought, and ability which Mr. Shervinton had shown in the training and bringing forward of so many young gentlemen as railway engineers. He said that he felt more than he had power to express the separation about to take place of a friendship which had existed so long between them, and of the value with which he had always regarded the knowledge, experience and advice of Mr. Shervinton.

Mr. Shervinton, in responding, said he was unable to give utterance to all that was passing through his mind at that moment. He was exceedingly gratified at the very kind terms in which Mr. Inouye had proposed his health, and the manner in which it had been received, and he heartily thanked him and them. He would not inflict a speech upon them, but he could not refrain from expressing the great pleasure and gratification he had when he looked around him and saw there so many young men budding into railway engineers, who a few years ago were without any such professional knowledge. He always felt that the material was there; it was latent and only wanted developing. When he came from the northern section at Tokio to take charge of this, some four years ago, it was impressed a good deal upon his mind that something ought to be done for the young cadets and engineers' assistants, to train and give them a practical knowledge of civil engineering, and when, shortly afterwards at Kioto, Mr. Inouye put the question to him, he resolved to carry out and bring into working a scheme for that object. The thing was set in motion, the young men entered into it with high enthusiasm, and in one year from that time there was a staff of engineers actively engaged in the construction of the Otsu Line—and it is no mean work upon that line. There is the Kamogawa bridge, a very fine piece of work, and the Otsu tunnel, the first work of the kind ever done in the country, carried out in a style worthy of every praise. Mr. Kuniyama, who had charge of the work, wrote a paper the other day upon tunnel building, which not only shews conclusively that he had thoroughly and intelligently understood what had been practically carried out by him, but as a treatise on tunnel construction, is a marvellous production for a man who has in so short a time picked up the knowledge. Then the Tsuruga line has been carried out entirely by a staff of native engineers trained solely during the past few years. Everything on that line is most thoroughly and well done. There is nothing he could say further on that subject, for the thing speaks conclusively for itself. He would again, however, thank all present for their great kindness, and for the handsome manner in which they had received him that day, and for all their past kindness to him. They had been to him the kindest-hearted people it had ever been his pleasure to live amongst.

Mr. Ikeda Toshinori, Assistant Commissioner of the open lines and locomotive department, said:—Mr. Shervinton, you have given us great good and experience, and we thank you. Our sympathy with you shall never disappear, and we wish you good health and prosperity.

Mr. Inouye again rose. He said:—It is my desire to hand over all these young gentlemen to the good care of Mr. Shervinton's successor, Mr. Holtham. The reason I had in asking these young gentlemen to come from Naganuma and elsewhere was not only to bid Mr. Shervinton good bye, but also to introduce them to Mr. Holtham. [Addressing Mr. Holtham.] Will you take care of them as they

have been taken care of by Mr. Shervinton? That is the question I have to ask you now.

Mr. Holtham replied that he hardly knew whether it would be proper for him to say a few words. He felt exceedingly the importance of the task handed over to him by Mr. Shervinton. He did not know all the young men then present, but many of them he was already acquainted with. He felt sure they were all what Mr. Shervinton had said. It would be his task to do all that lay in his power to be to them what Mr. Shervinton had been. The field of engineering science was ever constantly widening, and he trusted the engineers of Japan would keep pace with the progress made in other countries.

Mr. Page, on behalf of the Foreign Heads of Departments, spoke of the general regret felt at the severance of a connection which had been of so happy a character, and for himself personally bore testimony to the genial manners and unvarying courtesy always extended to him in all his relations with Mr. Shervinton. He had the greatest regard for Mr. Shervinton, and trusted he would see many years of happiness and prosperity.

Mr. B. F. Wright, locomotive superintendent, said he had been requested by the foreign foremen and drivers in the locomotive department, to express their gratitude to Mr. Shervinton for the consideration and kindness always shown to them, and on his (Mr. Wright's) behalf and theirs, he tendered their best wishes to him, wishing him God-speed on his voyage home and a happy future.

Mr. Shimosaki then read an address from the native engineers and cadets, and Mr. Shervinton replied thanking Mr. Shimosaki and those on whose behalf he spoke for the kind, heartfelt expressions he had just read. They (the native engineering staff) had done everything possible to make themselves engineers, and capable engineers too, and he would only urge upon them to continue to carry out that course, and to do their utmost to further the development of the resources of nature in their country.—*Hiogo News*.

The murderer of Mr. Pitman's interpreter—whose mysterious disappearance and subsequent discovery in a well at Tsukiji we lately reported—has been proved to be a fellow servant of the deceased. The crime seems to have been inspired by jealousy of the murdered man's influence with his master, and a feeling of exasperation at the overbearing demeanor he assumed in consequence. Other motives, not altogether credible, are also assigned by the native journals, but it is at any rate certain that the unfortunate man was inveigled to a tea-house, plied with liquor, and afterwards despatched when in a state of comparative helplessness. A more deliberate and cold-blooded crime could scarcely be conceived, nor were any motives sufficient to extenuate it.

Professor Palmieri of Naples, writing in the Italian Journal *Il Diritto*, makes the following interesting remarks on the subject of the late terrible earthquake at Casamicciola:—

"Yesterday (6th March), in the Pontoniana Academy, I stated what I thought about the catastrophe. I observed that modern Seismologists distinguish between earthquakes of volcanic origin and those not of volcanic origin (peripheral), considering the former to be a dynamic action of the earth and the latter, a consequence of the subterranean falling in "faulting" of the ground. The first might be called *dynamical* earthquakes, and the second, *adynamical*.

The character of the former is to have a limited action, more or less proportionate to the intensity of the phenomenon, and to be attended by tremors more or less violent,

which are repeated at given intervals of irregular durations, as was the case in the Calabrian earthquake of 1783, and in all others of the kind. These earthquakes are generally limited, though disastrous, and are seldom repeated in a severe form.

Last year, in July, we had, on the Island of Ischia, a small earthquake which was not very severe, but was nevertheless propagated as far as Naples, where it was felt and registered by the seismograph of the University Observatory. It was also propagated, but with less intensity, as far as the Observatory at Vesuvius, where it was registered by the seismological apparatus; while in the opposite direction it spread to the islands of Ponzo, St. Stefano, etc.

But the earthquake of Casamicciola, which caused such ruin, was not noticed throughout the whole island; the above mentioned seismological apparatus did not give any indication; the shock was not succeeded by any others of importance, and it did not show any sign of dynamical action. It appears therefore to have been an *adynamical* earthquake, and was caused by a subterranean falling in or faulting of the ground, due for the most part, no doubt to extensive excavations produced by the long and slow action of thermal waters; which waters dissolve the rock beneath the surface of the ground over which they pass, carrying away large quantities of material, so that the subterranean equilibrium of the rocky masses is ultimately destroyed and a perceptible dislocation is consequently produced at the surface. This dislocation has been clearly demonstrated by the numerous and large cracks formed in the ground above.

It is an old habit of newspaper specials to introduce their choicest bits of sensational gossip to the public through the medium of some Rev. Dr. Dryas-dust, but they are generally careful to choose for their mouthpiece a magnate not likely to be made the recipient of any embarrassing reference. The *Inter Ocean's* Washington special, however, seems to be an exceptionally imprudent person, for he has recourse to no less a notable than General Grant, and attributes to the ex-President sentiments that gentleman is in the last degree unlikely to have expressed. "England and Russia are ambitious to extend their territories. England, particularly, is moving slowly and surely with the determined purpose of tightening her grip on these rich and fertile countries (China and Japan) and reducing them to dependencies. China and Japan realize that the coils are closing around them, and they are turning in their need to the United States, into whose arms they are willing to pour their wealth if only the others will reach for it." So General Grant is said to have said, and so we are very sure he never did say. Such a tissue of nonsense bears about as much resemblance to his usual fashion of thought as the book of Leviticus does to the creed of Vathek. It is not at all impossible that the General may have referred to the excellence of the English Consular and Diplomatic services, and pointed out that they constitute a very powerful factor in strengthening Great Britain's moral influence in the East, but that he entertains, or entertaining, would have thus expressed, any such notions of English policy is utterly incredible, except on the supposition that he has taken temporary leave of that good sense and dispassionate judgment for which he is remarkable. The *Inter Ocean's* special has no doubt counted on the General's inability to refute this clumsy attack upon his reputation. It is the fortunate privilege of men in high positions that they are debarred from descending to meet enemies on the lower tiers of life, and though the impunity thus afforded sometimes, as in the present

instance, prompts cowardly assault, it has also the effect of blunting any but the truest weapons. The coils that are gradually closing round Japan and China, and the wealth those countries are prepared to pour into the arms of their trans-pacific protector, are matters too comical to be seriously regarded, but that General Grant's name should be associated with such a *canard* is the very acme of absurdity, though not perhaps a bad electioneering dodge.

It is notified that redeemed paper money to the amount of 2,440,000 yen will, weather permitting, be burned in the premises of the Government Printing Bureau from the 25th inst. The operation will require five days for its completion, and the public are invited to attend.

We understand that Admiral Willes—who was to have left for Chefoo, *en route* for Shanghai, on the 19th instant—may be expected here early in June. The following month (July) will probably witness the *rendezvous* at Yokohama of six or seven ships under the command of Captain East, and these will subsequently combine with the squadron under Lord Clanwilliam (due here early in September), so that we shall have all the materials for quite a respectable naval demonstration, consisting of not less than twelve or thirteen ships.

We have much pleasure in calling attention to the following Prospectus. The object of the "Nikko Temples' Restoration Fund" is one that cannot fail to appeal very strongly to the sympathies of the foreign community, and we look with confidence for another proof of that generosity which has never hitherto been found wanting:—

NIKKO TEMPLE RESTORATION FUND.

Five years ago some public-spirited inhabitants of the province of Shimotsuke, where Nikko is situated, formed the project of establishing a Society and raising subscriptions to form a fund, the interest of which should be devoted to the preservation of the beautiful temples now so famous throughout the world. These buildings form the finest existing example of a highly decorated style of architecture, and hold such a place in the estimation of our own people that there is a common proverb, "Who has not seen Nikko may not pronounce the word *kekko* (Beautiful)." The numbers of foreigners who annually visit the temples proves that they likewise set a high value upon these monuments of skill and art. His Majesty the Emperor has already graciously given to the fund the sum of 5,000 yen on two occasions, and the Minister of the Interior has evinced his approval of the undertaking by making a grant of 8,000 yen from the public treasury. About 60,000 yen have been contributed by the inhabitants of Shimotsuke alone, and 30,000 yen have been subscribed in Tokio. It was originally calculated that interest on a capital of 200,000 yen would be sufficient to meet the annual expenditure for keeping the buildings and grounds in good order, but in order to guard against all possible contingencies it has been resolved to raise a capital of 300,000 yen for this purpose. Subscriptions will therefore be asked for in all parts of the country, and we believe that in inviting foreign residents and travellers to join us in creating the "Nikko Temples' Restoration Fund" we are making an appeal that cannot fail to be generously responded to by all who admire what is beautiful and are interested in preserving it from decay.

ANJO JUNSHIRO,
TOMITA HIKOSABURO,
SAKAI KUMASAKU,
NOSAWA TAIJIRO,
KOMINE SHINTARO,
KONO SEISABURO.

(On behalf of the Central Committee)
Tokio, December 12th, 1880.

RULES OF THE SOCIETY.

The Society is established for the purpose of collecting subscriptions from all public-spirited persons, in order to form a fund for the preservation of the Shinto and Buddhist temples of Nikko, as well as of the places of interest which surround them, and to form a council for determining the way in which these objects are to be attained. The Society is called the Ho-ko-kwai (Nikko Preservation Society) and the Fund: Ho-ko-kin (Nikko Preservation Money.)

- 1.—The Central Committee Rooms are at No. 2,300, Nikko Town, Shimotsuke.
- 2.—The members of the Society receive subscriptions, and may be elected to serve on the Central Committee.
- 3.—All public-spirited persons are invited to join the Society, up to a date not yet fixed.
- 4.—The members of the Society elect from among themselves a President, Vice President and Ten Committee-men, who shall be re-elected every three years. They will receive no salaries.
- 5.—The subscription list will be open until the end of December, 1882.
- 6.—The amount to be collected is fixed in the first place at 200,000 yen.
- 7.—The names of the subscribers and the amount contributed by each will be inscribed on rolls to be deposited in the temple treasury, and an account of the proceedings of the Society will be engraved on a stone tablet for a perpetual record.
- 8.—The amount collected will, at the end of each month, be deposited with the banks at a fixed rate of interest.
- 9.—When the subscription list is finally closed the money obtained will be deposited in the care of the Government, and the amount published in the newspapers.
- 10.—The Government will be invited to give its sanction to all proposed repairs.
- 11.—The Society will be entitled to address the proper authorities with regard to the custody of the Fund, and the expenditure thereof.
- 12.—The interest alone is to be applied to the maintenance of the temples and places of interest, but the Capital is to be preserved intact.
- 13.—Annual accounts will be furnished to the Society of the manner in which its income has been expended.
- 14.—To provide timber for unforeseen emergencies plantations of *Sugi* and *Cryptomeria* will be formed in convenient localities round Nikko.
- 15.—A general meeting of the Society shall be held on the 1st June in each year.
- 16.—The expenses of advertising etc. shall be paid out of the interest on the money deposited in the banks up to the time of the closure of the subscription list. Afterwards all incidental expenses will be defrayed out of the interest of the fund.
- 17.—The foregoing rules may be amended or added to by a vote of the members.

Tokio
Yokohama } Subscriptions will be received at by the
Osaka } First National Bank and by the Mit-
Kioto } sui Bank and their branches.

At Kobe by the Mitsu Bank and by the 38th and 137th National Banks, and at Nagasaki by the Mitsu Bank.

December 2nd, 1879.

Approved.

ITO HIROBUMI,
Minister of the Interior.

December 16th, 1879.

PAGE'S CASE.

THE importance of the principle involved, and the lively interest aroused in official and private circles as well here as in China, render unnecessary any apology for recurring to the late case of 'The Queen against Page' at Canton. In a former article we dwelt at length chiefly on the legal aspects of the case, passing in review various decisions of the Courts upon homologous and analogous issues, and especially examining with some minuteness certain observations bearing upon the question made by the Judicial Committee of the Privy Council, in the course of a case which just fell short of actually raising the discussion now opened. We were enabled to lay before our readers, by citing cases decided in the Superior Courts at Westminster, the English law upon the subject as administered by the court in England and under ordinary circumstances; and, after examining the arguments put forward in the contrary sense, we came to the conclusion that there is nothing in the present case, or in any similar case arising here or in China, either by reason of the special clauses in the Treaties relating to the administration of justice, or of the constitution of Her Majesty's courts in these countries, which would take such cases out of the

purview of the rule of law adopted in similar cases by English courts in England.

Some difficulty seems to have been experienced by certain minds in accepting our views, or at all events in reconciling the law, if accepted as correctly stated, with considerations of supposed expediency. In view of these doubts we return to the question with the purpose both of re-affirming what is the real state of the law as it stands, and, further, of examining the matter in controversy on its own merits, as though it were a case absolutely of first impression, apart from any question of what law has been already laid down upon the subject—to consider the question, in short, from what may be called (in want of a better term) the 'common-sense' point of view. On the former occasion we did not more than glance incidentally at the reason of the thing—the principle underlying the law as we found it—but merely indicated the existence of the argument *ab inconvenienti*, based on the anomalous and unjust consequences of the opposite view. We propose before dismissing the subject to follow up the line of enquiry then suggested and endeavour to decide the sense in which, according to reason and upon the balance of practical considerations, the voice of the law ought or might be expected to pronounce.

First, however, we must dwell again for a little space upon the more strictly legal aspect of the question; because not only have our previous conclusions been impeached upon what we venture to think insufficient grounds, but the very law which we cited from the highest authority, and which formed the key-stone of our argument, has been passed over as non-existent. In an article which appeared not long ago in the *Herald*—or rather in a *critique* upon the subject, the courteous and temperate tone of which was perhaps scarcely matched either by the fairness or soundness of the arguments used—the writer, quoting our preliminary remark, that in our view the question was not affected by complications arising out of the 'extra-territorial clauses,' says that this is to 'beg the question.' Certainly if we had made that assumption and then proceeded to argue upon it as a basis, the charge would have been a just one. But it must have been patent to the most careless of readers that we did nothing of the kind: no argument whatever was based upon that declaration, which (if truth must be told) was introduced at the outset rather with the object of re-assuring timid readers, and wholly out of connection with the argument which followed it. So far from having really begged that question, we proceeded deliberately in the latter part of our paper, after examining the general law as laid down by the courts in England, to show by argument *why* the case was not affected by considerations arising out of extra-territoriality, which had been invoked to distinguish it from previous decisions and remove it from the effect of their authority. So much for 'begging the question.' But our critic would further proceed to cut the very ground from under our feet by ignoring, if not denying the existence of a recorded judicial decision of the Court for Crown Cases Reserved, which if he knew nothing of it from the reports of the trial at Canton, was staring him in the face from the very same passage of our article which he was at the moment reviewing. He says 'it seems probable that questions similar to those which have arisen have never before been discussed in a British

court of law, because it is only in countries such as these [*i. e.* where extra-territoriality prevails] that British courts would be called upon to take cognizance of such a matter.' The civil cases we cited he disposes of on the ground that between them and criminal cases there is no analogy—a proposition from which we beg leave to dissent. But what of criminal cases themselves? Would it surprise the writer to be told that crimes of a similar nature committed abroad may and not unfrequently are prosecuted in England? Nay, that in this very case the defendant Page might, upon returning to England, have been prosecuted at the Central Criminal Court? But here is the passage which appears to have escaped our critic's notice: after citing a number of authorities, we ourselves said:—"These were all civil cases. But in the case of the *Queen v. Lesley*, the same doctrine was successfully invoked to protect the defendant from the consequences of acts which, had they not been done in pursuance of the commands of the Government of Chili, where they were not unlawful, would have subjected him to criminal punishment." And we referred to the case again later on at some length and there spoke of it in terms as 'a criminal one.' And yet we are told that 'the writer in the *Mail* alludes to divers cases of civil liability . . . &c.,' but not a word of the passage immediately following those allusions; and we are told that no such questions seem to have previously arisen! We need spend no more words upon opinions and statements the weight and correctness of which may be judged from the above samples.

In minds less capable of this airy disregard of inconvenient facts, we believe not much doubt can be left as to what is the rule of law in ordinary circumstances. But before quitting the legal aspect of the question, we would ask our readers to follow us in a summary recapitulation of the arguments that have been relied upon to distinguish cases in China or Japan from ordinary cases, and of the reasons for which those arguments appear to us fallacious. In a state of facts such as that in Page's case, the defence is that the acts charged as wrongful are legally justifiable as being acts of State of a foreign sovereign. But, it is objected, the act of the foreign sovereign in this case affords no justification. Asked 'Why?' the objectors answer 'Because of the extra-territorial clauses in the Treaty, and the constitution of the court by which the defendant is tried.' If asked to be more explicit, all that the objectors have to show us is the provision of the Treaties, that a British subject accused of a crime is to be tried and punished by his own courts and according to the law of his own country—and that the court which tries him must by its constitution administer English law and no other. Very well then, we say, let all that be granted, but here are authorities to show that by that very English law, which the court is to administer, the order of a foreign sovereign affords a justification of the acts now charged. What answer is made to this?—"Those decisions do not apply to this case." 'Why?' 'Because of the extra-territorial clauses &c. &c.,' and so on, round and round, *ad infinitum*. The argument in fact is a complete specimen of 'arguing in a circle.' But this is the argument and the only one. We challenge any one to show that we have misrepresented in a single particular the line taken by those who adopted

that view of the case in the course of the trial at Canton. We have stated the argument more nakedly than they, no doubt, and thereby exposed its fallacy: but we have stated the same argument—no more and no less. The simple truth is, however repugnant it may be to certain fixed ideas in some minds, that, as a matter not of sentiment but of reason, there is no escape from the conclusion that the law, as laid down plainly enough long ago by the highest authority, must be applied as much to a case arising in China or Japan as elsewhere, and as much by the British courts sitting here as by those sitting in Westminster Hall.

That being so, let us see how far such a state of the law accords with what upon practical grounds we should expect or desire it to be. We are not among those who look for any antithesis between the voice of the law and that of the common reason of mankind. If English law be not in every instance the 'perfection of reason' it sometimes claims to be, it is at all events in nine cases out of ten the embodiment of strong, sound, enlightened common sense. Our law does not consist of a set of abstract or *a priori* rules evolved from the inner consciousness of a closet-philosopher: it is simply the application of right reason to every-day affairs by men of trained intelligence, of large experience, and of cold impartiality. When called to decide for the first time a case involving questions like the present, our courts, in applying such general principles and following such analogies as are apposite, are guided in each individual case by strictly practical considerations—by a regard for the consequences which would flow from either of two alternative courses.

Applying a similar method to the present question, the law as we have stated it will be seen to be most amply justified on grounds of justice and public policy. Indeed, not only may the argument *ab inconvenienti* be used with fatal effect against the opposite view, but that view may be further discredited as even involving a downright absurdity. Take the case that has now arisen. Here is a man permitted by his own government to enter the service of a foreign government for certain definite and well-understood purposes; he receives from the government he serves orders to do certain acts lawful for that government to order and within the scope of those duties for the performance of which he has been permitted to enter its service: he carries out these orders and commits those acts—all the time within the scope of his duty to his employer—and his employer, the foreign government, approves and ratifies his acts, which thereby, if not before, become acts of State. Thereupon this man finds himself arraigned before the courts of his own country upon a criminal charge in respect of these very acts. Disregarding here the plan upon which the defence was conducted in the trial at Canton, the accused may plead 'not guilty' and rely, in support of his plea, upon proof of the previous orders or the subsequent ratification of the government he serves. If the view which has found favour in some quarters were sound, such a defence would avail him nothing: and we should have the spectacle of this man, lent, (one may almost say) or at any rate expressly permitted to give his services to the government of China for the purpose of carrying out a certain work which may, not only possibly, but most probably involve the commission of the very acts complained of—we should

see that man brought to the bar of a British court of justice and convicted of a crime for the commission of those self-same acts. Is not this something more than 'inconvenient'? Is it not a sheer absurdity? We confess we find it impossible to view it in any other light.

It is said that the orders given, or the acts approved and sanctioned by certain foreign States, might possibly be such as would not commend themselves to the political or ethical sense of our more advanced humanitarianism. If the political morality of a foreign state be such that no Englishman should sully his integrity by taking service under it, still less by assisting to carry on the administrative work of its government, this would unquestionably be an admirable reason why our own government should refuse permission to its subjects to enter that service, or at least, should warn them, as well as the government in question, that they will do so at their peril, and that no orders or sanction of that foreign government will be taken into account in estimating the conduct of the individual. But when a man has been expressly, and under the formal sanction of a solemn convention, permitted to give his services to the foreign State, it is surely the very grossest of unreason and injustice to have recourse to an objection, which if good at all (and there is no reason why it should not be good in some instances) should upon every consideration of common-sense and common honesty have been raised before and not after the event. In the particular case before us the permission was express and formal: but we attach no especial weight to this circumstance: no doubt it makes the case stronger in the statement, but we perceive no distinction in principle between permission so accorded and assent attested by continued acquiescence and tacit recognition.

An attempt has been made in support of the opposite theory to provide a partial means of escape from its absurd consequences by suggesting that there is no occasion in most cases to have recourse to the justificative effect of the orders or sanction of the foreign sovereign, inasmuch as a British subject would be justified in an English court in respect of acts done in the service of a foreign government, provided that similar acts, if done by him in the service of his own government, would have been justifiable. In the first place this, even if true, would only meet cases in which the laws of the two countries happen to be absolutely identical—a coincidence which it is no disparagement to either to say would but rarely occur. But, as we pointed out cursorily on a previous occasion, the assumption itself is, to the best of our knowledge, a false one, and therefore fails to meet even the cases for which it is proposed. An English revenue officer or constable (to take a simple case) is justified by virtue of his office in making an arrest in circumstances that would not justify a private person in doing so. But it is the law of his own service which justifies him, and an Englishman serving as a revenue officer or constable in the Japanese or Chinese service is, so far as concerns any official authority derived from English laws, no more than a private person: therefore if the authority he derives from the foreign Government is to afford him no justification, he is not justified at all in any one of his official acts, but is a mere wrong-doer in everything he does under colour of his official capacity. It would be no answer for him to say that an English

officer might do the same: *he* is not acting with the authority of an English officer, and if the other defence is inadmissible, he may on every occasion be proceeded against for assault and battery, false imprisonment, and we know not what more besides. Can it be seriously argued that the law either would or should uphold such an absurdity?

Nor is the injustice of it confined to the individual who serves a foreign government, but it extends equally to the foreign government itself. It is difficult to conceive a more palpable injustice than that the English government should enter into a solemn compact with that of China, relating to the employment of British subjects in the Chinese Customs Service, and that an English court should then step in and overturn everything that has been done on the faith of that compact, by making it practically impossible for the government of China to avail itself of the services of its English employés for the very purposes for which those services have been given. And yet nothing less than this is the necessary result of the view we are combating. These governments already labour under the serious disadvantage, in employing foreign assistants, that they are deprived of the power of punishing them for any criminal acts they may commit in their service: but this is legitimately within the scope of those restrictions which Treaties have imposed upon them. And considering that our own laws are sufficient in the great majority of instances to punish the really criminal acts of our subjects (though there is still another class of cases, to meet which they are altogether inadequate) no greater injustice perhaps is done to these governments in respect of their foreign employés than in respect of other foreigners who live under their protection. But to tell a foreign government that not alone shall it not punish its foreign employés for acts which it may itself consider wrong, but that *we shall* punish them for acts which it may consider absolutely right and praiseworthy—nay even which have been done by its own orders and in the execution of measures of domestic administration—this were indeed a very bathos of unreason and injustice; and against these one ought not to have to appeal in vain to that common sense and love of justice by which we used to think our countrymen distinguished.

STATE VERSUS PRIVATE RAILWAYS.

In a former article we expressed the opinion that railways in Japan are really Government affairs and should not be left to the caprice of private speculators. Partly because this opinion is not at present popular, and partly lest it should be misconstrued into an assertion that the State may properly undertake anything for the public which the public can do equally well for itself, we propose in this article to state shortly a few of the reasons upon which our views are based.

In the first place, private railways differ from other industrial enterprises in being monopolies for individuals, and in Japan they would be monopolies of the closest kind, as the probability of competition, at least for some generations to come, is the smallest possible. A steamship company, if it finds that it cannot earn a good dividend on account of the rivalry of trade, can send its ships to other ports; a manufacturer, when he is undersold by

a neighbour, has his ingenuity stirred to new inventions; but in the case of railways, the bulk of the capital is invested in works which cannot be removed, and consequently, when a company has established itself in the best route, as it is sure to do, the idea of successful rivalry is not likely to be entertained. The first condition of free trade, that is free competition, is thus wanting, and in England we have had sufficient experience of the proneness of private enterprise, when once it has acquired a monopoly of any industrial field, to assume all the airs of despotism. So much so, indeed, that we have become accustomed to hear of petitions to Parliament for the purchase of railways by the State, and of vociferous denunciations at public meetings of the iniquities of gas and water companies.

Again, although private capitalists might be found who are willing to construct the main lines where the traffic is great, they are not likely to extend those lines into remote districts where the means of intercourse are most required, and where they would be a source of social stimulus towards improvement, by diffusing the activity of industry and good example through the outlying parts of the country. The indirect advantages of railways are as great as the direct, and are well worth the capital invested; for, in addition to making old markets more accessible, and opening up new ones, they carry about and distribute observation, intelligence, technical skill and miscellaneous information. A farmer from a backward part of the country sees improved methods of cultivation, or a mechanic on a visit to a manufacturing town picks up some useful hints about his business and on his return home puts the superior processes into operation; while, on the other hand, a technical expert, when first visiting some neglected tract of country, may discover hidden mineral wealth, or devise means for reclaiming its barren lands.

The probabilities of such indirect advantages can have little power in persuading private capitalists to invest their money in lines where a good dividend is not likely to be returned. Their aim is to tax the public to the highest possible amount for their own individual benefit; whereas the object in the construction of a system of railways should not be such individual gain, but rather the extension of the traffic and communications of the country to the utmost limits of the public capability, at the lowest rate of charges consistent with due returns on capital invested. Such an object is only likely to be attained by Government agency. To some English readers this doctrine may sound strange, as they have been accustomed only to private railway companies, but similar views have been expressed by very eminent men. For instance, a Commission consisting of distinguished individuals, was appointed a good many years ago to inquire into the working of the Irish Railways, and we find the following in their report:—

"It is a favourite opinion with many that all undertakings of this description are best left to the free and unfettered exercise of private enterprise, and that the less the State interferes, either in prescribing their execution, or controlling their subsequent operation and management, the better.

"We are fully sensible of the great advantages to be obtained by allowing full scope to the vigour, energy, and

intelligence of individuals associated for such important purposes; and that it would be equally inconsistent with the interests and with the rights of Society, were such exertions crippled or restrained by unnecessary or impolitic regulations. But we apprehend that the essential difference between railways and any other description of public works has been overlooked, and that power and privileges have been conceded to private companies, which should be exercised only under the direct authority of the State, or under regulations enforced by effective superintendence and control.

"So great are the powers, so vast the capabilities of a railroad, that it must, wherever established, at once supersede the common road; and not only will all the public conveyances now in use disappear, but even the means of posting will, in all probability, rapidly decline, and eventually, perhaps, cease to be found along its line. These effects may be expected as the necessary consequences of opening a railway. Its superiority is too manifest and decided to admit of rivalry; it possesses almost unlimited means of accommodation; no amount of traffic exists on any road, or is likely to exist, which a single railway is not capable of conveying; no concourse of passengers which it cannot promptly dispose of; the velocity of the locomotive, when impelled even at a very considerable reduction of its full power, surpasses the greatest speed which the best appointed coach on the best made road can maintain; in short, where the capabilities of the system are brought fully into operation, they present such an accumulation of advantages, as to render it an instrument of unequalled power in advancing the prosperity of a country.

"It therefore deeply concerns the public, whose welfare is inseparably connected with all that tends to improve the internal resources, or to maintain the commercial and manufacturing superiority of these countries, that such works should be promoted; and consequently, every encouragement, consistent with the regard due to other interests, should be given to capitalists who may be willing to undertake them. Their propositions should be submitted to a competent and duly constituted tribunal; and if approved, should be adopted and stamped as national enterprises."

Some writers have even suggested that it would have been better if the English railways, instead of being constructed and worked by private companies, had been made on the same principles as ordinary roads, and paid for by the public generally, instead of merely by those using them. This suggestion has certainly some arguments in its favour, but we observe a distinction between ordinary roads and railways. In the former case the traveller; finds his own means of conveyance, whereas in the latter it is provided by the proprietors of the railway, and moreover, while fully recognising the indirect advantages of railways to the public generally, those who use them obtain such a great direct advantage, that it only seems fair they should pay at least a large proportion of their expenses.

There still remains the stock objection, that the construction and management of public works are necessarily more expensive in the hands of the Government than in those of private enterprise, but such a general proposition can only be true if all the particular propositions which it includes

are also true. In every civilised country the construction of roads has always been regarded as a primary duty of the central, or, for convenience, the local government, and now-a-days post offices and telegraphs, and in a good many countries the railways, are managed by the State, and the admirable and economical efficiency of the most of these proves the fallacy of the notion, that Government affairs are necessarily extravagant. In fact, as Mr. Thornton remarks, "when works of national dimensions are concerned, to say that the State should leave the public to construct them is a contradiction in terms, for in no other mode can the public undertake the construction than by entrusting it to the State."

Whilst therefore recognising the right of the public to insist on all information being furnished with regard to the expenditure on railways, and the obligation of the State to consult the general convenience in every possible way, we are strongly of opinion that the works should be undertaken and managed directly by Government.

A JAPANESE MONASTERY.

THE last two decades which have been so revolutionary to the civil institutions and customs of this country have still left discernable in her religious establishments signs of great vitality. Though the Buddhist sects have lost much of the princely patronage which they enjoyed in former days, and which is so necessary for the maintenance in becoming splendour of a ceremonial religion, yet there are not lacking pious and wealthy devotees sufficiently numerous to give them ample support. This is preëminently the case with respect to several of the most influential denominations whose accumulating riches are enabling them to carry out large and costly projects. Most noticeable is the activity of the Monto-Shinshu ecclesiastics, who do not find it inconsistent with a strict conservatism in matters of faith and precept, to adopt in their temples foreign forms and materials, to build large schools on the European model, and to show other signs of advancing with the times. From an æsthetic standpoint, the greater number of these hybrid constructions cannot be regarded with satisfaction, but they denote an indomitable vitality, and a spirit of progress which is not without import to those who are contemplating changes in the long established faith of the people of Japan.

An ancient feud has severed the Monto-Shinshu fraternity into two divisions, which though possessing one founder and the same tenets, hold rival claims and maintain independent institutions. Originally their chief monastery occupied the site of the present castle of Ōmika, from which well-fortified position the priests and their allies had for some time defied the powerful Nobunaga. An imperial order commanding their submission, which was obeyed by the chief priest but resisted by his elder son, led to the disinheritance of the latter, in whose place the third son was appointed successor. Hideyoshi, intent upon the building of a large castle in this important position, with many professions of friendship and by means of munificent gifts, succeeded in removing the monastery and establishing it with becoming splendour at Kioto, thereby founding what are now known as the conventual buildings of Nishi Hongan in that city. The death of Hideyoshi was followed by the encouragement on the part of Iyeyasu of the disinherited heir, who was thus assisted in instituting the rival monastic buildings of Higashi Hongan. For several centuries these central establishments of the Eastern Hongan surpassed in magnificence those of their western confrères, but a succession of devastating conflagrations has left them little but their beautiful grounds and replaced them in a secondary position. The grand rebuilding projects towards which many provinces, and especially that of Owari, have lately so liberally contributed, are to be undertaken in restoring Higashi Honganji to its former grandeur.

Meanwhile the abbatial buildings of Nishi Honganji, as founded under the patronage of Taikōsaka, remain one of the most historically interesting groups in Japan. These include

two large oratories, one dedicated to Amita Buddha and called the *Amida dō*, and the other sacred to the founder of the sect and going by the name of *Kaisan-dō*. The former contains an image of the deity, portraits of the seven fathers of the faith—two Indian, three Chinese, and two native—also a portrait of the great Buddhist propagator Shotoku Taishi. The latter building contains the wooden statuette of the founder—the great bone of contention between the two rival houses. Though practically the same buildings as those erected under Hideyoshi's patronage, the *Kaisan-dō* and *Amida-dō* have both received considerable renovation during the years 1636 and 1759 A.D.

More fraught with general interest is the Abbot's Palace and the ornamental grounds adjoining, in which stands the *Hiunkaku*, one of those pleasure palaces for tea-drinking and idle enjoyment so popular in the days of Nishi Hongwan's great patron. This tea-palace, the oldest building in the Monastery, had been originally erected by Taikōsana as his own summer resort at Juraku, and was in those days once honoured by a visit from the Emperor himself. The transference of a dwelling as a gift apart from the estate on which it stands, incompatible as it may be with our European ideas, is in no wise inconsistent with custom nor impracticable in Japan, and this light picturesque structure was accordingly handed over as a mark of favour to the Honganji cenobites to erect upon their own consecrated grounds.

Two ice-cold springs supply the water, which carried in meandering streams amid rockeries and beneath fancy bridges, terminates in a deep fish-pond encircling the building—a three-storied construction in gradually receding stages—whose white wooden walls and roofs of shingle, time has mellowed to an ashen grey. Within, the old steam bath which Hideyoshi is said to have used, the venerable written tablets which hang in dingy frames from the ceiling, and the faded paintings on walls and slides, testify to the veritable antiquity of this picturesque pile.

The Abbot's Palace, as it has been thought appropriate to style the official residence of the chief of this religious establishment, is one of those buildings which have always existed in connection with large abbeys, and which supply well-preserved examples of the more luxurious class of domestic abodes. The larger *Yashiki* of civilians have many of them been replaced by mansions of foreign type, whilst others have undergone internal changes so complete as to rob them of all interest to the artist or antiquarian. Parts of the old palace in Kyoto, the present temporary palace in Tokio, and certain rooms in the castle buildings of Ōsaka (now the Kyoto Fusho) provide other rare examples of the magnificence of domestic architecture distinguished from ecclesiastical decoration.

In the Monastery of Nishi Hongan we find all the refinement and luxury of papal magnificence rather than the simplicity of cloistered asceticism. The principal rooms of the palace were reconstructed here after the death of Taikōsana, having been removed from Momoyama at Fushimi, where they had formed the favourite resort of that prince. The principal of these are the large pillared reception hall (*O-hiroma*) and the adjoining suite of rooms, which increase in richness towards the dais-chamber or *jodan no ma*. The reception hall, which is intended for special assemblies, is furnished with a raised dais, separated from the main portion by a row of columns partly filled in with gracefully cusped tracery and pierced wooden panels. The wall at the back of this dais is provided with the heavy lacquered slides, shelves and handsome recesses peculiar to a high-class room, and on the plaster walls above are large figure paintings from Chinese history, on a gold background. The gilt slides which fill in the remaining sides, are decorated with paintings, the subject of which is the stork and pine-tree in varied combinations. The adjoining chambers are called the *Shiro-jo-in*, on account of the light and brilliant tone of the decoration adopted. A decided preponderance of gilding, combined with cream-coloured grounds and brown lacquered furnishings, produces a general effect of amber and gold. Here and there a sprinkling of bright colour in the drapery of the figures, or patches of blue and emerald in the landscapes, relieves the sunny warmth of the general tone. Of these three rooms, the dais-chamber is the most gorgeous being filled with lacquered shelves, picture recesses, a trellised oriel, and handsome slides hung with silk tassels which open on the dais, for the entrance of the greatest dignitaries. Into this *jodan no ma* it is said

that none but men of high rank were admitted, inferior supplicants or messengers taking their position in the adjoining or further chamber according to their importance. In pursuance of this custom it often happened that a visitor of low rank was compelled to address the seated magnate from a distance of some thirty feet; and at a level lower by two steps, the floor of each room being raised one step above the next. These secondary apartments, decorated in similar character, have each different subjects of embellishment taken from nature's store of flower and plumage. The divisional pillars and lintels, between which when circumstances require painted slides are inserted, are filled in permanently towards the top with carved and trellised panels called "*ramma*." Such *ramma* form perhaps one of the most ornamental features of Japanese buildings. Some are designed in open arabesques or diapers, and some of pierced carving with endless variety of form and motive. Hanging bunches of *weiseria* twining amid dainty lattice-work, flying pheasants in a labyrinth of leaves, wild geese soaring through conventional cloud-patterns, are but a few of the subjects to be noted in the abatial building of Nishi Hongwan. These pierced carvings are wrought mostly in *alto relievo* and worked so as to be viewed from either side. A small sacristy or robing room adjoins these apartments equalling them in the elegance of its furnishings and paintings, and having the further charm of minuteness. The sensational charm of the diminutive in size is a source from which many literatures have drawn and to which we owe the attraction of fairy tales and many pretty stories. The Japanese, however, seem alone to have adopted it as a principle of architectural design, as a means of pleasing monumental effect. For other nations the great "coup" has always been one of surpassing size,—the sensation of grandeur and magnificence of proportion. Here, in Japan, we find in the *Cha seki* and other buildings and apartments the exactly opposite impression of surpassing tinyness worked out with almost equal success.

From such painted chambers and fairy halls the assembled cenobites looked out in the old days upon the mysterious posturings of the *Nō* and other sacred dances. These performances took place upon a covered stage across the open court, from which a winding cortile leads to the more private apartments and kitchen offices.

ESTRANGEMENT.

POEMS—FROM THE JAPANESE OF ONO NO KOMACHI.*

I.

Swiftly the flower fades but giveth in fading,
Sign of its sorrowful end—
Soft petals falling, tender tints paling—
Would it were thus with a friend!
Ah! For affection so ruthlessly broken,
Suddenly vanished with warning unspoken—
Flowers of the heart wither giving no token!

II.

The snowy clouds on the mountain-peak,
Seemed floating away from me
Afar and fair in the upper air,
Seeking a refuge elsewhere,—
But vain my dream, for the white mists rise
Lo, here! And not in the distant skies;
'Tis their gloom that parts our wedded hearts
And sudden severs me from thee.

F. B. H.

ASIATIC SOCIETY OF JAPAN.

A general meeting of the Asiatic Society was held at the Shō-hei-kuwan, Seidō, Tōkiyō, on Tuesday, April 12th, Dr. Divers, President, in the chair.

After the minutes had been read the Recording Secretary gave notice on behalf of the Council, that at the next general meeting an amendment to the constitution would be proposed, with the view of simplifying the process by which the officers and council were elected annually. The present process of nomi-

* It is hardly necessary to state that these poems are paraphrases, not literal translations.

ination by a specially appointed committee, followed by the circulation of a printed voting list, had been found cumbersome and in many ways inconvenient; the council recommended that in future the election of officers and members of council should be conducted by the simple method of open nomination at the annual meeting, any member being at liberty to make nominations, and that the votes on the names proposed should be there and then taken by ballot. At the next general meeting it would be therefore moved that the existing Rule XI. be abolished and the following Rule substituted:—

"The Officers and Council shall hold office for one year and shall be elected by ballot at the Annual Meeting. Persons who have previously served are open to re-election."

The Librarian handed in a list of recent donations to the Library, for which thanks were ordered.

The Corresponding Secretary intimated that Messrs Trübner and Co., the London agents for the sale of the Society's "Transactions," had expressed their desire to procure copies of Vol. II. (now out of print), and were willing to pay a price above that of publication for them. Any persons therefore who had spare copies of Vol. II., or who were willing to dispose of copies, were requested to communicate with him (Mr. Satow). Copies of Part 1 of Vol. III. were also very much wanted.

Dr. H. Faulda exhibited some petrified specimens from Kaga, alleged to have been petrified within the last ten years, by the action of warm water.

Rev. W. B. Wright read a second paper on "the Capture and Captivity of Père Johan Battista Sidotti, Missionary to Japan," being a translation of the second volume of Arai-Hakuseki's narrative. [This was a continuation of the paper which was printed in *extenso* in the *Japan Weekly Mail* for April 23rd.]

Mr. Naibu Kanda mentioned some incidents in the early life of Arai-Hakuseki, who, he said, was a very voluminous writer. Efforts were now being made to collect subscriptions to aid the publication of some of his writings which were still extant, but only in M.S.

Captain J. M. James read a paper entitled "Descriptive Notes of the Rosaries, *Jiu-izu*, as used by the different sects of Buddhists in Japan," and exhibited a number of rosaries and their mode of use.

A discussion followed in which part was taken by Mr. Satow, who questioned whether the incomplete clauses of invocation used by Buddhists could fairly be called prayers at all; by Mr. N. Kanda, who gave a legendary account of the origin of the rosary; by Dr. Faulda, who said there was no doubt that Buddhists did in some cases offer special petitions, as, for example, for the alleviation of suffering; by Mr. Wright, and by the President who exhibited and described the form of rosary used by Romanists, and pointed out the general resemblance between it and those shown by Captain James. Except for the fact of its being blessed, it was essentially a mere counting instrument.

The meeting was then adjourned.

REUTER'S TELEGRAMS.

LONDON, 26th April, 1881.

French troops have entered Tunisian territory without opposition.

[SUPPLIED TO THE "HONGKONG DAILY PRESS."]

LONDON, April 13th.

Lord Carlisle has been appointed Lord Privy Seal. The surrender of Potchefstroom has been rescinded, the Boers admitting that they treacherously delayed the communication of the armistice.

LONDON, April 10th.

The House of Commons has read a first time an Irish Land Bill.

The Duke of Argyll (Lord Privy Seal) has resigned owing to a difference of opinion on the Irish Land Bill.

Ten thousand French troops have been disembarked at Bona.

The French Government has sent a Circular note to its representatives abroad disavowing the policy of annexation and insisting upon the preponderating influence in Tunis. Oxford has won the Boat Race.

[From *Straits Times*.]

London, 3rd April.—The *Daily News* publishes a paragraph stating that England has declined the invitation to the bi-metallic Conference.

The Government intends keeping 12,000 troops in Natal and the Transvaal.

London, 5th April.—Serious complications are apprehended with regard to the Tunisian frontier question, and the French Government is making extensive warlike preparations.

London, 7th April.—In introducing the budget, the Chancellor of the Exchequer proposed a reduction of one penny in the income tax and the gradual abolition of the duty on plate. He expected a surplus of £300,000 over the expenditure, and stated the financial condition of the country to be satisfactory.

MISCELLANEOUS NEWS.

The M. M. steamer *Menzaleh*, bringing the European mails of the 20th March, left Hongkong last Monday morning at 8 a.m.

The O. & O. steamer *Gaelic* left San Francisco for Yokohama on the 19th inst., and may be expected to arrive here about the 11th proximo.

At the meeting of the Tir Suisse last Saturday afternoon, Mr. Murata, Junior, took first prize at the "Patrie" target, Mr. Weinbeager 2nd, and Mr. Favre-Brandt 3rd. At the "Points" target, Col. Murata headed the list with 84 bulls-eyes, Mr. Gilbert came second with 79, and Mr. Beretta third with 76.

Last Monday morning an inquest was held at the U. S. Consulate-General before General T. B. Van Buren, Consul-General, and Messrs. R. M. Varnum and F. H. Olmsted, jurors, to inquire into the cause of death of John William Brown, on board the P. M. S.S. Company's tow-boat in the harbour of Yokohama, on Sunday morning. Jurors having been sworn and deceased's body viewed—

Mr. Frederick E. Foster deposed that he was agent for the P. M. S.S. Company in the East. He had known the deceased. Deceased had been superintendent of lighters and of the coal depot for over 10 years. Saw the accident which caused deceased's death, and saw him dead on board the P. M. S.S. tug-boat *Feiyuen*, alongside the *City of Peking* at about 7 or 7.30 a.m. on the preceding day (Sunday). The tug and the steamer were both heading in the same direction, and both were in motion, although the steamer's propeller had stopped. Deceased was in command of the tug, and was endeavouring to bring it alongside the gangway ladder of the *City of Peking*. Was standing by the side of deceased as the boats approached. Deceased put his back against the pilot-house of the tug and his hands against the foot-stage of the ladder to keep the tug off. Witness did the same, but the intervening space narrowing rapidly, jumped to the side, and warned deceased to do the same. Took hold of deceased's arm and tried to pull him away but he did not pay any attention. The foot-stage was breast high with deceased and directed horizontally across his body. Saw deceased crushed between the ladder and the pilot-house, so severely and so quickly that he was unable to utter any sound. The steamers parted almost immediately and witness caught deceased who fell into his arms. Mr. Forbes and witness supported him and laid him down on the deck. Hailed the *City of Peking* and asked for the doctor. After about 15 minutes the doctor saw deceased and pronounced him dead. Deceased had uttered no sound from the moment of the accident until his death, and appeared to be insensible. Deceased was then placed on the transit of the tug and removed to his late residence. Deceased was married. If the boats had not been both in motion the accident would not have happened. Deceased had been in the habit of doing the same thing, and witness had seen him do so several times. The position of deceased would

not have been dangerous if the steamer had not been in motion.

Mr. A. S. Fobes, agent of the China and Japan Trading Company gave corroborative evidence.

The jury then returned the following verdict:—

We, the jurors, empanelled to determine upon the cause of the death of John William Brown, late in the employ of the Pacific Mail Steam Ship Company at this port, while in command of the company's steam tug *Feiquen* on the morning of Sunday the 24th instant in the harbour of Yokohama, having duly heard and considered the evidence, are of opinion that the said death was caused by the rapid approach of the tug and the steamship *City of Peking* towards each other while the deceased was in the performance of his duty, endeavouring to keep them from colliding, both said vessels being in motion; and that the deceased while so acting did not appreciate the rapidity with which said vessels were approaching each other, until it was too late to extricate himself.

(Signed) R. M. VARNUM.
F. H. OLMSTED.

The *Hio-go News* of the 23rd instant writes:—The storm which passed over the Settlement on Thursday afternoon and night, was much more severely felt at sea, and caused delay in the arrival both the *Takasago-maru* and *Glencoe* the former not arriving until eleven o'clock yesterday forenoon, while the latter, which was expected from Shanghai at daylight yesterday, did not reach the anchorage until late at night, having evidently experienced the full force of the blow. We have not heard of any damage being done in this neighbourhood, and it is a good augury for its future that, although the new boat-house of K. R. and A. C. is not yet completed, it withstood very satisfactorily the ordeal to which it was subjected. Judging from the substantial manner in which the new structure is being built, it will present a contrast to the former premises, which were apparently designed with the object of being blown down as soon as possible after erection.

We have to record another casualty in the shipping this year. Yesterday evening, (18 inst.) the China Merchants Steam Navigation Company received a telegram to the effect that one of the company's steamers, the *Hochung*, had been in collision with H.M.S. *Lapwing* on Sunday evening, and had been lost. It appears that the *Hochung*, 850 tons, in command of Captain Peterson, one of the oldest commanders in the service, was on her way from Swatow to this port. H.M.S. *Lapwing*, 774 tons, Scott, commander, left Shanghai on the 13th instant bound for Hongkong. The two vessels met in the Formosa Channel, near Ocksen Island about forty miles from Turnabout and almost midway between Amoy and Foochow. The *Hochung* is a total loss, but she does not appear to have sunk immediately, as the *Lapwing* had time to save the whole of the passengers and crew whom she afterwards took to and landed at Amoy. At present, we have no details as to the cause of the collision and the subsequent loss of the steamer. The *Hochung* was the vessel which the C. M. S. N. Co., sent to Honolulu and San Francisco after extensive alterations. She was the first steamer bearing the Dragon flag which entered the Golden Gate and created such excitement among the citizens of San Francisco. We learn that she has been running for the last five years without accident, and had made four voyages in all to San Francisco and Honolulu. The Company's steamer *Howsang*, was lost on Dodd Island on 31st January, 1878. These two, with the *Fusing* are the three coasting boats the company has lost since its inauguration. As the P. & O. Co's. steamer *Zambesi* was in the vicinity about the time of the accident, she stood by the wreck for four hours.—*Shanghai Courier*.

The *St. James's Budget* states that recent telegrams from Madeira tell us how affairs stood at Cape Coast Castle on February 18th. The King of Ashantee, it seems, has sent to say that he neither intends nor ever intended to invade British territory. This, no doubt, is well; but it seems hardly reasonable to conclude (as the *Standard* does) that the alarm originated wholly in the inexperience of the British officials. Possibly undue importance was attached to the incident of the golden axe, but that a menacing message of some kind was brought to the Acting Governor seems clear, for the *Times* telegram says that the King 'disclaims the Ambassador's

threats of war and of attacking Axim.' The doctrine that British officials are always in the wrong is the peculiar property of the *Daily News*, and ought not to be misappropriated by journals of less cosmophil tendencies. The King of Ashantee, though not a Christian, is a diplomatist, and it is quite possible that the defensive demonstrations have induced him not only to abandon his original design, but to 'repudiate' it. The cause of the difficulty remains: the prince who broke gaol at Coomassie is still at Cape Coast Castle and the King wants him, while we do not mean to give him up. It is of course very sad that the colonial surplus has been spent 'in telegrams, and other preparations,' but we need not add to our regrets by assuming that it has been spent without cause.

In a late number the *Graphic* writes that the case of Sprowl v. Waterlow, disposed of by the Queen's Bench Division the other day, was both singular and amusing. The plaintiff had written a book entitled 'Dreams of my solitude on the Mechanism of the Heavens,' and had employed the defendants to print it, paying them £75 on account. He, however, appears to have expected a great deal for his money, for he suggested that they should not only set up the type and make ordinary corrections, but substitute or add words occasionally, harmonise the paragraphs, correct errors in grammar, tautology and redundancy, and even scientific slips; and moreover, as he said in one of his notes to the manager, 'you can easily devote five hours a day to it when you are at leisure in your own house.' Messrs. Waterlow naturally took quite a different view of the contract, and it is certainly not surprising that Lord Coleridge and the jury decided in their favour.

Some months ago we published an account of the marvellous doings of an Indian Fakir, who allowed himself to be buried alive, and on being subsequently disinterred was found alive and well. A correspondent wrote us a letter, which we published, throwing doubt on the accuracy of these stories. We will not hazard an opinion, but we notice that a writer in the *Gazette of Moscow* admits that, after a long residence in India, he is convinced that the fakirs of the East have power to suspend animation, that they can be buried in the ground for weeks, and then resuscitated.

The annual meeting of the friends and subscribers of the Yokohama General Hospital was held in the Chamber of Commerce yesterday afternoon.

There were present:—Mr. John Gordon Kennedy, H. B. M.'s Chargé d'Affaires (in the chair), Messrs. A. J. Wilkin, E. de Bavier, H. Grauert, Stiebel, J. Ph. von Hemert, Dr. Buckle, A. O. Gay, H. Allen, J. J. Enslie, F. Townley, G. M. Dare, Wm. McDonald, John Robertson, M. Kirkwood, E. Fischer, J. R. Anglin, F. A. Cope, F. F. Foster, and Rev. E. C. Irwine.

Mr. Kennedy thanked the meeting for the honor conferred upon him by the Committee requesting him to preside, and requested the Secretary to read the minutes and reports.

The Secretary, Mr. Wilkin, having read the minutes, proceeded with the following reports:—

THE COMMITTEE OF THE YOKOHAMA GENERAL HOSPITAL beg NOW TO PRESENT TO THE SUBSCRIBERS THEIR STATEMENT OF ACCOUNTS FOR THE YEAR ENDING 31st DECEMBER, 1880, AND THE SURGEONS' REPORT FOR THE SAME PERIOD.

The course of things for the year has been uneventful, and the committee in making their own report have little to add to the above.

The number of patients treated during these twelve months shows a reduction on that of the previous twelve months, viz., 132 against 159: reckoned by the number of days the reduction does not appear to be so large, namely, is about 9 per cent. The decrease is exhibited in 1st and 2nd class, and in charity patients: in the 3rd class there is an increase.

In the cash account, the receipts from patients show a corresponding decrease, but it is satisfactory to be able to remark that the current expenditure is in like proportion.

The cost per head per diem has been \$1.91, i.e., reckoning the cost on all expenditure save that for repairs, and including the bills still due at the end of the year, or rather less than for the year 1879 if calculated in the same way.

The cash on hand, it will be seen, was \$1,254.48 on 31st December, and, allowing for debts and recoverable assets, the balance in favour of the hospital at same time was \$1,301.95, which is somewhat larger than that of the previous December. The financial position has not changed materially since. The donations and subscriptions, however, again show a falling off. The latter include \$375.38, collected by Mr. Townley as before in small monthly sums.

Fortunately no large expenditure has been necessary in repairs, otherwise the financial position would not have been so satisfactory. But it must be borne in mind that the buildings are not new, and some outlay on them from time to time is inevitable.

It will be necessary forthwith to again circulate the subscription and donation lists, and the committee trust that the appeal will meet with the liberal response which has always been accorded by the community, when called to give to this institution.

The surgeons report is appended hereto, and contains, as before an exhaustive statistical statement respecting the cases treated. The committee have again the pleasure of acknowledging the interest shown by the medical officers in the success of the hospital and their assiduity for the welfare of the patients.

Reference is again made therein to the want of a proper carriage road to the small pox hospital, and although happily, hitherto, there has not been great occasion to make use of that building, the committee regret that this necessary accommodation has not been provided.

The arrangements made for a room for convalescents at the General Hospital, are not all that could be desired, but it is hoped that they will meet the case to some extent.

The committee are also glad to be able to speak of the harmony with which the officers and employees of the institution have worked together.

Since April last the committee have been able to do without the services of the native dispenser; Mr. Thompson, the Steward, being well versed in this branch of his duties:—a small economy has thus been effected.

A charitable society recently established here, viz. the "Société Française de Secours," having applied through its vice-president, Mr. Degron, to have a bed always at its disposal to which the society might send any distressed Frenchman, an agreement was come to, dated 20th January, by which this was secured to the society in return for a quarterly subscription of \$45 to the hospital funds.

The scheme for receiving Japanese patients at reduced rates, has been carried into effect, but with only limited results.

Thanks are again tendered to those who have supplied newspapers and periodicals to the hospital. In accordance with the suggestion made at last annual meeting, a box has been placed at the gate for the reception of newspapers or magazines.

It only remains now for the committee to tender their resignation.

For the committee

A. J. WILKIN,

April 26th, 1881.

YOKOHAMA GENERAL HOSPITAL.

STATEMENT OF RECEIPTS AND EXPENDITURES FOR THE YEAR 1880.

RECEIPTS.

Balance from last account. Cash on hand 1st January	\$ 598.97
Interest allowed by Hongkong and Shanghai Bank on daily balances	27.05
From patients	6,519.14
" donations	2,195.25
Per differences between dollar and yen	698.74
Total receipts.....	\$10,039.15

DEPENDENCIES, 1ST JANUARY, 1881.	
Cash on hand, less amount due to creditors, as above	\$ 481.60
Amounts recoverable from patients on outstanding accounts (exclusive of \$1,185.59 considered not recoverable)...	820.35
Total.....	\$1,501.95

EXPENDITURES.

Paid creditors from 1879	\$1,101.88
Establishment expenses:—	
Repairs to buildings, &c.....	611.38
Ground rent	176.70
Fire insurance	104.70
Furniture, &c.....	69.50
Wages (steward & natives)	2,340.80
Fuel and lighting	410.02
Sundries.....	109.12
Total.....	3,811.52

Medical expenses:—

Surgeons'	
Dispenser's wages, 4 months.....	60.00
Medicines, &c.....	568.39
Total.....	1,528.39

Victhalling expenses:—

Butcher	559.24
Baker	326.40
Marketing	486.32
Stores	449.67
Milk	373.10
Wines, Beer and Spirits.....	223.61
Total.....	2,418.34

Office expenses:—

Accountant	360.00
Collecting accounts.....	9.67
Stationary	27.75
Total.....	397.42

Total expenditures **\$9,557.55**

BALANCE.

Cash on hand	\$1,234.43
Less, due to creditors, Dec. 31st.....	772.88
Total.....	481.60
Total Balance.....	\$10,039.15

E. & O. E.

G. K. DINSDALE,
For Hon. Treasurer,
Yokohama General Hospital.

Yokohama, 1st January, 1881.

YOKOHAMA GENERAL HOSPITAL.

PATIENTS IN HOSPITAL FROM JANUARY 1ST TO DECEMBER 31ST WERE AS FOLLOWS:—

	1st Class.	2nd Class.	3rd Class.	4th Class.	Charity.	Total.
Remained from 1879 ...	0	0	4	0	2	6
Admitted during 1880 ...	10	16	78	8	14	126
Total ...	10	16	82	8	16	132
Number of days of 1st class ...	...	...	...	...	...	187 days.
" " 2nd " ...	...	...	...	...	...	250 "
" " 3rd " ...	...	...	...	...	...	3,472 "
" " 4th " ...	...	...	...	...	...	108 "
" " Charity ...	...	...	...	...	...	489 "
Total ...	...	...	...	...	...	4,506 days.

J. LEE THOMPSON,
Steward.

SURGEONS' REPORT.

GENERAL HOSPITAL, YOKOHAMA, JAPAN
March 30th, 1881.

To the Committee,

General Hospital of Yokohama.

GENTLEMEN:—We have the honor to submit herewith our report of the medical supervision of the General and Small Pox Hospitals for the year January 1st to December 31st, 1881.

The number of patients of different classes, admitted during the year, is shown in the following table, in which, for the sake of comparison, the admissions for the years 1878 and 1879 are also given. A close correspondence will be found to exist between the admissions for 1879 and those for 1880, both as regards the total number and its subdivision by classes.

TOTAL NUMBER OF PATIENTS UNDER TREATMENT DURING 1878, 1879 AND 1880, BY CLASSES.

	1st Class.	2nd Class.	3rd Class.	4th Class.	Charity.	Total.
Remaining Jan. 1st, 1878 ...	0	0	4	1	3	8
Admitted during 1878	14	19	141	6	15	195
Total treated during 1878	14	19	145	7	18	203
Remaining Jan. 1st, 1879 ...	0	2	29	0	4	35
Admitted during 1879	7	12	82	7	16	124
Total treated during 1879	7	14	111	7	20	159
Remaining Jan. 1st, 1880 ...	0	0	4	0	2	6
Admitted during 1880	10	16	78	8	14	126
Total treated during 1880	10	16	82	8	16	132
Remaining Jan. 1st, 1881 ...	0	2	9	0	3	14

It is a matter of felicitation that the community has escaped epidemic disease during the year, not even a single case of small-pox having been reported, either among natives or foreigners. The few cases noted in the detailed report of patients treated, hereto appended, having been, as usual, landed here from steamers arriving from China. So long a period as has elapsed since the last epidemic of small-pox, that of 1874-75 is, we believe, without precedent in the more recent history of this country.

Although no cases appear upon the hospital records, we regret to say that there are indications, both among native and foreign residents, that one scourge of civilisation, diphtheria, formerly almost or quite unknown in Japan, is becoming domesticated here. As yet, however, it has shown no tendency to become epidemic, and the sum total of cases has not been great.

Considering the unmistakable though slow advance of diphtheria in this country, and that it is one of the diseases which have been clearly proved to be caused or developed by faulty hygienic surroundings, such as the emanations of decomposing organic matter including sewer gas and the like, it will certainly be the part of wisdom to see that no circumstances favoring its outbreak exist about our dwellings.

The medical science of the future will be one of prevention even more than of cure, but in order that physicians may be able to utilize in this direction the knowledge which is already available, the community must itself afford willing and intelligent assistance. Imperfect as is our present understanding of the laws of disease, enough is known to secure the eradication of several most serious maladies, were the people generally instructed in the laws of hygiene, and willing to mould their lives and surroundings in accordance therewith.

We beg leave to reiterate our recommendation that, so soon as circumstances will permit, a room for the assemblage of the lower

classes of patients slightly ill, or convalescent, be added to the present accommodations of the hospital. The reasons for this recommendation have already fully stated, and are, beside, so apparent that repetition would be useless, it is enough to say that proper treatment of the sick is difficult or impossible in a room used indiscriminately for all the purposes of life. We would also again call your attention to the very serious inconvenience entailed upon the medical attendants of the hospital by the non-existence of a road to the distant small pox wards. A very trifling expenditure would be sufficient to convert an already existing path into a road allowing easy access to the pest house.

The subordinate employes of the hospital have worked actively and efficiently during the year and to their assistance is largely due whatever measure of success may have been achieved.

In conclusion, we would express our appreciation of the ready and thorough support afforded by your body to all efforts upon our part for the benefit of the institution under our charge.

We are, Gentlemen,

Very Respectfully,

STUART ELDRIDGE, M.D.,
EDWIN WHEELER, M.D.,
Surgeons General Hospital.

Mr. Kennedy asked if any gentlemen had anything to say on the subject.

Mr. Kirkwood moved the acceptance of the reports.

Mr. McDonald seconded the motion which was carried unanimously.

Mr. Kennedy said they would next proceed to elect a Committee.

M. Wilkin said that Mr. Foster wished to retire, and Mr. Fraser was not in Yokohama.

Mr. Wilkin having read the names of last year's Committee.

Mr. Irwine moved that the same members be re-elected for the current year if they did not object.

The motion was seconded and Dr. Buckle asked if the Committee intended taking any steps with regard to providing a sitting room for the use of convalescent patients, as recommended by the surgeons.

Mr. Allen said a room had been set aside for that purpose.

Mr. Irwine directed attention to the subject of a new road to the small pox hospital.

After a desultory conversation the Chairman undertook to represent the matter to the authorities.

The chairman then expressed the very great pleasure he had felt in hearing the statement of accounts and report read, and he was quite sure the meeting was unanimous in thanking the committee, surgeons and all connected with the institution for their valuable services. He observed appended to the surgeons' report a statement showing that thirteen nationalities had availed themselves of the hospital, which showed that the institution had the confidence of the public irrespective of nationality, and would no doubt produce a good and happy influence upon the Japanese. Regarding the want of a road to the small-pox hospital, if that matter was left in his hands, he would take such steps as might possibly lead to the authorities in Tokio granting a road. Referring to the subscription list, Mr. Kennedy said that if the secretary would send the list to Tokio, it would afford him pleasure to use his influence in obtaining contributions. In conclusion, he begged to thank the meeting for the opportunity afforded him of becoming acquainted with the working of the institution.

Mr. Kirkwood proposed a vote of thanks to the retiring Committee which was carried with acclamation.

Mr. Wilkin returned thanks, and proposed a vote of thanks to the Chairman which was carried unanimously and the meeting adjourned.

NIPPON RACE CLUB.

ENTRIES FOR THE SPRING MEETING.

FIRST DAY,—9TH MAY.

1.—THE GRIFFINS' PLATE.—Value \$150. Second Pony to save his stake. For Japan ponies that have never run in a race in Tokio or Yokohama. Weight as per scale. Five furlongs. Entrance, \$10.

Yamasaki, Seiren, Ritan, Ventre de Biche, Diogenes, Polux, Kanakura.

2.—THE CRITERION STAKES.—Value \$100. For China ponies that have never won a race. Weight as per scale.

Boni fide griffins, 7 lbs. allowance. Once round. Entrance, \$5.

Cresset, Louis d'Or, Pibroch, Ginger, Paladin, Victor.

3.—THE HALF-BRED MAIDEN PLATE.—Value \$100. For Half-Breds that have never won a race in Tokio or Yokohama. Weight as per scale. Five furlongs. Entrance, \$5.

Kosakura, Hanabusa, Denshin, Phoenix.

4.—THE NAVY CUP.—Presented. For China ponies. Weight as per scale. Winner of No. 2 excluded. Three-quarters of a mile. Entrance, \$10.

Cresset, Snowstorm, Sunshine, Chief Mongolian, Skedaddle, Dartmoor.

5.—THE ST. GEORGE'S CUP.—Presented. For Japan ponies. Weight as per scale. Half a mile. Entrance, \$5.

Hidden, Misawa (late Yawata), Seiren, Kokuwaku, Jim Hills, Oyama, Annandale.

6.—THE SPRING CUP.—Value \$100. For Half-breds. Weight as per scale. Three-quarters of a mile. Entrance, \$5.

Tachibana, Asagawo, Bon René, Toyokoma, Gioso, Admiral Rous.

7.—THE TEA CUP.—Presented. For China ponies. Weight as per scale. Winners at the meeting, 7 lbs. extra. One and a quarter miles. Entrance, \$10.

Clown, Snowstorm, Bonny Doon, Louis d'Or, Ricochet, Sunshine, Gled, Skedaddle, Victor.

8.—THE KEIBA VASE.—Presented. For Japan ponies. Weight as per scale. Winners at the meeting, 7 lbs. extra. Three-quarters of a mile. Entrance, \$5.

Ikadsushi, Chuckle, Misawa, Higan, Katerfelto, Oyama, Jim Hills, Annandale.

SECOND DAY,—10TH MAY.

1.—THE MAIDEN PLATE.—Value \$100. For Japan ponies that have never won a race in Tokio or Yokohama. Weight as per scale. Half a mile. Entrance, \$5.

Chuckle, Yamasaki, To-un, Seiren, Kirin, Ritan, Ventre de Biche, Diogenes, Moujik, Polux, Nonobiki.

2.—THE VISITORS' CUP.—Presented. For China ponies. Weight as per scale. Winners in China and Japan in 1880, or at this meeting, 7 lbs. extra. Once round and a distance. Entrance, \$5.

Clown, Cresset, Snowstorm, Petit Paa, Bonny Doon, Louis d'Or, Ricochet, Pibroch, Sunshine, Ginger, Skedaddle, Victor.

3.—THE MITSU BISHI CUP.—Presented. For Japan ponies. Weight as per scale. Winners at the meeting excluded. Three-quarters of a mile. Entrance, \$5.

Hidden, Ikadsushi, Chuckle, Misawa, Higan, Katerfelto, Ritan, Oyama, Jim Hills, Annandale, Diogenes, Polux, Kanakura.

4.—THE LADIES' PURSE.—Presented. For Japan and China ponies. Weight as per scale. Half a mile. Entrance, \$10.

Hidden, Pibroch, Sunshine, Chief Mongolian, Oyama, Skedaddle, Dartmoor, Paladin.

5.—THE BANKERS' CUP.—Presented. For Japan ponies. Weight as per scale. Winners of one race at the meeting, 7 lbs. extra; of two or more races, 10 lbs. extra. Once round. Entrance, \$10.

Ikadsushi, Misawa, Katerfelto, Jim Hills, Oyama, Annandale, Kanakura.

6.—THE ———.—For China ponies. Weight as per scale. Winners at the meeting, 7 lbs. extra. One and a half miles. Entrance, \$10.

Snowstorm, Clown, Bonny Doon, Louis d'Or, Ricochet, Sunshine, Gled, Skedaddle, Victor.

7.—THE KAITAKUSHI CUP.—Presented. For Half-breds. Weight as per scale. Winners of one race at the meeting, 7 lbs. extra; of two or more races, 10 lbs. extra. Once round and a distance. Entrance, \$5.

Tachibana, Kosakura, Asagawo, Bon René, Toyokoma, Admiral Rous.

8.—THE FLYAWAY STAKES.—Value \$150. For Japan and China ponies. Weight as per scale. Non-starters and winners at the meeting excluded. China ponies, 10 lbs. extra. Ponies that have never won a race, 7 lbs. allowance. Once round. Entrance, \$10.

Ikadsushi, Cresset, Bonny Doon, Louis d'Or, Pibroch, Sunshine, Kirin, Katerfelto, Chief Mongolian, Ginger, Dartmoor, Paladin, Victor.

THIRD DAY,—11TH MAY.

1.—THE DIPLOMATIC CUP.—Presented. Champion Race for Japan ponies. Weight as per scale. Once round. Entrance, \$10.

Ikadsushi, Misawa, Seiren, Higan, Katerfelto, Oyama, Jim Hills, Annandale, Kamakura.

2.—THE COMRADORES' CUP.—Presented. Champion Race for China ponies. Weight as per scale. One and a quarter miles. Entrance, \$10.

Snowstorm, Clown, Bonny Doon, Louis d'Or, Ricochet, Sunshine, Ginger, Skedaddle, Dartmoor.

3.—THE KUNAISHO VASE.—Presented. Champion Race for Half-breds. Weight as per scale. Once round. Entrance, \$10.

Tachibana, Kosakura, Bon René, Toyokoma, Gioso, Admiral Rous.

4.—THE WELTER CUP.—A Sweepstakes of \$10 each, with \$100 added. For all Japan and China ponies that have never won a race, and are not otherwise entered at the meeting; to be ridden by members of the N.R.C. who have never had a winning mount. Weight for Japanese ponies, 11 st.; for China ponies, 12 st. Once round.

Dick Deadeye (late Spendthrift), Schneider, Water Baby, Old Blue, Maoping (late Satisfaction), Centaur, Daisy Chain.

5.—THE JAPAN CONSOLATION.—Value \$150. For all beaten Japan ponies at the meeting. Weight as per scale. Five furlongs. Entrance \$10.

Hiden, Ikadsushi, Chuckle, Seiren, Misawa, Higan, Kokuwaku, Katerfelto, Kirin, Ventre de Biche, Annandale, Diogenes, Kamakura, Nonobiki.

6.—THE CHINA CONSOLATION.—Value \$150. For all beaten China ponies at the meeting. Weight as per scale. Once round. Entrance, \$10.

Cresnet, Clown, Petit Paa, Bonny Doon, Louis d'Or, Ricochet, Fibroch, Sunshine, Chief Mongolian, Gled, Ginger, Skedaddle, Paladin Victor.

7.—THE HALF-BRED CONSOLATION.—For all beaten Half-bred ponies at the meeting. Weight as per scale. Three-quarters of a mile. A Sweepstake of \$10 each with \$50 added.

Asagawa, Bon René, Toyokoma, Hanabusa, Denshin, Phoenix.

8.—THE SAYONARA STAKES.—Value \$175.—A handicap for all ponies. The handicap to be framed as soon as possible after the last race on the Second Day. Once round. Entrance \$10.

Kosakura, Snowstorm, Cresnet, Bonny Doon, Louis d'Or, Fibroch, Sunshine, Katerfelto, Chief Mongolian, Jim Hills, Admiral Rous, Gled, Ginger, Dartmoor, Paladin, Victor.

JAPANESE ITEMS.

[The following Notes on various Japanese matters are chiefly derived from the native papers, occasionally supplemented from original sources of information, and are carefully collated and edited, so as to make them readable and intelligible.]

COURT, POLITICAL AND OFFICIAL.

The *Mainichi Shinbun* states that, as previously announced, Her Majesty the Empress Dowager visited the National Exhibition on the 22nd instant, accompanied by several ladies of the Court and officials of the Imperial Household Department. Her Majesty, conducted by Mr. Shinagawa, chief commissioner, visited all the buildings and left at 6.15 p.m.

The same native journal states:—The Regulations for the reception of foreign visitors, which were being compiled by the Foreign and Imperial Household Departments, have been completed, and forwarded to the Council of State. It is said that by these regulations such visitors will be divided into five classes or grades.

His Royal Highness Tei Monkeu, prince of Siam, who has lately come to Japan, visited (the *Akebono Shinbun* informs us) the National Exhibition on the 21st instant. He has applied to the Imperial Household Department for permission to visit the Fukiage Park, and it is said that some officials will be told off to conduct him there on the day of the entertainment, which has been fixed for the 29th instant.

The editors of the *Nichi Nichi*, *Choya*, *Mainichi* and *Akebono* were fined 100 yen each in the Tokio Saibansho on the 22nd instant, for having published, without permission, a copy of the memorial written by Their Excellencies Privy Councillors

Okuma and Ito, for the establishment of the Agricultural and Commercial Department. The editor of the *Hochi Shinbun* was fined 150 yen for the same offence.

The *Hochi Shinbun* states:—"Mr. Nishikawa Yoshinobu, vice-president of the *Kioto Fu* Assembly, is said to be about to forward a memorial to the Senate praying that the present Local Governors Assembly be abolished; and in its stead representative body be formed, as the first step towards the establishment of a National Assembly, by the election of two or three of the Permanent Committee from each prefecture.

The same paper states that His Excellency Sanjo, the Prince Minister, left the Capital for the *A tami* hot springs on the 24th instant.

This also says:—It was previously reported that the resignation of His Excellency Admiral Yenomoto, ex-Minister of the Navy, was owing to the unfavourable reception of his memorial by the Government; we further hear that the principal object of the memorial was a strong protest against a proposal to establish a Staff Office in the Naval Department; some suggestions as to the amelioration of financial difficulties; and other political matters. We regret that we are unable to give the full particulars. Another rumour has it that some of the Ministers of State, and Privy Councillors visited him at his private residence and had some conversation with him, from the result of which it seems probable that he will accept the post of Senator.

Another paper says that at the suggestion of Mr. Kuki, Assistant Vice-Minister of the Education Department, enquiries were made during the year before last concerning the written instructions given to school teachers throughout the Empire; certificates for good conduct; rules for their guidance; and regulations for conferring certificates of competency. The issue of the new instructions had been postponed, but steps will be taken to hasten their completion.

From the same source we learn that a complete survey of the Empire is about to be made, and that officials will be despatched for that purpose for Totomi, Mino, and other provinces in the beginning of next month from the Topographical Bureau.

It is stated in a vernacular journal that owing to the reduction of the appropriations of each Department it has been decided that the Japanese Legations abroad will have in future only one secretary and assistant secretary each.

The *Mainichi Shinbun* states:—We hear that one of the Ministers of State will go to the prefecture of Okinawa (Riuku) on an inspection tour early next Spring by special instruction of His Majesty the Emperor.

This paper also states that General Torio, now living in retirement in his country seat at Tennoji, Osaka, will shortly come to the Capital and accept some position under government.

The *Nichi Nichi Shinbun* says the members of the Ken-iu-sha (political society) in Yokohama opened a meeting in Otamachi on the 24th instant. There were about 350 members present, but the meeting, it appears, was of somewhat short duration. Mr. Takahashi got up to give a lecture, which that paper does not fully report for the very excellent reason that it was never delivered at length, the authorities having thought proper, like Sir Boyle Roche to "nip it in the bud." He commenced by saying that H. I. M. the Mikado was totally averse to despotism and that his leanings are and have always been towards Constitutional Government, a fact which is clearly proved by his declaration in the first year of Meiji, and the subsequent Imperial decree issued in the 8th year. That the establishment of a National Assembly was, in fact, not at all opposed to the ideas of the illustrious Emperor of Japan; and that the only objection to such an institution was the wish of a very few members of the cabinet to make—Here the strong arm of the law intervened in the shape of a police inspector, who immediately suspended the meeting. The paper does not state what subsequently befel this Japanese Parnell.

According to the same paper His Royal Highness the Prince of Siam was received in private audience by His Majesty the Emperor, on the 26th instant, at the Fukiage Park. The Royal guest conducted by Mr. Kakiuchi, an official of the

Foreign Department, visited the Tokio Saibansho and the prisons in Kajibashi, on the 25th inst.

In the Education Department rules for all primary schools will, (another paper says) be reformed after the German model.

The *Mainichi Shinbun* writes:—Messrs. Mutsuzawa, printer, and Uyeda, director of the *Toyojiyu Shinbun*, were suddenly conveyed from their private residences to the police station on the night of the 23rd instant. We are unable to state under what charge they were arrested, but it is rumoured that it is with reference to their having published a supplement stating that the first Minister had ordered the resignation of Mr. Saionji, the former director of that paper.

The *Choya Shinbun* says that His Majesty the Emperor will go, in the beginning of the next month, to the Marine Branch Depot at Uraga, to see the fisheries. His Majesty will pass a night there and will visit the battery at Kannon-saki on his return. Her Majesty the Empress went to the National Exhibition again on the 25th instant, and visited those buildings were not examined on the last occasion. Her Majesty left at 6 p.m.

The *Hochi Shinbun* gives the following:—As previously announced, Their Majesties the Emperor and Empress went to the Fukiage Park on the 26th instant at 3 p.m., and opened in person the usual cherry-tree fête, in a villa lately erected in the Park. The Princes of the Blood, Ministers of State, Privy Councillors, Foreign Representatives, and many ladies were present. His Royal Highness the Prince of Siam was, as stated yesterday, received in private audience by His Majesty. At night the cherry trees were brilliantly illuminated with lanterns. To-day (the 28th) His Majesty will set out for Atsuki, leaving the Shinbashi Station by special train at 8.15 a.m. His Imperial Highness Higashi Fushimi-no-Miya, commander-in-chief of the Imperial guard, left for the same place at noon yesterday, to inspect the military manoeuvres which are to take place in that neighbourhood.

The *Mainichi Shinbun* states:—We stated before that Mr. Tokuno, superintendent of the Government Printing Office has tendered his resignation. We hear that he had memorialized the government to the effect that his office might be freed from the control of the Finance Department. He did not ask for any appropriation from the government, but proposed to defray the expenses out of its industrial profits, and moreover offered to present the government with the yearly sum of 300,000 yen. However, the government, fearing that this might act prejudicially on the business of private individuals, did not approve of the memorial, and Mr. Tokuno has accordingly tendered his resignation.

The *Choya Shinbun* contains the following:—The new building for the Foreign Department at Kasumigaseki, is being rapidly completed. It is to be finished in May next, and then its present office at Takarada-cho will be handed over to the Agricultural and Commercial Department. Heretofore any imports wanted in government Departments were purchased through an office specially constituted for that purpose, but it has been decided that hereafter the Departments will make such purchases from foreign merchants directly.

The same paper informs us inquiries are being made, by consulting letters and the records of embassies, into the actual relationship which the Loochooan kings maintained with the Bakufu government.

From the same source we learn that the Saionji affair continues to "drag its show length along." That gentleman, who will be remembered as the ex-director of the *Oriental Independent*, a paper that bids fair to create some stir in the capital, was summoned to the Public Prosecutor's office in the Tokio Saibansho on the morning of the 27th instant. This is with reference to the legal examination of Messrs. Matsuzawa and Uyeda, gentlemen connected with the same paper who, as reported, were taken into custody some days ago and are still under arrest. It is said that a special bench is opened after the usual hour for the closing of the court, to carry on the investigation of the case.

The *Mainichi Shinbun* states that all the foreign representatives who were entertained by His Majesty the Emperor in the

Fukiage Park on the 26th instant, returned thanks at the Imperial palace next day.

This paper also says that His Royal Highness the Prince of Siam, accompanied by his four subordinates, visited the Government Printing Office on the afternoon of the 27th inst. Conducted by a secretary of this Department, he inspected every section. The royal guest, with some officials of the Foreign Department, went to Yokohama on the morning of the 28th instant, and thence to Yokosuka to inspect the dockyard there. He will visit the National Exhibition shortly.

The *Hochi Shinbun* states:—Her Majesty the Dowager Empress will again visit the National Exhibition on or about the 1st proximo, to examine those buildings which were not inspected on the occasion of the former visit. It is said that the exhibits purchased by Their Majesties the Emperor, Empress, and Dowager Empress are few in number, but the articles bought by the Court Chamberlains &c., amount to 30,000 yen in value.

NAVAL AND MILITARY.

The *Raidenkwan* will (a native paper states) be despatched for Hokkaido on the 28th instant, for surveying purposes: It is said that if time will permit she will also survey part of the coast of Russia.

From this source we also learn that some military manoeuvres will shortly take place in which the troops of the Tokio, Osaka and Nagoya garrisons, will join. The forces of the first garrison will form one and those of the latter two the other side. The "fighting" is announced for the neighbourhood of the Hakone mountains, taking advantage of that range for points of strategy.

It has been usual to send two or three artillery and engineering graduates of the *Shikan Gakko* (one of the Military Colleges) abroad for study every year; but last year this was not done. This year five sub-Lieutenants who have graduated in that college within the past twelve months will be ordered to France.

It is stated in another paper that more than 400 infantry cadets of the *Kio-do-dan* (one of the Military Colleges) graduated on the 15th instant. They have all been appointed to inferior grades, and are to be distributed among the different local garrisons. Donations of over 3,850 yen were granted on the 26th inst. by the Council of State to 192 Naval petty officers, who distinguished themselves during the Satsuma rebellion.

The same paper informs us that the foundations of the batteries about to be constructed at Kannon-saki have already been laid. The construction will be proceeded with on thoroughly scientific principles, and the newest mathematical instruments have been imported from abroad for that purpose. In order to secure the strictest accuracy in the surveys eight competent naval engineers have been despatched to the spot to take full control of the works. It is further given as a piece of military intelligence, that instructions have been issued to the military telegraphic bands to discontinue subscription to the *Nichi Nichi*, *Hochi* and *Heiji Shinbuns*. It appears that these newspapers have been somewhat popular among these isolated military bands, who, commendably enough, seek to relieve the tedium of their leisure hours by reading the newspaper. In future, however, the *Naval and Military Gazette* is the only one to which they will be permitted to subscribe.

INDUSTRIES, TRADE AND FINANCE.

The *Mainichi Shinbun* says:—Defaulters are greatly on the increase, both as regards national and local taxes, in every city and prefecture in the empire, and the tax collectors have a pretty hard time of it in consequence. This state of things is said to be due to the depreciation of the paper currency.

The scare on the Yokohama Bourse is, according to the same authority, not yet come to an end, but it is expected that some stability will be reached on the quotation of about 179.

We indebted to the same for the following:—Heretofore communications with the island of Ogasawara (Bouin islands) have been conducted by the Mitsu Bishi Steamship Company, but a short time ago the *Tokio Fuchō* gave orders to the

Honaien-graisha (a company for the establishment of sailing vessels of foreign model) that for a consideration of 4000 yen, four trips per month should be made to the island; the company, however refused, but offered to perform three trips instead to which the *Tokio Fuchō* finally consented. We learn that the islanders have found this arrangement of diminution of traffic of great inconvenience to them, and have lately sent two deputies to Tokio to request that the traffic be restored to its former condition.

According to this paper, a weaving factory has been established in the prefecture of Ishikawa. Over one hundred women have been engaged, and cloth is being largely manufactured. The manufacturers have turned out well and are very saleable in Osaka. If this industry continues to be carried on successfully, cloth will soon form a staple product of that prefecture. The governor is said to have done his best to further this useful scheme.

Another vernacular journal tells us that some men of enterprise intend to construct a canal out of the river Kiyagawa in Shita-gori, Suruga province, to the port of Wada, with a view to facilitate transport. The canal proposed will be over four ri in length, and is estimated to require an outlay of about 35,000 yen. Projectors are making application to the authorities for permission to carry out their design.

The *Bukka Shinpo* writes:—In Yokohama silk arrives in small quantities every day, but the demand is dull. Price as well as market condition, is unchanged. About 50 cattie of the new season's tea were exported by the American mail of the 21st instant. These were simply samples, presented to European merchants. Prices differ according to the views of holders and no fixed price can yet be quoted. However, it is expected that on the 5th or 6th of next month about 100,000 cattie will arrive, and that the price will be from \$45 to \$60. On the whole, the weather having been very unseasonable this year, the growth of tea was bad and the quality more or less inferior. Arrivals are said to be delayed about 20 days in consequence. Last season's tea was very saleable, so that the stock is diminished to about 1,000 cattie. In foreign cottons white is firmest, and red is weaker than before by 2 per cent.

The *Hochi Shinbun* says that the cause of the recent scare on the Yokohama Bourse was owing to a combination on the part of three Tokio gentlemen to buy up silver on a large scale. This they easily did at first, but later on \$500,000 came suddenly on the market. They were not prepared to buy such an amount, but after some difficulty they agreed to make exchanges at 179, by which it is said they have lost considerably. The bourse was re-opened on the 23rd instant.

The *Hochi Shinbun* says that export duty is about to be taken off sulphur.

According to the same paper a great many orders have been received from London for large Japanese umbrellas made of pictured paper. They were each over nine feet in diameter and fetched the very fair price of about ten yen each. Unfortunately these kind of goods are becoming largely imitated by articles of inferior manufacture in order to sell at a lower price. This degeneration has led to loss of repute, and purchasers have disapproved those which have been sent lately, and this causes genuine manufacturers to suffer. The paper states that competition of this sort is of questionable advantage.

The *Nichi Nichi Shinbun* says the subject of the Agricultural Meetings, which are being held from time to time, is to deliberate upon the adoption of improvements in matters connected with agriculture, and also to effect as much as popular conditions and topographical difficulties will permit. The questions submitted were: 1st, reform of agricultural statistics; 2nd, exchange of cereals and seeds, and facilities for transport; 3rd, manures; 4th, the conservation of fisheries; 5th the steps to be taken for conferring prizes, in order to encourage those who prove themselves industrious.

Through the same paper we learn that no Japanese have emigrated to the island of Tokumu-shima, one of the Kuriles, since that group has become a possession of the empire; but last year Mr. Suhara Koyemon, a wealthy merchant of Hattaya, Toshima province, Hokkaido, visited this island himself with a view to develop some industry upon it. He has

commenced by opening thirteen fishing establishments, and has sent off a number of fishermen, in order to carry out the undertaking properly.

According to another paper the railway between Otsu and Tsuruga is expected to be completed in August next.

A vernacular journal gives the following commercial report:—In the Yokohama Bourse paper was weak on the 26th instant. The market opened on the morning of that day at 180.2; improved to 180.1, and at noon was 180.3. Quotations against other specie have generally fallen. Silk is unsaleable; a foreign firm inspected two or three bales of hanks, but owing to an unfavourable telegram from London, the transaction was not completed. Sea products are generally inactive; *berche-de-mer*, especially, for which there was a great demand some short time ago, has fallen remarkably within the past few days. Mushrooms have fallen in price, but arrivals are still coming in. Stocks are plentiful, but business not at all brisk.

Foreign yarn is out of demand and no sales are being concluded. Prices have fallen in consequence, that of yarn of first quality imperceptibly, but of other qualities fully 2½ per cent. in comparison with their quotations in the beginning of the month. This is attributable to the fact that the farmers are busily engaged in the cultivation of their land at present; with foreign firms stocks are somewhat low. Although some imports have arrived lately, they are mostly those which have been contracted for some time ago, for there are no new orders. Foreigners are supposed to have suffered some losses from these consignments. There are no arrivals of the new season's tea for the past few days, but the merchants are daily expecting a large quantity from the port of Shimidzu, Suruga province. The price is not settled, but is anticipated to range from \$50 to \$60.

The *Hochi Shinbun* says that the question of the preservation of forests is occupying considerable attention just now. Several timber merchants of the capital and others interested in arborical matters, besides having inaugurated a society some time ago to take such active steps as might be thought necessary in this connection, have decided to hold monthly meeting to invite all the information which botanists and others may feel disposed to contribute. Mr. Makino, a well known dendrologist, has been invited to deliver a series of lectures on this subject. The meetings will be open to the public.

The same paper writes:—A sailing vessel of foreign model, which was being constructed in the shipbuilding yard of Mr. Shiramine, at Kanagawa, under an order from a merchant at Kanazawa, Ishikawa prefecture, has been completed, and been named the *Kayetsu Maru*. She is a schooner of about 90 tons, and will be used for the transport of goods between this and Hakodate.

The telegrams received by the *Boyeiki Shokwa* in Yokohama from London, on the 26th and 27th instants, states:—On the 26th, Tomioka Omama silk 16/2; Mayebashi No. 2, 15/3; on the 27th, the latter 15/7. The market rather dull, but at the above quotations silk was saleable.

No appreciable change has occurred in the exchange rate. On the 28th inst. the market was opened at 178.2, fell to 169, and afterwards to 178.9. Quotations against other specie are nearly the same as before.

MISCELLANEOUS.

We take the following from a native source:—The Korean government is again about to despatch Kiukoshu (who came here on a similar mission last year) to Japan as Envoy. The *Amaki-kwan*, one of our men-of-war, which left some time ago for that country, went direct to Gensanshin from Bakan, and thence arrived at Fusan on the 5th inst. On the night of the 8th the weather became so very boisterous that she was unable to hold to her moorings, and lost both her anchors. At this time she was in serious difficulty, but on the abatement of the gale she succeeded in recovering her anchors, and left for Bakan on the 5th inst. to take in provisions. She is expected to proceed to Jinsen from Bakan. A correspondent states that in the Korean Capital the anti-foreign element is daily becoming stronger. Rimanson, the man who leads this party, is a man of the province of Chiusei. He is

more than seventy years of age, but is quite hale and vigorous. He goes to the gate of the castle every day, and publicly exhorts and admonishes the government to close the kingdom against foreigners. This he does in the presence of a crowd, and with tears and manifestations of sorrow. His adherents are increasing day by day and now number over a thousand. It is said that Tai-in-kun, the King's uncle who also leans towards the party of exclusion, stirs up these people secretly, and endeavours to convert them by organization into an influential political factor.

A merchant lately returned from Korea reports that a bell-tower has been constructed lately in the Japanese Consulate at Gensanahin, and it has been decided to summon the Japanese residents by ringing it on the occurrence of any circumstance unusual or suspicious. At present the Japanese residents there consist of officials, police-men priests, and about 800 merchants and artisans.

The *Mainichi Shinbun* has received some correspondence from Korea to the effect that trade is failing greatly in Fusan, while Korean money is going up, and that this reduces the Japanese merchants there to great difficulties. This is simply another evil effect of the depreciation of paper currency in Japan. One hears of nothing but bankruptcies and absconding debtors. If such a state of things continues the Japanese residents will soon be in a pitiful way, and what makes matters worse is that the Japanese at home are not aware of this, and are still coming to Korea. However, the *Choya Shinbun* states that it has been definitely decided to open the port of Jinsen. The distance between this place and the Capital is seven ri, or exactly the same as that from Yokohama to Tokiyo.

A native paper states that about thirty Koreans are shortly expected in Japan, with the principal object of visiting the various industrial factories, and instructions have been issued to all such establishments in Osaka, including the Mint, the Arsenal &c., to make preparations for their reception and to offer every facility to their inspection.

We greatly regret to learn from an extract of the *Osaka Shinpo*, copied into the *Akebono Shinbun*, that the forty-four Korean gentlemen who were on their journey to Japan to see for themselves the progress of this neighbouring State, have been recalled by their King. They were members of a progressive party, and were coming to view impartially the improvements of which they had heard, with a view to give them a fair trial in their own country. It appears, when the bigoted anti-progressive faction heard of this journey having been undertaken, they were not less astonished than chagrined, and conjured up all sorts of horrors for Korea in consequence, for instance the introduction of such barbarities as telegraph wires, civil rights, railways, constitutional law and other ill-advised schemes, which would bring speedy ruin upon the Kingdom of Korea. With such self-created terrors as these crowding upon their untutored minds they hastened to the capital, before the full complement of the pioneers had fairly started, and made their idiotic representations to the sovereign, urgently requesting His Majesty to recall the travellers. Unfortunately they succeeded. The departure of such as had not already sailed was countermanded, and even those who had reached Nagasaki were ordered to return immediately, and, in obedience to this mandate, have actually sailed in the *Chitose Maru*. We sincerely hope they may be able to make it hot at the capital for their anti-progressive opponents.

The *Mainichi Shinbun* refers to the progress the Japanese are making in their settlement in Korea. They recognize the advantage of holding deliberative meetings, in order to arrive at the best methods to pursue with regard to the internal economy of the settlement, and therefore upon all matters of public importance meetings are regularly summoned. Some time since a meeting was held to deliberate upon the due collection of taxes levied for the repair of road-ways, at which some important resolutions were passed. The Chamber of Commerce, at the instance of the Consul, are making alterations and amendments in the forms of promissory notes in transactions between settlers and natives. Formerly no such documents were used in business transactions, but since a system of mutual credit now necessitates their use, numerous troubles have arisen

through ignorance of the language and characters. On this account fixed rules are being compiled with regard to these documents.

This paper also states that during last March the exports and imports at Fusan, Korea, reached the sum of 400,000 yen. Trade never has been so brisk as this since the port was opened, the sum being nearly equal to the total trade amounts of 1877 or '78. Of this total the imports were valued at over 240,000 yen.

A vernacular journal, writes:—We learn from a letter dated 19th instant, that about ten thousand farmers in Kaito, and two other districts in the province of Owari, went in a body to the Local Government office on the 18th inst. and besides lodging a petition, made a further demonstration of resistance by force to the alleged oppression of excessive rents. The authorities called upon the chief village officials, and policemen to quell the disturbers, but without success. Two of them have been taken into custody, but when this letter was written, the mass did not appear to be by any means amenable to control.

At about 2 a.m. on the 22nd instant a fire broke out at Moto Kuromoncho, Uyeno, Tokio. Favoured by a strong breeze, the flames soon spread and were not extinguished until two hundred and thirty-one houses and six godowns were entirely destroyed.

During last week the visitors to the National Exhibition were on the 17th (Sunday) 2,818; 18th 12,422; 19th 10,058; 20th 10,375; 21st 6,524; 22nd 9,171; 23rd (Saturday) 18,734.

The *Akebono Shinbun* says that the great majority of the miners in the Takashima colliery are insolent and insubordinate, and that it has been decided in consequence to dismiss most of them and engage Chinese workmen instead.

The same paper states:—At about 4 p.m. on the 25th instant a fire broke out at Fukushima, Iwashiro province. Four-fifths of the town was reduced to ashes, over 1,590 houses having been consumed, including the Saibansho, Police Station, and all the public buildings. The flames were not extinguished till 10 o'clock at night.

IMPERIAL GOVERNMENT RAILWAYS.

TOKIO AND YOKOHAMA SECTION.

Statement of traffic receipts for the week ending Sunday, 24th April, 1881.

Passengers, parcels, &c.....	Yen 14,518.61
Merchandise, &c.....	" 1,116.80
Total.....	Yen 15,635.41
Miles open 18.	
Corresponding week last year.	
Passengers, parcels, &c.....	Yen 10,750.50
Merchandise, &c.....	" 1,015.61
Total.....	Yen 11,766.11

KIOTO, KOBE AND OOTSU SECTION.

Statement of traffic receipts for the week ending Sunday 19th April, 1881.

Passengers, parcels, &c.....	\$ 27,285.91
Merchandise, &c.....	" 2,721.53
Total.....	\$ 30,007.44
Miles open, 58.	
Corresponding week last year.	
Passengers, parcels, &c.....	\$ 20,965.74
Merchandise, &c.....	" 1,548.31
Total.....	\$ 22,514.05
Miles open, 55.	

Statement of traffic receipts for the week ending Sunday, 24th April, 1881.

Passengers, parcels, &c.....	Yen 28,376.05
Merchandise, &c.....	" 2,370.21
Total.....	Yen 30,746.26
Miles open 58.	
Corresponding week last year.	
Passengers, parcels, &c.....	Yen 23,635.14
Merchandise, &c.....	" 1,835.43
Total.....	Yen 25,470.57
Miles open 55.	

THE JAPANESE PRESS.

VALEDICTORY ADDRESS TO THE CHINESE MINISTER.*

(Translated from the *Choya Shinbun*).

"BEFORE addressing myself to the subject before me I beg to offer a few words of explanation. Whatever I may put forward is not made to represent the opinions or ideas of a people or of a class. It is not an address from Japan to China on the occasion of the representative of the latter leaving this country—nor yet to His Excellency Ho-Ju-Chang as representative of China; but simply a few words from me, S. Suyehiro, a member of the Ko-a-kwai to Mr. Ho, another member of that society; so that, although my address may bear in its train some reference to political affairs, yet I would ask you to bear in mind that this is but the outcome of free speech without any attempt at subtle design.

"Mr. Ho, many of the abuses we see around us are attributable to the ignoble spirit of 'envy'; which is as far removed from the noble spirit of 'emulation' as can be possibly imagined. Much good invariably results from a generous spirit of emulation, and it is capable of giving birth to a most salutary impulse, known as *esprit du corps*. No matter how jealous the rival merchants who travel in caravansaries over the trackless desert of Arabia; no matter how fierce the spirit of competition which may move them against each other; the moment robbers appear upon the sandy horizon such meaner feuds are obliterated, and jealous feelings disappear in a desire for mutual protection. In like manner the appearance of a few piratical junks in the distant offing would soon assuage the mutual recriminations of the venturesome mariners whose interests were assailed; so that, take it how you will, no matter how strong those envious feelings which exercise the individuals of any particular calling among themselves, yet they are always ready to make a united stand against an outward foe; and the same holds true of a province or of a country, of a village or of a city. When the population of the world became so large that the people spread into many lands, thus constituting various nations, these minor forms of jealousy which I have just portrayed, assuming the greater scale of mutual hostility of peoples, gave rise to war and oppression, and the many brawls and follies of which the histories of all nations give numerous instances. In fact the histories, ancient and modern, of most nations seem nothing but the records of such deplorable instances of folly. Varied languages and customs suggest different laws and governments; schemes of aggrandisement are the cause, and war and rancour the effect, and while such conditions exist, and certainly no pacific metamorphosis can be looked for in the immediate future, who can hope that the world will live in peace and friendship?

"Such being the condition of affairs, why can nations not benefit by the example of trades and villages, and learn for themselves that union is strength? why not profit in experience by the injuries inflicted upon others, and casting petty jealousies to the winds, save themselves by union, once for all, from the grand oppressors of the world?

"It is truly pitiful to look around on the condition of the Orient at the present time. Asia, possessing the most ancient known forms of civilization, powerful and wealthy ere other continents were discovered, is now despised by Europe, its weaker nations vanquished by those warlike western tribes, and even its few still powerful ones overawed and brow-beaten.

"Now I maintain that it is perfectly possible for the East—by union simply—to leave no grounds for the fear of these western giants. In the days of the greatness of Greece and Rome, Europe had attained a far higher degree of advancement than she could subsequently boast. Till two or three hundred years ago that continent was backward and unenlightened. On the other hand the knowledge of the East is ancient, and much that Caucasians possess has been borrowed from them. And yet in any branches of science of the present day we cannot but admit their superiority. Some attribute this anomaly to climate but that is a great mistake. I have yet to learn that the climate in

* This address has been delivered by one of the staff of the *Choya Shinbun*, at a meeting of the Ko-a-kwai (Asiatic Society).

which eastern civilization originated has transferred itself to the West, leaving us another which is incompatible with progress. Our ancestors were mighty under the same sun that burns upon us to-day, and yet there are people who attribute the inactive condition of Asia to its race and climate. Although such an argument as this cannot be for a moment sustained, it nevertheless is true that such inactivity exists, and what we must arrive at is the cause. I have no hesitation in accounting for this condition by a few well defined causes. It is owing partly to mistaken policy, partly to a stagnation of knowledge, literary and scientific, and to the obstinate bigotry of its religions, but principally to the elements of mutual distrust and jealousy which prevail among Asiatic nations. This wretched condition was prevalent amongst the tribes of Europe until recently and has only succumbed to that paucity for such diseased conditions—free intercourse between country and country. Even England and France, those favoured and neighbouring nations, separated only by a narrow strip of sea, were engaged in almost continual hostilities until—until in fact they got to know each other thoroughly. Since that time, since networks of railways and flotillas of steam-boats have facilitated communications, the old distrust has given way to respect; interchange of ideas has discovered similarities of sentiment; and discord has been replaced by friendship. The result is mutual improvement and a united progress.

"Now what are the conditions of international communication in the East? Even between this country and yours it is but a scanty trade exchange, apart altogether from mutual sociality or friendship. The commonplace and everyday occurrences of one country are unknown to the other, and even cases of individual friendship are rare. Chinese newspapers give totally perverted views of the actual state of things in Japan. Even high Chinese officials, noted for their diplomatic talent, know less of the internal structure of this empire than Europeans. I do not deny that we are liable to similar accusations on the part of the Chinese, and with no inconsiderable show of truth. We too, though your neighbours, unfortunately know you not, and are dependent for our information on others as far removed from us in birthplace as in sympathy, and the consequence is that we both become amenable to the contempt of these far-distant but adventurous tribes. And so we remain, regarding each other with aversion and distrust, simply because one country is ignorant of the qualities of its neighbour, though we are all aware that such a state of things is preposterous in itself and can only be the source of regret and discomfort.

"We look then to the establishment of the Ko-a-kwai as the first great step towards the Union of China and Japan. You, Mr. Ho, have been long a resident in our country, and are well acquainted with the ideas and circumstances of its people. You now return to your native land; and you carry with you our hope that, by enlightening the people of your great nation concerning us, the suspicions heretofore existing among them may become a thing of the past, and may rather be turned against those who are naturally the enemies of us both. There is little hesitation in saying that Japan will endeavour to improve the friendship thus engendered; so that both these nations, uniting with other Oriental countries, may constitute at length a United Asia; and that the flag of the Dragon looking westward, and the banner of the Rising Sun floating calmly over the Pacific, may rest side by side as brightly and as peacefully as the cherry-blossoms which we see in bloom around us."

NATIVE CURRENCY QUOTATIONS.

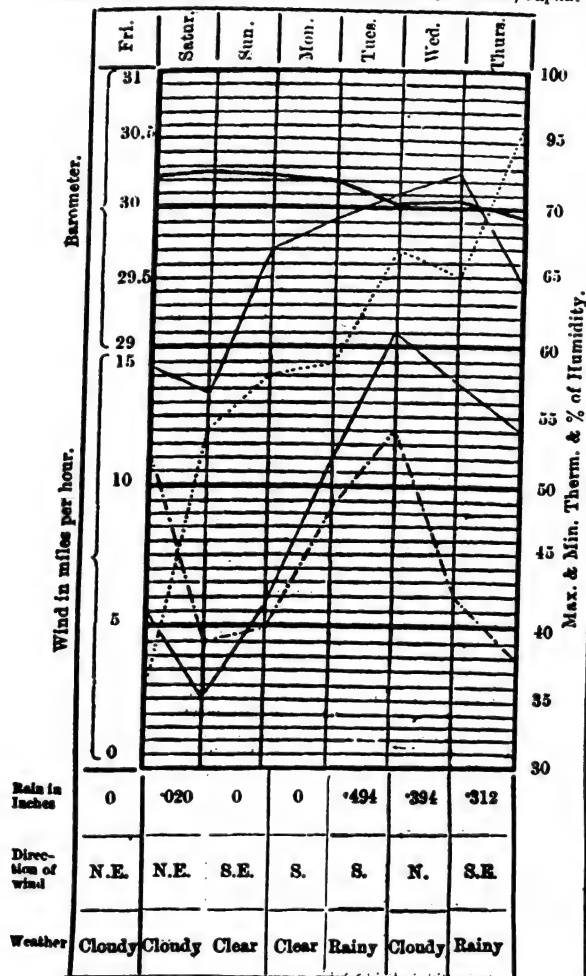
(For Week Ending 29th April, 1881.)

Discount on Yen Note.					Gold Yen.	Nibus.	Silver Subsidiary (Awa.)	Silver Subsidiary (Ota.)
A. M.			Noon.	Closing.				
1881								
Friday	April 22	79	80	79	—	—	—	—
Saturday	"	23	78	79	—	—	—	—
Monday	"	25	79 $\frac{1}{2}$	78 $\frac{1}{2}$	—	—	—	—
Tuesday	"	26	80 $\frac{1}{2}$	79 $\frac{1}{2}$	—	—	—	—
Wednesday	"	27	79 $\frac{1}{2}$	78 $\frac{1}{2}$	—	—	—	—
Thursday	"	28	78 $\frac{1}{2}$	77 $\frac{1}{2}$	—	—	—	—
Friday	"	29	77 $\frac{1}{2}$	76 $\frac{1}{2}$	—	—	—	—

METEOROLOGICAL REPORT

FOR WEEK BEGINNING FRIDAY, APRIL 22ND, 1881.

Observatory of Daigaku, Moto-Fujicho, Hongō, Tokio, Japan.



REMARKS.

Heavy line represents barometer.

Light continuous line—max. & min. thermometers.

.....represents velocity of wind.

.....percentage of humidity.

Max. velocity of wind 30 miles per hour on Friday at 3 a.m.

The barometer is reduced to the freezing point and to the level of the sea.

The highest reading of the barometer for the week was 30.326 inches on Saturday at 6 a.m. and the lowest was 29.811 on Thursday at 11 p.m. The highest temperature for the week was 72° on Wednesday and the lowest was 35° on Saturday. The maximum and minimum for the corresponding week of last year were 73° and 40° respectively. The total amount of rain for the week was 1.220 inches against a total of .861 inches for the corresponding week of last year. An examination of the diagram shows that the week has been one of marked change in the meteorological elements. There has been a great increase in temperature and also in relation to humidity.

CHURCH SERVICES.

CHRIST CHURCH.

Sunday Morning 11 A.M.

,, Evening 5.30 P.M.

E. CHAMPNEYS IRWINE, M.A.,
The Parsonage, 101.

UNION CHURCH, No. 167.

Sunday Morning 11 A.M.

,, Evening 8 P.M.

REV. LUTHER H. GULICK,
Pastor M.D.,

YOKOSUKA STEAMERS TIME TABLE.

LEAVE YOKOHAMA.

DAILY:—8.30, and 9.45 A.M.; 12.00, 1.30, and 4.15 P.M.

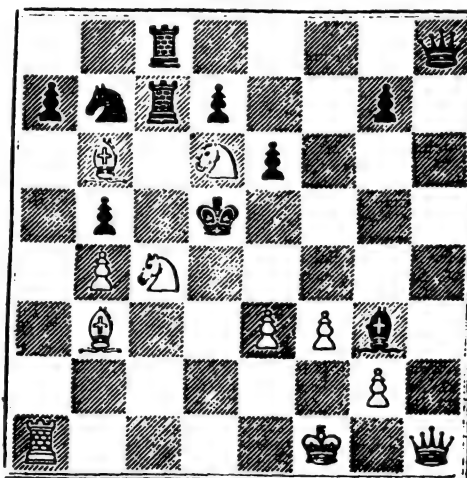
LEAVE YOKOSUKA.

DAILY:—6.45 and 9.30 A.M., and 12.00, 1.30 and 4.00 P.M.

CHESS PROBLEM.

BY N. D. NATHAN.

BLACK.



WHITE.

White to play and mate in 3 moves.

SOLUTION OF CHESS PROBLEM OF APRIL 23RD, BY W. H. C.

White.

Black.

1.—Q. to K. 6.

1.—P. takes Q.

2.—R. to R. 8, ch.

2.—K. to Q. 2.

3.—P. takes P. ch. mate.

Correct solutions received from Omega, Q, and W.H.S.

SHIPPING INTELLIGENCE.

INWARDS.

April 23, Japanese steamer *Shinagawa Maru*, Walker, 906, from Kobe, Mails and General, to M. B. Co.April 24, Japanese steamer *Meiji Maru*, Peters, 1,010, from Cruise, to Lighthouse Department.April 24, British steamer *Malacca*, Weighill, 1,079, from Hongkong, Mails and General, to P. & O. Co.April 24, American steamer *City of Peking*, Berry, 5,079, from San Francisco, Mails and General, to P. M. S. S. Co.April 25, Japanese steamer *Kokonoye Maru*, Dithlelsen, 1,133, from Hongkong via Kobe, Mails and General, to M. B. Co.April 26, British steamer *Achilles*, Anderson, 2,279, from London via Suez, General, to Butterfield & Swire.April 27, British barque *Yarra*, Schutt, 464, from Newcastle, Coals, to Walsh, Hall & Co.April 28, Japanese steamer *Hiroshima Maru*, Haswell, 1,870, from Shanghai and ports, Mails and General, to M. B. Co.April 28, British ship *Lightning*, Rowell, 1,636, from Philadelphia, Kerosene and General, to J. D. Carroll & Co.April 29, Japanese barque *Kanagawa Maru*, Spiegenthal, 1,184, from Nagasaki, Coals, to M. B. Co.

PASSENGERS.

Per British steamer *Malacca* from Hongkong via Nagasaki:—Rev. and Mrs. Miller, Miss Jeffries, Messrs. Bridson, Neilson, Collins, Ricketts, McDonald, Green, Gill, and Mr. and Mrs. Eiman and Ama, in cabin; 10 Chinese and 50 Japanese in steerage.Per Japanese steamer *Shinagawa Maru* from Kobe:—Mrs. Badge and son, Captain Frank, Messrs. Wymark and Cuthbertson in cabin; and 350 Japanese in steerage.Per American steamer *City of Peking* from San Francisco:—Mr. T. H. Dickins, wife and child, Messrs. T. Blakiston, P. J. Jones, M. Bazing, W. MacGregor, A. Bellamy, wife, 2 children and servant, Lieut. Ackley and Mrs. Ackley, Mrs. and H. E. Reynell, E. Sheppard, Dr. T. C. Dale, Lieut. J. H. Morris, Geo. H. Scidmore, Alexander Nicoll, G. L. Montgomery, John Middleton, Geo. Hamilton, H. V. Love, Lieut. Comd. T. M. Greene, Mrs. J. G. Edwards, T. Hillyer, wife and 3 children, Miss A. P. Cash, Mrs. M. B. Tolun, son and servant, E. W. Rice, Mr. and Mrs. H. J. Moore, Mrs. Love, Mr. and Mrs. T. M. Ford, Lieut. Comd. C. H. Davis, J. Urgher, Edw. S. Greay, L. C. Forbes, R. H. Wylie, Mrs. R. C. Johnson, T. S. James and T. J. Green in cabin; 2 European and 1 Japanese in steerage.Per Japanese steamer *Kokonoye Maru* from Hongkong via Kobe:—From Kobe: Mr. and Mrs. James, Messrs. Bosch, Rasch, Tanji, Suzuki, Maioshima, Mounora, Fukushima, Dr. Scheube, Dr. Stanis, Fujii, Hagewara, Masuda, Ikeda and Shinagawa in cabin; and 160 Japanese in steerage. From Hongkong: 6 Chinese in steerage.Per Japanese steamer *Meiji Maru* from Kobe:—25 Japanese.Per Japanese steamer *Hiroshima Maru* from Shanghai and ports:—Mr. and Mrs. A. Simons, Mr. and Mrs. Dickson, Mr. and Mrs. Sherrington, Mr. and Mrs. Bowen, Mrs. Smith and infant, Miss Harker, Mr. and Mrs. Shomura, Mr. and Mrs. Tanese, Mr. and Mrs. Kimura and 2 children, Mrs. Nakamikawa, Mrs. Chang,

Messrs. Elgar, Miller, Gines, Jacobs, Bramwell, Apcar, Nelson, McKenzie, Ranwell, Hagart, Dale, and 16 Japanese in cabin; 2 Europeans, 6 Chinese and 466 Japanese in steerage. For Liverpool: Mr. B. Palamontain in cabin.

OUTWARDS.

April 23, Japanese steamer *Kinshu Maru*, Davison, 690, for Kobe, Mails and General, despatched by M. B. Co.
 April 24, Japanese steamer *Takachiku Maru*, Nye, 1,406, for Kobe, Mails and General, despatched by M. B. Co.
 April 23, British steamer *Canton*, Jaques, 1,095, for Kobe, general, despatched by W. M. Strachan & Co.
 April 24, Japanese steamer *Higo Maru*, Thomas, 896, for Kobe, Mails and General, despatched by M. B. Co.
 April 24, French steamer *Tanis*, Reynier, 1,735, for Hongkong, Mails and General, despatched by M. M. Co.
 April 25, Japanese 3-masted schooner *Asagishima Maru*, Crighton, 824, for Nagasaki, Ballast, despatched by M. B. Co.
 April 26, American steamer *City of Peking*, Berry, 5,079, for Hongkong, Mails and General, despatched by P. & O. Co.
 April 27, Japanese steamer *Genkai Maru*, Conner, 1,917, for Shanghai and ports, Mails and General, despatched by M. B. Co.
 April 27, German barque *Anna Dorathea*, T. Jansen, 343, for Newchwang, Ballast, despatched by Kwong Man Tai.
 April 27, American schooner *Diana*, for Hunting Cruise.
 April 29, British sloop *Albatross*, Comb. Errington, 894, tons, 4-guns, for Chefoo.
 April 29, British ship *Clyburn*, Beadle, 1,850, for San Francisco, General, despatched by Wilkin & Robison.
 April 30, British steamer *Malacca*, Weighell, 1,709, for Hongkong, Mails and General, despatched by P. & O. Co.
 April 30, British steamer *Achilles*, Anderson, 2,279, for London via Kobe, Nagasaki & Hongkong, general, despatched by Butterfield & Swire.

PASSENGERS.

Per French steamer *Tanis* for Hongkong:—Mr. and Mrs. Baylay, Mr. and Miss Preussner, Messrs. H. Degron, Lange, Port, Hauser, Morris and servant, F. Bath, C. Foot and H. Padel.
 Per Japanese steamer *Genkai Maru* for Shanghai and ports:—Mr. and Mrs. Hellyer and family, Mr. Yona, Mr. and Mrs. Murata, Mr. and Mrs. H. E. Reynell, Mr. and Mrs. Ah Sung, Mr. and Mrs. Takahashi, Mrs. Kawamura, Messrs. A. Milson, A. Meyer, Captain Crewen, A. W. Rice, Love, F. J. Green, J. Ellerton, E. Ward, F. A. Thompson, C. Rasch, O. Reimers, Nicoll, Lea, F. A. Thompson, and 16 Japanese in cabin.
 Per American steamer *City of Peking* for Hongkong:—Messrs. R. A. Robertson and E. Carnelley.
 Per British steamer *Malacca* for Hongkong via Nagasaki:—Lieut. Norris, U.S.N., Messrs. E. H. Gill, Battelle, Laird, Erickson, J. Prestonjee, Masuda and Hourie in cabin; 1 Chinese in steerage.

CARGOES.

Per French steamer *Tanis* for Hongkong:—
 Silk for France 134 bales.
 " " London 19 "
 Total 153 bales
 Per British steamer *Malacca* from Hongkong via Nagasaki and Higo:—
 Transhipment 540 pkgs.
 Sundries 236 "
 Sugar 1,502 "
 Sundries from Higo 114 "
 Total 2,087 pkgs.
 Per Japanese steamer *Genkai Maru* for Shanghai and ports:—
 Treasure \$224,000.00
 Per Japanese steamer *Hiroshima Maru* for Shanghai and ports:—
 Treasure \$37,700.00
 Per British steamer *Malacca* for Hongkong via Nagasaki:—
 Silk for London 16 bales.
 " " France 15 "
 Total 31 bales.

REPORTS.

The American steamer *City of Peking* reports:—Sailed from San Francisco April 2nd at 4.30 p.m. First part of voyage light winds, and latter part westerly. Arrived at 7.30 a.m. 24th instant.
 The British ship *Lightning* reports:—Left Philadelphia December 10th. Had baffling winds to the Equator, which was crossed in Long. 31°, 34 days out; was 60 days to Cape of Good Hope; 92 days to south Cape of Tasmania; Equator in Pacific 117 days out. Weather in general fine. March 18th, off Norfolk Island, spoke the British barque *Ordovic*, 118 days from London for Japan.

YOKOHAMA-TOKIO RAILWAY.

DOWN TRAINS LEAVE SHINBASHI.

A.M. A.M. A.M. NOON. P.M. P.M. P.M. P.M. P.M. P.M.
 7.0 8.15 9.30 10.45 12.0 2.0 3.15 4.30 5.45 7.0 8.15 9.30 10.40

UP TRAINS LEAVE YOKOHAMA.

A.M. A.M. A.M. NOON. P.M. P.M. P.M. P.M. P.M. P.M.
 7.0 8.15 9.30 10.45 12.0 2.0 3.15 4.30 5.45 7.0 8.15 9.30 10.40

NEXT MAIL DUE FROM,

AMERICA	P. M. Co.	
AMERICA	O. & O. Co.	May 11th
EUROPE, via HONGKONG	M. M. Co.	May 3rd
HONGKONG	P. & O. Co.	May 8th
HONGKONG, via KOBE	M. B. Co.	May 9th
HONGKONG	P. M. Co.	May 23rd
HONGKONG	O. & O. Co.	May 5th
SHANGHAI, HIOGO & NAGASAKI	M. B. Co.	May 5th

1.—Left Hongkong, April 25th, *Menzaleh*.
 2.—Left San Francisco, April 19th, *Gatic*.

NEXT MAIL LEAVES FOR,

AMERICA	P. M. Co.	May 25th
AMERICA	O. & O. Co.	May 12th
EUROPE, via HONGKONG	P. & O. Co.	May 8th
EUROPE, via HONGKONG	M. M. Co.	May 8th
HAKODATE	M. B. Co.	April 30th
HONGKONG, via KOBE	M. B. Co.	May 10th
HONGKONG	O. & O. Co.	May 10th
SHANGHAI, HIOGO & NAGASAKI	P. M. Co.	May 4th

The arrival and departure of mails by the "Occidental and Oriental," the "Pacific Mail," and the "Peninsular and Oriental" companies, are approximate only.

VESSELS EXPECTED IN JAPAN.

SAILED.

DATE.	NAME OF VESSEL.	FROM	FOR
Aug. 7	Philip Nelson	HAMBURG	Yokohama
Nov. 18	Pakhoi (s.s.)	GLASGOW	Jap. via Manila
" 19	Ordovic	LONDON	Yokohama
" 22	Malacca	HAMBURG	Yoko. & Higo
Dec. 17	Marie	ANTWERP	" "
" 24	Mora	" "	" "
" 17	R. Robinson	NEW YORK	" "
Jan. 27	Glamis Castle (s.s.)	LONDON	" "
" 31	Huguenot	CARDIFF	" "
" 31	Frank Carvil	" "	" "
Feb. 12	Benjamin Sewell	NEW YORK	" "
" 15	M. L. Stone	LONDON	" "
" 21	Tencer (s.s.)	" "	" "
" 22	Paul Revere	NEW YORK	" "
" 26	Viceroy (s.s.)	LONDON	" "
Mar. 9	Breconshire (s.s.)	" "	" "

LOADING.

DATE.	NAME OF VESSEL.	AT	FOR
Mar. 11	Escambia (s.s.)	LONDON	Yoko. & Higo
" 11	Kamtchatka (s.s.)	"	" "
" 11	Glaucus (s.s.)	"	" "
" 11	Cyclops (s.s.)	"	" "
" 11	Euphrates (s.s.)	"	" "
" 11	Forward Ho	"	" "
" 11	Belle of Bath	LIVERPOOL	" "
" 11	Frank Pendleton	"	" "

LIGHTSHIP SIGNALS.

The following are the signals made from the lightship to denote the approach of vessels:—
 Merchant steamer:—A black ball, with the national flag of the vessel below, at the yard arm.
 Mail steamer:—A black diamond, with the company's flag below, at the peak.
 Man-of-war:—National flag of the vessel at the peak.
 Sailing vessels:—For a ship; flag B. (red); barque, flag C. (red ball on white ground); brig, flag D. (white ball on blue ground); schooner, flag E. (white ball on red ground) all commercial code, with the vessel's national flag below as soon as it can be made out.

SHIPPING INTELLIGENCE.

VESSELS IN HARBOUR.

NAME.	CAPTAIN.	FLAG AND REG.	TONS.	FROM.	ARRIVED.	CONSIGNEES.
STEAMERS.						
Achilles	Anderson	British steamer	2,279	London via Suez	April 26	Batterfield & Swire
Hiroshima Maru	Haswell	Japanese steamer	1,570	Shanghai & ports	April 28	M. B. Co.
Kokonoyo Maru	Dithlefsen	Japanese steamer	1,333	Hongkong via Kobe	April 25	M. B. Co.
Meiji Maru	Peters	Japanese steamer	1,010	Cruise	April 24	Lighthouse Department
Volga	Guiraud	French steamer	1,502	Hongkong	April 19	M. M. Co.
SAILING SHIPS.						
Auguste Reimers	Thomsen	German schooner	207	Takao	April 23	Edward Fischer & Co.
Lady Bowen	Pain	British barque	892	Newcastle	April 12	Mollison, Fraser & Co.
Lightning	Rowell	British barque	1,636	Philadelphia	April 28	J. D. Carroll & Co.
Minatitlan	J. Edwards	British brig	219	Takao	April 17	Chinese
North Star	Jansen	Russian schooner	42	Kurile Islands	Nov. 16	H. W. Hohholz & Co.
Yarra	Schutt	British barque	464	Newcastle, N.S.W.	April 27	Walsh, Hall & Co.

VESSELS OF WAR IN PORT.

NAME.	GUNS.	TONS.	H. P.	DESCRIPTION.	WHERE FROM.	COMMANDER.
GERMAN—Vineta	19	2,000	—	Corvette	Kobe	Zirnow
AMERICAN—Palos	4	940	840	Sloop	Kobe	Errington

VESSELS ON THE BERTH.

DESTINATION.	NAME.	AGENTS.	TO BE DESPATCHED.
New York	Lord of the Isles	Smith, Baker & Co.	Quick despatch
Shanghai and way-ports	Hiroshima Maru	M. B. Co.	May 4th, at 6 P.M.
Hongkong via Kobe	Niigata Maru	M. B. Co.	May 14th, at 6 P.M.
San Francisco	Belgie	O. & O. Co.	May 12th
San Francisco	City of Peking	P. M. Co.	May 27th, at daylight
New York via Suez Canal	Glenartney	Jardine, Matheson & Co.	About 25th May
New York	Benarty	Mourilyan, Heimann & Co.	Early in May

COMMERCIAL INTELLIGENCE.

IMPORTS.—Business continues in the same unsatisfactory state. We leave quotations unchanged, although transactions are few and far between. Sellers would like to be moving, but buyers will only operate from hand to month.

COTTON YARNS:—

Nos. 16 to 24, Common to Medium ...	per picul	\$28.50 to 30.50
" " Good to Best ...	"	\$31.00 to 32.25
Bombay, No. 20 do. ...	"	\$28.50 to 30.00
Nos. 28 to 32, Common to Medium ...	"	\$32.25 to 33.00
" " Good to Best ...	"	\$33.25 to 33.75
" 38 to 42 ...	"	\$35.00 to 37.00

COTTON PIECE GOODS:—

Grey Shirtings:—7 lb. per piece 28½ yds. 39 in.	\$1.25 to 1.65
" " 8½ lb. " 38½ " 39 in.	\$1.70 to 2.15
" " 9 lb. " 38½ " 45 in.	\$2.05 to 2.40
T. Cloths:—7 lb. " 24 yds. 32 in. per piece	\$1.35 to 1.55
Drills, English:—14-16 lb. 40 " 30 in.	\$2.30 to 2.50
Indigo Shirtings:— " 12 " 44 in.	\$1.30 to 1.45
Prints:—Assorted " 24 " 30 in.	\$1.25 to 2.25
Cotton Italians & Satcens Black 32 in.	\$0.08½ to 0.12½
Turkey Reds: 2 to 2½ lb. 24 yds. 30 in.	\$1.40 to 1.60
Do. 2½ to 3 lb. 24 " 30 in.	\$1.55 to 1.70
Do. 3 lb. " 24 " 30 in.	\$1.70 to 1.80

COTTON PIECE GOODS:—Continued.

Velvets:—Black ... 35 yds. 22 in. per piece	\$6.50 to 8.50
Victoria Lawns ... 12 " 42/3 " "	\$0.68 to 0.74
Taffachelass:— " 12 " 43 " "	\$1.70 to 1.90

WOOLLENS:—

Plain Orleans ... 40-42 yds. 32 in.	4.50 to 5.50
Figured Orleans ... 29-30 " 31 "	3.50 to 4.25
Lastings ... 29-30 " 31 "	10.00 to 11.00
Italian Cloth ... 30 " 32 "	0.18 to 0.30
Camlet Cords ... 29-30 " 22 "	4.50 to 5.50
Mousselines de Laines:—Crape 24 yds. 30 in.	0.15½ to 0.16½
do. Itajime 24 " 30 "	0.23 to 0.29
do. Yuzen 24 " 30 "	0.35 to 0.40
Cloths, all wool plain or fancy... 48 in. to 52 in.	0.80 to 1.50
Pilots... 54 " to 56 "	0.30 to 0.40
Presidents... 54 " to 56 "	0.40 to 0.50
Union ... 54 " to 56 "	0.30 to 0.50
Blankets, green, 5 to 6 lbs. ... per lb. ...	0.35 to 0.37

SUGAR.—The only arrival is the *A. Reimers*. During the week there have been no sales, buyers holding off. Stocks 123,000 piculs old and new.

KEROSENE.—The *Lightning* is in, and her cargo would augmented the Stock to 380,000 cases, but she is reported as taking some of it on to Kobe. Quotations as below, varying according to quality and brand.

Sugar:—Takao in bag New ... per picul	\$4.20 to 4.22
" " Old ...	\$3.80
" Taiwanfoo in bag ...	\$4.00
Ching-pak and Ke-pak ...	\$7.75 to \$8.50
China No. 4-5, Kongfun & Kook-fah ...	\$6.50 to \$8.75
Japan Rice ... per picul	\$2.65 to 2.95
Japan Wheat ...	\$2.00
Kerosene Oil ... case	\$1.88 to 1.94

EXPORTS.

SILK.—We have again had a very quiet market for silk, total sales only amounting to about 140 shipping bales. The news from home is not encouraging, and as holders here will make no very imported concessions, business is at a standstill. Prices are to a great extent nominal. Total shipments to date 20,378 bales.

Quotations Hanks.—No. 2½	\$530 = 17/1 Nominal.
" " 3 & infra.	\$500 to \$530 = 16/2 to 16/6
Filatures.—No. 1	\$670 to \$680 = 2/7 to 21/11
" 2	\$635 to \$645 = 20/6 to 20/10
" 3	\$610 = 19/8
Kakedas—Best	\$650 = 21/
" Medium & Good	\$580 to \$620 = 19/4 to 20/
Re-Reels Medium to Best	\$615 to \$635 = 19/10 to 20/6

TEA.—Three hundred piculs of old leaf have been purchased during the past week at about previous prices. A few small lots of New Tea have been brought to market, but so far we don't hear of any transactions, owing to the absurdly high prices asked by holders.

Common ...	...	Nominal.
Good Common ...	...	...
Medium ...	...	...
Good Medium ...	...	...
Fine ...	...	Nominal.
Finest ...	...	...
Choice ...	...	...
Choicest ...	...	...

EXCHANGE AND BULLION.

EXCHANGE.—Sterling rates have ruled somewhat higher during the week and 4 m/s Bank Paper was placed at 3/10. Private Bills have still been scarce. Rates have dropped ½ at the close of the mail.

STERLING—Bank 4 months' sight	3/9½
" Bank Bills on demand	3/9½
" Private 4 months' sight	3/10
" " 6 " "	3/10½
ON PARIS—Bank sight	4.76
" Private 6 months' sight	4.90
ON HONGKONG—Bank sight	1/8 ½ disc.
" Private 10 days' sight	1/8 ½ disc.
ON SHANGHAI—Bank sight	73½
" Private 10 days' sight	73½
ON NEW YORK—Bank Bills on demand	91
" Private 30 days' sight	92
ON SAN FRANCISCO—Bank Bills on demand	91½
" Private 30 days' sight	92½
KINSAZ ...	80 ¼ dis.
GOLD YEN	380 nom.

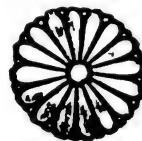
SHIPPING.

SHIPPING.—Vessels on the berth:—*S. S. Lord of the Isles*, *Glenartney* and *Benarty* for New York; *S. S. Glamis Castle*, for Hongkong. The *Lightning* is reported as going to Kobe; *Lady Bowen* and *Yarra* destinations not fixed.

MISCELLANEOUS.

Just Landed,**In splendid condition.****BASS' PALE ALE,***In Hogsheads and Kilderkins.***BASS' XXX STOUT,***In Kilderkins.***LANE, CRAWFORD & CO.***And to close Consignments,**PRIOR TO REMOVING TO NEW PREMISES,***Ind. Coope's Pale Ale,***Per Cask of 4 dozen Quarts..... \$7.***Blood Wolfe's Stout,***Per Case of 6 dozen Pints \$9.***Lane, Crawford & Co.***Yokohama, 28th April, 1881.***FORD & Co.,****GENERAL****COMMISSION MERCHANTS,****AND****Forwarding Agents.***No. 5, WATER STREET.**Yokohama, April 18th, 1881.***ADOLPHUS SINGTON & CO.,***5, ST. PETER'S SQUARE,***MANCHESTER,****ENGLAND.****CONTRACTORS, CIVIL ENGINEERS, AND
EXPORTERS***OF ALL DESCRIPTIONS OF***MACHINERY.***May 4, 1878.*

MISCELLANEOUS.

**NOTICE TO MARINERS.****STAFF LIGHT AT BENTENSIMA, NEMORO.**

NOTICE is hereby given that a telegram having been received here from the lightkeepers at BENTENSIMA, NEMORO, to the effect that they can not exhibit light on account of the gear being frozen, this light will not be exhibited until further notice.

Lighthouse Establishment,
Benten, Yokohama,
27th April, 1881.

BY ORDER.**NOTICE.**

THE UNDERSIGNED will tune Pianos from the 1st January, 1881, at the following rates:—

IN YOKOHAMA.

Single tuning - - - - - \$ 5.00
Annual „ - - - - - 30.00

IN TOKIO.

Single tuning - - - - - \$ 7.00
Annual „ - - - - - 40.00

Lessons given on the Flute, Violin, English Concertina and Guitar at moderate charges.

PIANOS AND HARMONIUMS REPAIRED.

C. WAGNER,
No. 220c Bluff

*Yokohama, December 22nd, 1880.***KEATING'S POWDER.
KEATING'S POWDER.
KEATING'S POWDER.
KEATING'S POWDER.****KILLS BUGS,
FLEAS,
MOTHS,
BEETLES,****THIS POWDER is quite HARMLESS**

to ANIMAL LIFE, but is unrivalled in destroying FLEAS, BUGS, COCKROACHES, BEETLES, MOTHS IN FURS, and every other species of insect. Sportmen will find this invaluable for destroying fleas in their dogs, as also ladies for their pet dogs.

THIS ARTICLE has found so GREAT

a SALE that it has tempted others to vend a so-called article in imitation. The PUBLIC are CAUTIONED that the tins of the genuine powder bear the autograph of THOMAS KEATING. Sold in Bottles.

**KEATING'S WORM TABLETS.
KEATING'S WORM TABLETS.
KEATING'S WORM TABLETS.
KEATING'S WORM TABLETS.
KEATING'S WORM TABLETS.**

A PURELY VEGETABLE SWEETMEAT, both in appearance and taste, furnishing a most agreeable method of administering the only certain remedy for INTESTINAL or THREAD WORMS. It is a perfectly safe and mild preparation, and is especially adapted for Children. Sold in Bottles, by all Druggists.

Proprietor—THOMAS KEATING, London.

MISCELLANEOUS.

**H. B. M.'s Court for Japan.**

TENDERS ARE INVITED for the erection
of a
POLICE COURT

at the British Consulate, Yokohama.

Plans and Specifications may be seen, and form of Tender obtained at the Registry of the Court.

Tenders will be received up to the 11th day of May next, but no Tender will necessarily be accepted.

BY ORDER.

Yokohama, April 29th, 1881.

SARGENT, FARSAI & CO.,
No. 80, Main Street.

HAVE just received a supply (both hand and foot power)
of the

New Remington Sewing Machines.

These Machines, in their present perfected form, are Stronger, More Reliable and do a greater range of work than any other machine made.

Intending purchasers can have a machine on trial a few days free of charge, and will, if necessary, be fully instructed relative to its use and management.

Prices 20 to 25 per cent below Manufacturer's.

PLEASE SEND FOR DESCRIPTIVE PRICE LISTS.

Needles for a variety of different Machines.

Machine Oil of the best quality.

"**THE LITTLE JEWEL**," a Pendulum Clock that keeps good time, is only three inches in height, very handsome in appearance, and is sold for only \$2.50.

HAVANA CIGARS of very fine quality at \$4.50 to \$9.00 per 100.

Yokohama, April 18th, 1881.



NOTICE.

THE OFFICE for the control of **MARINE** matters is at present situated in the buildings of the **NAIMUSHO**, instead of at the **GENERAL POST OFFICE**.

BY ORDER.

Shomu Kioku,
Tokio, April 22nd, 1881.

MISCELLANEOUS.



LIST OF LIGHTHOUSES, ETC. OF JAPAN,
FOR
1881.

CAN be obtained (price 40 sen) at the following:—

LIGHTHOUSE ESTABLISHMENT, (Benten)	YOKOHAMA.
LANE, CRAWFORD & Co.,	"
" "	HONGKONG.
" "	SHANGHAI.
E. C. KIRBY & Co.,	KOBE.

Yokohama, April 12th, 1881.



NOTICE TO MARINERS.

HIKU FLAT BUOY.

Westward entrance of Shimonoseki Straits.

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that the **BUOY** advertised as having broken adrift from its moorings on the 25th January, 1881, has been replaced.

BY ORDER.

Lighthouse Establishment,
Benten, Yokohama,
8th April, 1881.

NOTICE OF REMOVAL.

LANE, CRAWFORD & Co., beg to inform their numerous friends and customers that their

BAKERY BUSINESS

will, on and from the 11th instant, be carried on at

No. 87,

(formerly Messrs. NOWROJEE & Co.'s bakery)

Where all orders for

BREAD, BISCUITS, CAKES, &c.,

will be promptly attended to.

Yokohama, April 8th, 1881.

INSURANCE.

YANGTSE INSURANCE ASSOCIATION.

Capital—fully paid up - - - Tls. 420,000
 Permanent Reserve - - - - - " 230,000
 Special Reserve Fund - - - - - " 263,000

Total Capital and Accumulations, 18th April, 1880. } Tls. 913,268

DIRECTORS.

F. B. FORBES, Esq., *Chairman.*

M. W. BOYD, Esq. | Wm. MEYERINK, Esq.
 F. D. HITCH, Esq. | J. H. PINCKVOSS, Esq.

HEAD OFFICE—SHANGHAI.

MESSRS. RUSSELL & Co., *Secretaries.*

LONDON BRANCH:

MESSRS. BARING BROTHERS & Co., *Bankers.*

RICHARD BLACKWELL, Esq.,—*Agent.*

68/69, Cornhill, E.C.

Policies granted on Marine Risks to all parts of the world.

Subject to a charge of 12 per cent. for interest on Shareholders' Capital, ALL THE PROFITS OF THE UNDERWRITING BUSINESS are annually distributed among ALL CONTRIBUTORS OF BUSINESS, (whether Shareholders or not), in proportion to the premia paid by them.

WALSH HALL & Co.,
Agents,

Yokohama, 10th July, 1880.

Royal Exchange Assurance Corporation.

ESTABLISHED 1720.

MARINE DEPARTMENT.

THE UNDERSIGNED are prepared to accept Risks at the undermentioned rates less 15 per cent discount
 SILK to London, Marseilles or an Italian Port... 1½ per cent
 " " New York via San Francisco and Rail 1 " "
 TEA to New York W.A. via San Francisco and Rail 1½ "

Other rates in proportion.

Claims settled on outward Policies.

Policies issued payable in the United States.

CORNES & CO.,
Agents for Japan.

Yokohama, January 4th, 1881,

Scottish Imperial Fire Insurance Company.**REDUCTION OF PREMIUMS.**

THE undersigned are authorized to accept risks on FIRST-CLASS GODOWNS and their contents, at the reduced rate of 1½ per cent less 20 per cent. discount.

C. ILLIES & Co.,
Agent.

Yokohama, January 5th, 1881.

INSURANCE.

The Staffordshire FIRE INSURANCE COMPANY, LIMITED.

IN consequence of the extension of this Company's business, by an increased capital and the formation of a London Directorate, the business will, from this date, be carried on under the title of

THE

London and Staffordshire Fire Insurance Company (Limited.)

The undersigned having been appointed Agent for this Company under full Power of Attorney, is prepared to issue POLICIES AT CURRENT RATES on property in Yokohama and Tokio.

All Policies and other Contracts entered into by the "Staffordshire" will be maintained in force and held good by the

"London and Staffordshire"

W. J. S. SHAND,
General Agent for Japan.

Yokohama, 7th September 1880.

NORTHERN ASSURANCE COMPANY.**FIRE AND LIFE.**

THE UNDERSIGNED, on behalf of this Company, are prepared to accept FIRE RISKS on FIRST-CLASS GODOWNS and BONDED WAREHOUSES, at 1½ per cent, and LIFE RISKS on HOME TERMS, and settle all claims thereon.

W. M. STRACHAN & Co.

Yokohama, January 6th, 1881.

SUN FIRE OFFICE.

THE UNDERSIGNED are prepared to accept RISKS AGAINST FIRE for periods

Not exceeding Ten days at.....1/8th,
 " " Four days at.....1/16th,

of the annual rate.

WILKIN & ROBISON,
Agents.

Yokohama, June 24, 1879

Guardian Fire and Life Assurance Company.

L O N D O N .

ESTABLISHED 1821.

Total Invested Funds.....£3,000,000

Total Annual Income.....£ 400,000

THE Undersigned having been appointed Agents at Yokohama are prepared to Issue Policies AGAINST FIRE, on the usual Terms.

Concurrent Insurances require endorsement on the Policies of this Company only when specially called for by the Agents.

SMITH, BAKER & Co.

Yokohama, October 27, 1878.

MISCELLANEOUS.

**CROSSE & BLACKWELL'S
CELEBRATED OILMEN'S STORES.***Nine Prize Medals, Paris, Vienna and Philadelphia.*

PICKLES AND SAUCES,
JAMS AND JELLIES,
ORANGE MARMALADE,
TART FRUITS, DESSERT FRUITS,
PURE SALAD OIL,
MUSTARD, VINEGAR,
POTTED MEATS AND FISH,
FRESH SALMON AND HERRINGS,
HERRINGS A LA SARDINE,
YARMOUTH BLOATERS,
BLACKWALL WHITEBAIT,
PREPARED SOUPS, IN TINS,
PRESERVED VEGETABLES,
HAMS AND BACON, IN TINS,
PRESERVED CHEESE,
OXFORD AND CAMBRIDGE SAUSAGES,
BOLOGNA SAUSAGES,
YORKSHIRE GAME AND PORK PIES,
TONGUES, GAME, POULTRY,
PLUM PUDDINGS,
LEA AND PERRINS' WORCESTERSHIRE
SAUCE.

*Fresh supplies of the above, and numerous other table
delicacies, may be had from most Storekeepers.***CAUTION.***To prevent the fraud of refilling the bottles or jars
they should invariably be destroyed when empty.**Goods should always be examined upon delivery, to
detect any attempt at substitution of articles of inferior
brands.**All genuine goods bear the names of Crosse & Blackwell
on the Labels, Corks and Capsules of the Bottles,
Jars and Tins.*

CROSSE & BLACKWELL,
PURVEYORS TO THE QUEEN,
SOHO SQUARE, LONDON.

July, 1878.



J OSEPH GILLOTT'S STEEL PENS.	Gold.
J OSEPH GILLOTT'S STEEL PENS.	Medal.
J OSEPH GILLOTT'S STEEL PENS.	Paris.
J OSEPH GILLOTT'S STEEL PENS.	1878.

April, 1880.

MISCELLANEOUS.

**J. & E. ATKINSON'S
PERFUMERY,***celebrated for nearly a century past, is of the very best English
manufacture. For its purity and great excellence it has
obtained the following*

EXHIBITION PRIZE MEDALS,
LONDON, 1862. PARIS, 1877. CORDOVA, 1878. LIMA, 1878.
VIENNA, 1878. PHILADELPHIA, 1876.
GOLD MEDAL PARIS, 1878.

**ATKINSON'S CHOICE PERFUMES FOR
THE HANDKERCHIEF.***White Rose, Frangipanne, Ylang-ylang, Stephanotis,
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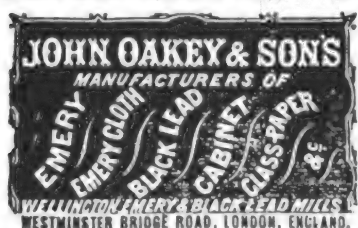
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Bund, Yokohama.

SUPPLEMENT TO THE JAPAN WEEKLY MAIL.

YOKOHAMA, SATURDAY, 30TH APRIL, 1881.

ARRIVAL OF THE AMERICAN MAIL.

London, April 1st.—In the House of Commons Gladstone said: "I cannot give you positive information as to whether England will be represented at the Conference."

The *Times*, commenting on instructions to the Austrian representatives, says: The statement is much less decided in tone than the promoters of the Conference had led the people to expect. If Austria's leaning to bi-metalism is only to be displayed in the event of England agreeing to the bi-metallic proposition, it is evident that the Austrian tendency to bi-metalism will not count for much. The prospect of the Conference having any result depends not upon the chance of an international agreement to adopt bi-metalism, which is out of the question, but upon the willingness of the United States and the countries of the Latin Union to adopt it themselves for a term of years, and be content with the engagement to Germany not to sell any silver for that period, and by England, to maintain the silver standard in India. On these lines the arrangement seems possible. The belief prevails in this city that such an arrangement can be made, but the hesitation of Austria is proof of the difficulties in the way of the project for universal bi-metalism. The instructions to the Austrian representatives were to take a neutral standpoint, but with a slight inclination toward bi-metalism. This tendency, however, is to be shown only in case Germany and England incline to the same view.

London, April 1st.—The Attorney-General explains that nobody has been forcibly ejected from the office of the *Freiheit*. The police, he says, when making an arrest on a criminal charge are authorized to take possession of all documents and property from which evidence might be reasonably expected. The office was merely locked for the protection of its contents.

Bucharest, April 1st.—The investigation of the disturbances at Jassy resulted in the suspension of three professors suspected of Nihilism and the expulsion of several students.

Paris, April 1st.—The Chamber of Deputies has voted 5,000,000 francs to indemnify the sufferers by the *coup d'etat* in 1851.

The Budget Committee adopted import duties of fifteen francs for oxen, eight francs for cows, three francs for swine, and francs one and a half for sheep.

Vienna, April 1st.—The principal organs of the press publish articles entirely unfavorable to the scheme for an international proscription against political refugees.

London, April 1st.—A despatch from Athens says that Premier Comondourous will telegraph to the Greek agents in Europe that Greece cannot accept the Porte's proposals.

London, April 1st.—The plague is diminishing in Nedjeff, but has appeared at Maragala, in Northern Persia.

London, April 1st.—Specials from Transvaal state that no official news has been received of the engagement at Pretoria.

Paris, March 31st.—The *Lanterne* publishes this morning a telegram from St. Petersburg, stating that a violent quarrel has broken out in the Imperial family, in consequence of which Grand Duke Constantine, who is strongly suspected of Nihilism, is about to resign the Grand Admiralty and Minister of Marine. Immediately after the departure of the foreign Princes from St. Petersburg measures of extreme severity are to be taken against the Nihilists.

London, March 31st.—Herr Most, of the *Freiheit*, has been indicted at the Bow-street Police Court for publishing a libel concerning the late Czar, and urging people to commit murder outside Her Majesty's dominions.

London, March 31st.—Poland, in opening the case against Most, said there was no wish to interfere with the freedom of the press, and that Most had the right to publish anything a British subject might publish. He then read the article in the *Freiheit* of the 10th of March.

Some persons applauded the passage lauding the murder of the Czar, and were ejected.

Poland pointed out that the article contained a direct incentive to murder the Emperor of Germany, who was described as an crewlike grapeshot Prince of Prussia, and added that the Act provided that persons inciting to murder were guilty of a misdemeanor, and liable to penal servitude for a maximum of ten or minimum term of three years, or two years' imprisonment with hard labor. It would be a scandal to justice if the Act was not enforced against all persons connected with the publication of such articles. The editor of the *Freiheit* owned the authorship of the article, and said he expected prosecution.

Berlin, March 31st.—The Ultramontanes will support the Government's proposal restricting the freedom of asylum enjoyed by political refugees.

Lisbon, March 31st.—Public opinion, which has taken up the cause of the independence of the Transvaal, demands fresh negotiations. This would postpone the question indefinitely.

Newcastle, Natal, March 31st.—Boer messengers state that after the surrender of Potohefstroom, the victors reinforced the besiegers of Pretoria: A joint force, with two captured guns,

repulsed the sortie by the Pretoria garrison, and drove them into the fort, inflicting considerable loss.

On the way to Pretoria through Heiderberg, General Wood will interview the Boer leaders and arrange for the punishment to Elliot's murderers.

St. Petersburg, March 31st.—A ukase has been promulgated, ordering, with the view of restoration of complete security in the capital, the creation of a temporary Council, charged to assist the Commandant of the City Council. The Council will consist of a member for each of the 228 city districts, to be elected by the vote of all landlords and independent tenants. It is understood that the Council will decide by a majority vote on all measures submitted by the Commandant, and the decisions of the majority will be executed on receiving the Emperor's sanction. Voters will be eligible as candidates. The Commandant fixed the time of elections this afternoon. The fund for carrying out this measure will be provided from the Imperial Treasury.

The *Agence Russe* says the measure is part of a scheme for the whole Empire, projected by the late Czar.

London, March 31st.—In the House of Commons, Sir William Harcourt, replying to questions, read extracts from an obnoxious article in the *Freiheit*, and pointed out its revolting character. He said its attacks included every one—even the President of the United States. The Government thought it would be a grave error from a domestic, as well as an internal point of view, to ignore the article. It was a domestic crime and a breach of public morality, to incite murder. No government would do its duty if it allowed a refuge in a free State to be converted into a hot-bed of incitement to assassination. The Government acted on its own accord, and was not instigated by foreign powers.

London, March 31st.—The President of the Board of Trade, replying to a question relative to the possibility, of the importation of disease through the medium of lard used in manufacturing butterine, stated that the Government had no evidence to show that butterine or similar compounds could disseminate disease.

The Under Colonial Secretary declared that he agreed in his predecessor's views relative to the desirability of limiting the amount to which silver shall be a legal tender in the West Indies to 40 shillings, as at home; but, owing to erroneous ideas current in the West Indies, it is difficult to move in the matter as quickly as desirable.

St. Petersburg, March 31st.—The House occupied by Roussakoff's family at Vintegri is guarded by police to prevent the populace from destroying it. Roussakoff's father has several times attempted suicide.

Copenhagen, March 31st.—Princess Caroline, widow of the hereditary Prince Ferdinand, is dead.

London, March 31st.—The Court of Appeals has sustained the decision of the Queen's Bench in Bradlaugh's case, to the effect that the affirmation in Commons cannot be taken instead of an oath as in Courts of Law. Bradlaugh will appeal to the House of Lords.

Berlin, March 31st.—At the second conference of members, all Parliamentary Groups were present except the Social Democrats, over which Count Stolberg Weinegerode presided. The motion made by Windhorst was approved, requesting Bismarck to endeavor to conclude an agreement with the Powers to undertake to impose penalties upon their own subjects and foreigners residing their countries, for assassinating or attempting to assassinate the heads of State and for all public incitement to assassination, and that any foreigner guilty of assassination or attempt to assassinate shall, on demand, be delivered up to the Government of his native country.

A motion will be submitted to the Reichstag immediately.

Treichke sent a challenge to Lowe to account for a statement in the Reichstag that Treichke supported the tobacco monopoly against his conviction.

Lowe designated a representative.

Busch has been appointed Under Secretary of Foreign Affairs.

Moscow, March 31st.—The Czar has commanded General Melikoff to express his regret to the Polish deputation that on the occasion of the General's reception of deputations he did not address the representative of Poland.

Berlin, March 31st.—The Powers jointly agree to declare to the Greek Ministry their firm resolution not to intervene if the compromise is rejected.

Athens, March 31st.—The Porte's offer is regarded as a mere juggle, and accordingly the battalions in every part of the Kingdom have been ordered to prepare to march to the frontier.

London, March 31st.—Beaconsfield is somewhat easier. His Private Secretary has been telegraphed to return from Algiers.

London, March 31st.—Beaconsfield is no worse.

London, April 1st.—1 a.m.—Beaconsfield's condition is considerably improved.

London, March 31st.—It is said that the Government intends to propose a resolution cancelling O'Donnell's last suspension in the House of Commons.

Dublin, March 31st.—Jasper Jolly, editor of the *Roscommon Herald*, Land League organiser, was arrested at Boyle on a charge of intimidation. Jolly, in his last speech, referred to the Museum in New York, where he said rewards are given for the heads of Irish landlords.

Vienna, April 1st.—Continental correspondence says that Austria and Hungary representatives at the Monetary Conference at Paris will taken a mutual standpoint, but with a slight inclination toward bi-metalism. This tendency, however, will be shown only in case Germany inclines to the same view. The delegates will expressly declare that Austria and Hungary do not regard the regulation of monetary values, but only the study and discussion of the project, as the object of the Conference.

New York, March 29th.—The *Herald's* London special says: It has transpired that the sudden calling together of the British Cabinet yesterday afternoon was caused by the receipt of alarming intelligence from Ireland. Two questions were discussed by the Ministers. One was the Basuto War; the other was the confidential report of the Irish Government. Mr. Forster announced that intelligence from Ireland was of the most disquieting character, although the attitude of the people appeared to be tranquil on the surface. Mr. Forster stated that according to information in the possession of the Irish Government, tranquillity of people had increased the business of the authorities, who regard it as the full before the storm. Information in the possession of the Dublin Castle authorities caused them to believe that an insurrectionary outbreak may be expected at any moment.

Mr. Parnell's present attitude was regarded with disquietude. His apparent inactivity was thought to indicate that he anticipated the inauguration of a movement of a different character from that which he has been conducting. His two visits to Paris are regarded as inexplicable—the Government not having been able to assign any sufficient reason for them.

At the Land League meeting held to-day, the subscriptions received during the week were announced as amounting to £2,399, all but £100 being from America. Dillon stated that the organization was spreading rapidly, and that there was now a larger number of strikers against the payment of rent than at any previous time.

Dublin, March 29th.—A man named Daly has been fired at and dangerously wounded on the borders of King's County. Daly took land from which a tenant had been evicted.

The Barony of Duhallow, County Cork, has been proclaimed.

Dublin, March 29th.—A monster Land meeting was held at Thurles, Tipperary County, to-day. Dillon addressed the meeting. He vindicated his attack on Judge Fitzgerald, and counselled the Irish tenants not to pay unjust rents except at the point of the bayonet.

Dublin, March 29th.—It is a remarkable fact that, despite the specious advice of the Land League to tenant farmers to retain their grip of the land, and not leave the country, the emigration returns show that 95,857 persons emigrated last year—an increase of 48,493 over the previous year.

London, March 29th.—A bulletin issued this morning says that Beaconsfield passed a restless night, partly because of the pain of gout. The paroxysms of neuralgia are less severe, but still frequent. His doctor says that his unusually severe cough has prevented the patient from obtaining the rest which is necessary to overcome the weakness produced by long confinement. He does not conceal the fact that there is considerable danger, especially when his great age is considered.

Four o'clock p. m.—Lord Beaconsfield has been free from spasmodic attacks during the day, and his strength fully maintained. Doctor Kidd states that both himself and Doctor Quain have every hope.

Midnight—Lord Beaconsfield passed an undisturbed evening and is better.

One o'clock—The condition is unchanged. The seat of the real danger is in the throat, which is much inflamed.

Chicago, March 29th.—The *Times'* London special says: Next Friday, when Mr. Norwell will discuss the matter of American importation, he will introduce a bill amending the Adulteration Act so as to specifically include American butter. There is much clamor over sending bogus butter to Great Britain, and a strong effort will be made to put an end to it. The amount of butter coming here annually from America is over 50,000,000 pounds. There is a determination that only a good article shall be admitted.

Just now a very strong effort is being made to bull Panama shares in London and Paris.

Berlin, March 29th.—On the proposal of Count Von Stolberg, Weinegrad, Vice President of the Council and Minister of State, a conference was held to-day, under the Presidency of Friedebeck of Friedenthal, comprising members of all parliamentary groups, except the Social Democrats, to discuss the expediency of calling upon the Government to take measures to avert dangers to the public security from the use of explosives. The question also was mooted whether it would not be possible to restrict

the right of asylum in the different States, so as to prevent its abuse by foreign revolutionaries.

Newcastle, March 29th.—A messenger from Pothefstrom reports peace. The place surrendered the day peace was signed at Newcastle, after some hard fighting, in which eighteen British soldiers were killed, and ninety were wounded. The Boers captured 3,000 pounds of ammunition and two guns.

London, March 29th.—The garrison of Pothefstrom finally surrendered because of the failure of provisions. The total loss of troops was eighteen killed and ninety wounded during the siege.

London, March 29th.—Some explanation of the report that the Bank of France has suspended gold payments may be found in the fact that the Bank of France gives out no gold, and there appears to be few full weight pieces in circulation—at least it is not easy to procure them. The Austria-Hungarian delegates to the International Monetary Conference are instructed not to enter into any binding stipulations.

London, March 29th.—In the House of Lords Earl Spencer stated the wharves at which foreign cattle are landed the isolation of cattle which may arrive afflicted with the foot and mouth disease. He added that Lord Granville had communicated with foreign Governments, urging them to prevent the embarkation of diseased cattle.

Berlin, March 29th.—In the Reichstag to-day a debate on the Taxation bill led to a violent scene between Lowe and Frietsche. The latter had spoken strongly in favor of the tobacco monopoly, and Lowe accused him of supporting the measure to which his personal convictions were opposed. A scene of great excitement followed, wherein personal recriminations were freely exchanged.

London, March 29th.—Bradlaugh's appeal results in a decision adverse to him. A new writ for an election in Northampton will be issued immediately, it not being necessary to await a final appeal to the House of Lords. In these circumstances, Bradlaugh will offer himself for reelection, and the contest, if any, will take place during the Easter recess of Parliament.

Manchester, March 29th.—A warehouse, seven stories high, filled with a valuable stock belonging to John Haslem & Co., cotton manufacturers, was burned to-day. The loss is estimated at £80,000. One fireman was killed and two others dangerously injured.

Ottawa (Ont.), March 29th.—It is understood instructions have been sent to intercept the steamer *Australia* at Sable Islands, as it is suspected she has one or more Mansion House outrage conspirators on board.

London, March 29th.—Sir Hercules Robinson telegraphs that another important engagement is expected to take place at Boleka, where a large force of Basutos are entrenched.

London, March 28th.—In the Lawson-Labouchere case, Justice Coleridge in charge, commented severely on Lawson's conduct relative to the personal fracas. The question was not whether Lawson was a coward in refusing to fight a duel which he had a perfect right to decline, but whether having acted as he had, he was the person to complain very much of a subsequent publication of libel. Lord Coleridge could not help thinking that if Lawson refused to fight, he should have abstained from the subsequent gross and outrageous insult contained in the message to Labouchere, that he had thrashed him like a dog, and would, under certain conditions, do so again. The Court pointed out that an account of the fracas which appeared in *Truth* in the form of a letter to Lawson, of sufficient ground for an indictment for libel, even if it had not been published in the newspaper. It was published after an account emanating from the office of the *Telegraph*, which appeared in the *Manchester Guardian*; and after the account had been written by Lawson to the editor of *Vanity Fair*, Lord Coleridge implied that the letter was written in a braggadocio tone. He showed that Labouchere was by the very nature of the proceedings unable to give his own account in Court, and strongly signified some of the *Telegraph's* personal attacks, particularly on Lord Beaconsfield, which Labouchere had adduced to justify his assertion that Lawson was a disgrace to journalism.

London, March 28th.—In the Lawson-Labouchere libel case the jury failed to agree.

St. Petersburg, March 28th.—There are continued rumors of General Melikoff's resignation.

It is believed that the Emperor has ordered a ukase to be prepared convoking the Commissions to discuss the question of representing the people on State questions.

St. Petersburg, March 28th.—The Prince of Wales will to-day confer the Order of the Garter on the Czar.

Constantinople, March 28th.—Great activity prevails in the preparations for the defence of Volo and Virok. The placing of torpedoes has commenced. The troops occupy Trikiri, on the Turkish side of the entrance to the Gulf of Volo, and earthworks are being constructed there.

Calcutta, March 28th.—The impression grows stronger that whatever the Government intends doing, it will now be found impossible to evacuate Candahar before the Autumn. The season is now so far advanced, that it would be dangerous to march to India. The political outlook is so doubtful, that

General Hume has refused to allow the departure of the regiments already ordered to start.

Candahar, March 28th.—A formidable rebellion prevails in Herat. Ayoub Khan is perhaps already exiled or a prisoner. Mohammed Passon Kahn, Governor of Kuak, induced three Herat regiments stationed at Kuak, to mutiny and join him and the Almak tribes in an attack on Herat. It may be safely inferred that the murder of Mohammed Jan, who commanded these three regiments, was the first act of the rebellion. At last accounts the rebellion was so formidable that Ayoub Kahn was virtually besieged in his citadel. This gives a favorable opportunity to Abdurrahman Khan to reunite Afghanistan under the supremacy of Cabul. Five thousand of his troops are now on the road hither, and should be in full possession of Candahar by the 15th of April. An immediate advance on Herat, if Ayoub Kahn is not expelled or killed before then, could, on the existing state of affairs, scarcely fail to be successful.

Athens, March 28th.—On the sixth of April, the anniversary of Greek independence, a grand review will be held, when the King will present the colors to the regiments composing the garrison of Athens, and selected detachments from other regiments. The meaning of this act, and the reasons for the choice on this occasion, are obvious. The ceremony will be followed by an order for the departure of the various corps for their allotted stations on the frontier.

Rome, March 28th.—A lady obtained a private audience with the Pope, and warned him that the day and the hour were fixed for the murder of himself and Cardinal Pecci.

Berlin, March 28th.—The Prussian Government is considering the question of adopting the Scrutin De Liste system of voting at the elections for members of the Diet.

Berlin, March 28th.—The police authorities issued on Saturday orders for expulsion, under the Socialist law, of eighteen persons, including six imprisoned for four months, charged with high treason, but who were liberated on Tuesday in consequence of their applying to the Imperial Court of Justice.

New York, March 28th.—A telegram from Geneva says that if Sophie Pieoffski is condemned and executed, the Czar will perish.

New York, March 27th.—The *World's* London special says: Trade generally continues to be very dull, and the long-promised revival is apparently as far off as ever. American competition presses with increasing severity upon manufacturers, and Belgium, which also believes in Chinese walls, is taking a great deal of trade from Sheffield and Birmingham. The farmers are sorely beset. Chaplin's motion to prohibit the importation of American cattle was thrown out, and with agricultural laborers pressing them from below, and American competition meeting them on every hand, it is no exaggeration to say that they are growing desperate. To make matters worse, they have just had a most unfavorable seed-time, the weather being cold and broken, from recent frost and snow. Another bad harvest would ruin thousands of farmers who are now keeping a roof over their heads by borrowing money on the strength of a chance of having good crops. All over the country people are beginning to question the soundness of free trade, or rather of that one-sided and jug-handled free trade, as "you admit free goods of nations which refuse to let you trade with them on equal terms." Five years ago a man who ventured to doubt this doctrine was looked upon as a hopeless if not as an unspeakable Tory relic, and David MacIver, the great ship-owner and ship-builder, who has long represented Birkenhead, was almost hooted in Parliament when he introduced a resolution favoring reciprocity of tariffs, which, in homelier phrase, means applying the same sauce to the gander as is applied to the goose. Now, however, the necessity of levying countervailing duties which, by the way, were recommended by a Committee of Experts on the sugar refining trade some months ago, is not only openly discussed at the farmers clubs, and by the Boards of Trade of great manufacturing centres, but it has actually been a subject of informal discussion in Free Trade Hall Manchester; and when the reciprocity-of-tariffs people ventured into the temple consecrated to Cobden and Adam Smith, it is a pretty good sign that the movement is taking hold of the country. Before very long this will become one of the pressing issues of the hour, and when the advocates of modified protection get the whip hand of the majority in Parliament, and get it they assuredly will, unless there is a miraculous change in the condition of the country, the farmers in the Western States will be taught a lesson in political economy which they will not be apt to forget.

London, March 27th.—The *Times* has reason to believe that the fishery dispute between England and the United States is in a fair way toward settlement, the fact being admitted that the American fishermen are entitled to compensation for injuries to vessels and tackle. England has proposed alternative courses, one being the payment of a lump sum, and the other a reference of the question to arbitration, the two Governments nominating each one person, and the two nominees appointing a third. The difficulty at one time arose from the excessive claims of the United States, but the latest telegrams from Se-

cretary Blaine point to the willingness of the Washington Cabinet to accept one or another of the above plans.

New York, March 27th.—A *World* London special says: Ashmead Burdett Coutts has, I am informed, determined to take to politics. The Baroness being an intense admirer of Beaconsfield, he will be brought under the patronage of the Carlton Club, and I hear he has made up his mind to contest the second seat for Northampton with Charles Bradlaugh on a high tory ticket. This will be good news for Northampton lads, who relish nothing better than plucking rich tory candidates.

Constantinople, March 27th.—The Sultan has sent a communication to the Egyptian agent asking a contingent of Egyptian troops in the event of war.

The plague has appeared at Kufa, ninety miles south of Bagdad. The mortality in Nedjib is increasing.

St. Petersburg, March 27th.—The remains of Alexander II. were deposited in the Imperial vault, Church of Petropavlovsk Fortress, to-day. Several volleys of artillery were fired. The church was densely crowded, and the catafalque was strewn with flowers and wreaths.

Paris, March 27th.—Many persons are reported missing at Nice. Several more bodies have been recovered from the ruins. The manager of the theatre denies that he was forced to play in spite of misgivings as to the safety of the house.

London, March 27th.—The Government has taken measures to intercept the steamer *Anstralia* before she sails to New York, and arrest Coleman, implicated in the Mansion House explosion.

Madrid, March 27th.—A large petard exploded on Saturday at the door of the Carmelite Church, which was considerably damaged.

St. Petersburg, March 27th.—The Moscow papers announce that Roussakoff's father has shot himself.

Constantinople, March 28th.—At Wednesday's conference, the Ottoman delegates are reported to have presented their final proposal. They declared that the Porte could neither cede Crete nor any part of Albania. The line of frontier they proposed is understood to go considerably beyond that offered by the Turkish note of the 30th of October. The territory now offered in Thessaly comprises Lerissa, Trikala, Turnova and Meizovo. No part of the Epirus is comprised in the proposed line. The Ambassadors will communicate this offer to their Governments, and on receiving a reply, will hold another meeting.

London, March 25th.—In the House of Commons, in the discussion on the Candahar question, Lord Northcote said:

The retention of Candahar would expose us to perpetual quarrels and collisions with Russia, and if she interfered by military operations or diplomatically it would mean rupture of her diplomatic relations with England, and we should be free to take such measures as we thought necessary to protect our frontier and assist the Afghans to hold their independence.

Northcote warned the Government that if they left the difficulty arising from the evacuation to be settled by natural selection, it would be settled by Russian selection.

London, March 23th.—Lord George Hamilton, Conservative, stated that no intimation had been received that General Skobelev's policy was disapproved. He regarded the announcement of Skobelev's recall as a mere Parliamentary blind.

The Postmaster-General strongly vindicated the policy of the Government.

Hartington stated that the information of General Skobelev's recall had not been received through the Russian Government. It was possible, though improbable, that disturbance and bloodshed would follow the British departure from Candahar, but when was the transfer of a throne in Afghanistan unattended with disturbance, and was it any business of England to prevent it?

Stanhope's motion was then rejected—346 to 246.

The announcement of the result was greeted with loud cheers from the Liberals.

Berlin, March 26th.—In the Reichstag, yesterday, the Budget was read the third time. The income for the new financial year is estimated at 592,936,554 marks; ordinary outlay, 511,662,061 marks; supplementary estimates, 81,904,498 marks. Subsidies to be drawn from various Federal States, 103,288,528 marks.

Paris, March 25th.—At a banquet of the Trade Societies to Gambetta, 600 persons were present and 720 Trade Societies represented. The Minister of Agriculture and Minister of Posts were present. Gambetta said he hoped the time would soon come when the new manœuvres which tended to weaken President Grévy's authority would be stopped. He trusted that for this reason his days will be long. The day is approaching, he said, when the Chamber will be free to choose its men and ideas, when the mandate will go forth that the incessant tergiversation against which we are struggling must be ceased by crowning the democracy with public liberties.

Madrid, March 25th.—At the Anti-slavery meeting, to-day, resolutions were adopted declaring the law of February 8th, in regard to slavery in Cuba, contrary to the principles of right

and justice, and condemning the regulations in regard to the holding of slaves. The Society has declared its intention to continue its propaganda until slavery in all the Spanish colonies is completely abolished.

London, March 25th.—In the Lawson-Labouchere libel case this morning, Gladstone who occupied a seat on the bench, deposed that the account which appeared in the *Daily Telegraph* of what passed between himself and Negroponte was altogether false. He had hoped to receive some explanation or apology from Lawson, but did not receive any frank statement on the subject.

St. Petersburg, March 25th.—Following is the programme of funeral ceremonies of the late Czar: Persons invited to attend will assemble at 10.30 o'clock in the morning, in the Cathedral of St. Peter and St. Paul. The body will be carried to the vault in the Cathedral by the Emperor, Grand Dukes and members of foreign reigning families, and the chief court dignitaries. Salutes will be fired while the coffin is being lowered into the grave. After the ceremony the Imperial insignia will be conveyed back to the Winter Palace.

London, March 25th.—The Liberals in Parliament are said to be considering the proposed motion condemning the terms of peace with the Boers.

Home Rulers are considering the expediency of leading attention to the recent utterances of several Irish Judges, and asking their dismissal.

London, March 25th.—The *Daily News* says: We believe the following is an authentic statement of the Tunis incident: When the Conservatives were arranging the acquisition of Cyprus, France mentioned the possibility of Tunis some day being open to annexation. Lord Salisbury, then Foreign Secretary, thereupon made statements which the French Ministry construed as an understanding that England would not object to the annexation of Tunis by France. When, some time later, the question cropped up, Salisbury disclaimed this construction of the meaning, but France alleges that she is in possession of private letters from Salisbury fully confirming her view of the correspondence.

St. Petersburg, March 25th.—The author of the article in *Vedomosti* charging the Administration with indolence and robbery, and society with cherishing illusions which led to the assassination of the Czar, has been summoned by the Minister of the Interior to appear for examination.

General Melikoff, has ordered that proceedings also be taken against the *St. Petersburg Gazette*.

The trial of the assassins of the Czar will commence on the 30th. It has been decided to proceed against Sophie Picoffski separately.

The Nihilist prisoners are to be charged with direct complicity in the murder of the Czar and other State crimes.

Sophie Picoffski is believed to have carried the bomb which caused the death of the Czar.

London, March 25th.—An attempt was made last night to intercept the steamer *Australia*, which sailed Thursday for New York. It is supposed to carry Coleman, one of the men suspected of being concerned in the Mansion House outrage. An Inspector of Police and constable left Falmouth last night in a tug, to await the *Australia* off the Lizard, where she was expected at midnight.

Newcastle, March 25th.—A despatch states that the Boers hoisted the flag of Transvaal amid loud acclamations before they dispersed. Paul Kruger will arrive Saturday (to-day). He will assist Gen. Wood in governing the Transvaal until the commission has concluded its labors.

Berne, March 25th.—The Czar has replied in very friendly terms to a letter of condolence from the Swiss Federal Council. He hopes the friendly feeling manifested toward his father will be continued to himself.

London, March 25th.—The American Consul at Nice telegraphs as follows: Sixty-nine lives were lost by the Opera House fire. No Americans or English were among the victims. Public interment takes place to-day. The shops are closed.

Nice, March 25th.—The newspaper state that the director of the theatre has informed the magistrate that there was a strong smell of gas in the theatre on Wednesday. He communicated with the authorities and wished to postpone the performance until an examination of the gas apparatus was made, but received orders to give the opera as advertised.

Nice, March 25th.—Subscriptions for the friends of the sufferers have reached 100,000 francs.

The funeral of the victims took place to-day, and was attended by large crowds.

No list of the victims of the Opera House fire have yet been published. The bodies in most cases are calcined and disfigured beyond recognition. The Strakosch injured is Ferdinand. During the fire several people threw themselves from the roof of the theatre and were dashed to pieces. The calamity was the result of unpardonable negligence. The gas pipes behind the scenes have not been repaired or renewed for the last eleven years, and the escape of gas, which occurred four months ago,

was temporarily stopped with cement. The day before the fire another escape was discovered during rehearsal. Two inexperienced plumbers' apprentices were left to attend to it without superintendence. It is supposed they did their work imperfectly, consequently the escaping gas concentrated behind the drops and as soon as the burners were lighted in the wings, the explosion occurred. The meter, which was the property of the town, and which did duty for both stage and auditorium, was instantly turned off and the theatre thereby saved. Hence the panic and stampede which cost so many unfortunate people their lives. Very few persons are injured, but the number of deaths is remarkably large. Two hundred people were crowded into a small gallery, with only one narrow door, which opened inward, as a means of egress. On a stout oak door, in the passage, were the words: "Door in case of fire," but it had not been opened for years and it was impossible to break through it. A majority of the victims were residents of Nice or Italians.

There was a public interment to-day of 85 of the victims.

London, March 25th.—At a meeting in this city to-night, Parnell said it was desirable to form an organization in England and Scotland for the purpose of forwarding the objects of the Land League. It was intended to compete with the Home-Rule Confederation, which would still remain in existence. The English land question, he thought, was at present ripe for settlement; but anything achieved in Ireland would favorably affect the laborers of England and Scotland. It was impossible for the Government to finally settle the Irish land question, but any proposals tending to ameliorate the condition of Irishmen would be accepted. By means of the proposed organization they could, as in America, educate public opinion in England and Scotland. Mowey, he said, is flowing in from America to Ireland at the rate of £4000 weekly. Resolutions were adopted to constitute a National Land League of Great Britain, with Justin McCarthy as President, to assist the Irish Land League to reduce back rents and enable the Irish tenant farmers to become owners of their holdings at reasonable terms. That was the best way to attain the objects, by taking practical steps to cultivate English public opinion.

A special telegram to New York says: Among the stories that are current here is one that James Gordon Bennett is seriously contemplating an Arctic expedition. Larry Jerome, who is in Europe with him, has recently written to a friend that while Bennett is enjoying himself greatly as master of a hunt somewhere in England, yet he is very much depressed and anxious over the Arctic expedition which he equipped and sent out in the name of the *Herald*. He conceives it to be his duty to fit out another expedition in search of the lost one, and take command of it himself. He has already telegraphed to stop work on the new yacht he contemplated building in this country, and thinks the money he proposed to expend that way shall be devoted to the building of a vessel constructed with a view to encountering the ice of the northern seas. Already he has had some interviews with Scotch ship-builders on the subject. Therefore news that Bennett has seriously entered upon this new project may be expected at any time. It is characteristic of Bennett that execution follows closely upon the heels of conception.

Washington, March 16th.—The detail of officers and men for the *Jeannette* search expedition will not be made for several days. It is generally believed that Lieutenant A. G. Berry, United States Navy, will command the expedition.

Two popular expeditions are to be fitted out and sent north early in the coming summer, under the direction of General Hazen, Chief Signal Officer, for purely scientific purposes. One, to Lady Franklin's Bay, is to be under the command of Lieutenant Greeley, one of the most trusted officers of the Signal Corps; the other will sail from San Francisco, and will establish itself at Point Barrow, on the north coast of Alaska. The commanding officer of the second expedition has not yet been designated.

The *New York Herald* thinks there is more than ordinary significance in the report that Commodore Shufeldt is to reorganize the Chinese Navy. Heretofore England and France have almost always been drawn upon for officers to render such services, but China, like other Asiatic Powers, has abundant reasons to be doubtful of the intentions of the great European nations, and would naturally distrust the loyalty of the French or English officers in her service, in the event of trouble with those powers.

Under the above heading the *Tribune* writes:—The favorable report by the Committee on Foreign Relations on the Treaties with China means, no doubt, their final confirmation. There is not a single feature in the new adjustment, by these treaties, of our relations with China, which is not perfectly just to the United States, and is even desirable, yet they may undoubtedly be set down as another success for China. Her successes lately, both in war and policy, have been so significant that it is time we gave them attention. The world will be forced to alter its opinion of this nation before long. Fifteen years ago China was supposed to be in *articulo mortis*, but to-day she shows the vigor and energy of a young nation.